



LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

BA 467 – Credit Risk Management

Fall 2014

Course Number: **BA 467**

Course Title: **Credit Risk Management**

Credit: 4 units (45 hours of lectures + 45 hours of self-study research projects)

Semester Offered: Fall 2014

Course Meeting Days: Wednesday evenings

Course Meeting Time: 6:30PM – 9:15PM

Course Meeting Place: TBD

Instructor Information:

Name: Daniel Sevall

e-Mail Address: dsevall@lincolnuca.edu

Office Location: Room 407

Office Hours: TBD

1. Course Description

The course will focus on the conceptual foundations of credit risk modeling and a discussion of how the models are used in practice. Students will gain familiarity with model frameworks, vocabulary, and model implementation challenges, including the practical challenges associated with building, testing, and applying credit risk models used by banks and asset managers. A one-unit written research project and its oral presentation are required for the course. (4 units)

2. Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Articulate the major players in a given credit risk management environment
- Understand the nuances of various asset classes and financial instruments associated with these asset classes
- Discuss Risk Aversion and Capital Allocation to Risky Assets
- Optimize Risky Portfolios through Portfolio Model Building
- Analyze the factors likely to affect the shape of the yield curve at any time.
- Use a firm's income statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flows to calculate standard financial ratios.
- Conduct quantitative evaluations to determine Portfolio Performance

3. Instructional Methods:

The emphasis will be on learning by doing. It is highly recommended to bring a laptop to every class. This laptop should have Microsoft Excel installed, as this is a quantitative course. Every student must participate in an intensive classroom activity. Reading, writing, and problem solving assignments will be made throughout the course.

4. Instructional Material and Texts

Investments by Bodie, Kane and Marcus, 9th edition, 2011 (ISBN: 978-0-07-353070-3)

Online Components of the Course

I will create a YahooGroups as a means of posting information, and offering an opportunity for you to ask questions regarding course material. I will plan on adding students to the Yahoo site, once the class rosters are finalized.

5. Academic Honesty Honor Code

The faculty, administration, and staff recognize their obligation to provide continuing guidance as to what constitutes academic honesty and to promote procedures and circumstances that will reinforce the principle of academic honor. Fundamental to the principle of independent learning is the requirements of honesty and integrity in the performance of academic assignments, both in the classroom and outside. Students should avoid academic dishonesty in all of its forms, including plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct. The University reserves the right to determine in any given instance what action constitutes a violation of academic honesty and integrity.

6. Diversity

A diverse classroom is a better classroom. Sharing our experiences and our ideas contribute to our better understanding of the material. I will be committed to ensuring that all students receive the attention needed to grasp the key accounting concepts for this class. To that end, all questions relating to the course material will be answered in a timely fashion.

7. Requirements

All students are required to attend the class. Continuous assessment is emphasized. Students must complete all assignments and take all quizzes, mid-term exam and final exam ON THE DATES DUE. Plagiarism will result in the grade "F" and a report to the administration.

8. Assessment

A. Exams:

- Students must take a midterm and a final exam. The midterm will cover material from the first half of the course. The final exam is *comprehensive* and covers the material from the entire semester.
- Make-up exam policy: Students must take the exams as scheduled. No make-up exam will be given.
- Partial Credit is awarded on exams for problems (not multiple choice) when the computations are shown. Show all work on problems for maximum partial credit.

- Students may use laptops or programmable calculators. While these may help students in the calculation of certain accounting problems, ultimately the student will need to use critical reasoning to be successful in this course.
- Students may e-mail me to be informed of their respective grades.

B. Homework:

- Homework sets and due dates will be posted regularly.
- Solutions to some homework problems will be reviewed in class.
- Critical thinking essay, cases, and problems are included as part of the regular homework and class demonstration problems.

9. Grading and Assessment Criteria

Midterm	25%
Attendance and Class Participation	10%
Course Project	30%
Final	35%
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Total	100%

Letter grades will be given based on the following scaling:

A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	0 - 59

10. Expectations for Students

A. Attendance:

- Attendance at all classes is essential to acquiring the requisite information for successful completion of this course. The topics covered in this course are much related to each other. If you miss a lecture, it would be hard to catch up. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each session. Students are expected to show up to every class meeting and stay for the entire period.
- Students may attend either session of the lecture as space permits. Students must attend the exams during the session in which they are registered unless prior permission is obtained.
- Students are required to inform the instructor in advance by email or verbally in case of not being able to attend class.

B. Class Participation:

- Class participation is very essential to learning this subject. Be prepared to participate in class discussions (answering the questions and solving the problems), group work, and reviewing the homework.

C. Student Code of Conduct:

- Students are expected to respect the instructor and each other. Students must turn off their cell phones and pagers during the entire class time.

11. Course Schedule

Include dates of class meetings, topic, assignments, and assignment due dates.

Session 1 and 2	The Investment Environment and Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies
Session 3 and 4	Asset Classes and Financial Instruments
Session 5 and 6	Learning About Return and Risk from The Historical Record
Session 7	Midterm
Session 8 and 9	Risk Aversion and Capital Allocation to Capital Assets
Session 10 and 11	Optimal Risky Portfolios
Session 12	Index Models
Session 13	Portfolio Performance Evaluation
Session 14	Final Exam

12. Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to modification. I am committed to letting students know changes to the syllabus as soon as feasible.

Last Update: 8/7/2014