



Lincoln University

BA 140 – Fundamentals of Finance

COURSE SYLLABUS Spring 2019

- Instructor:** Prof. Albert Loh
Lecture Schedule: Monday, 9:00 AM – 11:45 AM
Credits: 3 units / 45 hours of lectures
Level: Developed (D)
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 11:45 AM - 12:30 PM, or by appointment
e-mail: aloh@lincolnuca.edu
Textbook: Fundamentals of Financial Management, by Brigham & Houston, 9th edition Concise (January 2016).
ISBN-10: 1305635930;
ISBN-13: 978-1305635937.
Tools: A handheld calculator HP10bII is required.
Mobile device calculator will not be allowed.
Supplemental materials (such as periodical, article, or case study) will be provided in class.
Prerequisite: *MATH 10 or MATH 15*
Last Revision: January 2, 2019

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Introduction to the financial management of a company. The course includes the study of the financial system, source of funds, different sectors of the economy affecting the business organization and adjustments to changes in capital structure, use of financial statements, planning, and forecasting. (3 units)

Prerequisite: MATH 10 or MATH 15

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course are to study the finance function of a business firm and to introduce the theoretical framework and analytical tools and techniques of financial management to help make appropriate financial decisions. Students will learn about fundamental issues of business finance and key analytic tools used in the real business world. The main topics covered include, but are not limited to, (1) financial markets and instruments, (2) financial statement and ratio analyses, (3) time value of money, (4) asset valuation and the trade-off between risk and return, (5) cost of capital, cash flow and capital structure, and (5) investment, financing, and dividend policy decisions of the firm.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES¹

Course LO	Program LO	Institution LO	Assessment activities
Application and analysis of concepts, theories, and tools used in financial decision-making.	PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4	ILO 1a, 2a	Closed-book exam.
Analysis of financial statements for performance evaluation, including ratio analysis.	PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	ILO 1a, 2a	Able to explain stock research reports and financials found in Yahoo Finance, MarketWatch, and other related websites and closed-book examination.
An understanding of time value of money related to security pricing, capital budgeting, and the associated cost of capital and capital structure.	PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4	ILO 1a, 2a	Closed-book exam.
Study of various working capital management techniques and dividend policies.	PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4	ILO 1a, 2a	Closed-book exam.
Hands-on experience in the use and application of financial tools.	PLOs 1, 2, 3, 4	ILO 1a, 2a	Use of financial calculator for financial calculations.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This is a direct classroom instruction course.

The course will be conducted in the form of lectures and discussions on each topic shown in the class schedule below.

Assignments and projects require students to actively use resources of the library. Detailed guide to business *resources of the library* as well as the description of Lincoln University approach to *information literacy* are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](http://ctl.lincolnuca.edu) website (ctl.lincolnuca.edu).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

The class will not begin until all mobile devices are removed and kept away from the student's desk.

While in class, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Professionalism includes regular attendance, participation in class discussions, civil conduct, and ethical behavior, etc. If a student is observed coming to class late often, being disrespectful to peers, texting or using mobile devices, or carrying on personal conversations during lecture, the professionalism portion of the grade will be reduced based on a demerit system. The course begins with each student having the full 50 points. Any absence after the last day to drop a class and/or tardiness without valid reasons greater than 3 times will result in 5 points deduction,

¹ Detailed description of learning outcomes and information about the assessment procedure are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](http://ctl.lincolnuca.edu) website (ctl.lincolnuca.edu).

respectively. Behavioral offenses such as texting, using of mobile devices, or engaging in disorderly conduct in spite of reminder or warning will result in 10 points deduction.

Homework assignment:

Every student needs to read the PowerPoint Slides according to the syllabus timetable in preparation for the upcoming class session.

Higher education is about learning how to learn. So, in acquiring new knowledge, always pay attention to the learning objectives of each chapter or topic. In addition, you will enhance your understanding by solving the chapter problems to be assigned in class. Of course, you are welcome to bring questions to class for discussion by reading ahead of each classroom lecture. Achievement is assured when done repetitively.

GRADING POLICY

Your performance in this course will be evaluated under the following model:

Mid-Exam	150 points	A > 340
Final Exam	200 points	B = 281 - 340
Professionalism:	50 points	C = 221 - 280
Total	400 points	D = 181 - 220
		F = < 180

The mid-term and final exams include open-ended, multiple choice, or both types of questions and problems that are similar to the term assignments. They are designed to test both theory and problem solving. There will be NO “make-up credit” or “extra credit” work during and after the semester. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grading system based on class performance and notification to the students about any change during the semester. You are responsible for keeping apprised of any change in syllabus. If you plan to be sick on exam days, please do the exam a day earlier before getting sick.

The key to success in this course is communication and interaction. Thus, we will have to work as a team. First, we will create a positive learning environment where everyone can participate without fear. Second, relevant reading and problem assignments will be presented and discussed in class. When in doubt, ask.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who violate rules of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including failure in the course and/or other actions from the University.

PROPOSED CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Topics
Jan 14	Course Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2: Financial Management & Markets and Instruments
Jan 28	Chapters 3 & 4: Financial Statement Analysis (Project: TCM Company Research Report)
Feb 4	Chapter 6: Interest Rate and Chapter 7: Risk & Return
Feb 11	Chapter 5: Time Value of Money (HP 10bII calculator)
Feb 25	Chapter 7: Bonds
Mar 4	Chapter 9: Stocks
Mar 11	2-hour Mid-term Exam (Closed Books)
Mar 18	Exam results review & Chapter 10: Cost of Capital
Mar 25	Chapter 13: Capital Structure
Apr 1	Chapters 11 & 12: Capital Budgeting & Cash Flow
Apr 8	Chapter 14: Dividend Policy and Share Repurchases
Apr 15	Chapter 15: Working Capital Management
Apr 22	Special topics on Options, Warrants, Preferreds, and Convertibles
Apr 29	2-hour Final Exam (Closed Books)

Addendum: Supplemental Course Materials

The PowerPoint slides are designed to give students a head start in learning course materials in a concise and coherent fashion. They are not intended to substitute, but complement, the textbook and classroom lectures. Don't just read; you need to absorb and understand the body of knowledge through a synthesis of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Thus, attending classroom lectures and completing exercises and assignments are critical to your success.