

Syllabus
University of Missouri – St. Louis
Financial Management
Finance 3500
Spring 2024

Contact Information

Nasser Arshadi, PhD
Professor and Chair
Department of Finance and Legal Studies
Office: 233 AB Hall
Office Hours: By Appointment
Arshadi@umsl.edu
314-516-6272

Welcome

Welcome to the online edition of the Finance 3500 class. Throughout the semester, I will monitor your progress and offer suggestions and support to assist you in your studies.

Course Description and Objectives

This course covers the essentials of financial management, including topics such as asset pricing, stock and bond valuations, risk and return analysis, debt policy, and financial analysis and planning. The weekly readings, audio lectures, end-of-chapter questions and problems with solutions, as well as graded homework assignments, have been thoughtfully chosen to equip you with the necessary skills for success in the marketplace.

Prerequisite: ECON 1002, MATH 1105, ACCTNG 2400, INFSYS 2800

Textbook

Ross, Stephen A., Westerfield, Randolph W., and Jordan, Bradford D., Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, McGraw-Hill, 2022 (13th edition), McGraw Hill Connect

Course Schedule

Week of Jan 15	Ch. 3	Working With Financial Statements
Week of Jan 22	Ch. 4	Long Term Financial Planning and Growth
Week of Jan 29	Ch. 5	Introductin to Valuation: Time Vallue of Money
Week of Feb 5	Ch. 6	Discounted Cashflow Valuation
Week of Feb 12	Ch. 7	Interest Rates and Bond Valuation
Week of Feb 19	Ch. 8	Stock Valuation
Week of Feb 26	Ch. 9	NPV and Other Investment Criteria
Week of March 4	Ch. 10	Making Capital Investment Decisions
March 9, 10 am – 12 pm (noon)		Exam 1
Week of March 11	Ch. 13	Return, Risk, and the Security Market Line
Week of March 18	Ch. 14	Cost of Capital
Week of March 25	Spring Break	

Week of April 1	Ch. 16	Financial Leverage and Capital Structure Policy
Week of April 8	Ch. 17	Dividend and Payout Policy
Week of April 15	Ch. 18	Short Term Finance and Planning
Week of April 22	Ch. 19	Cash and Liquidity Management
Week of April 29	Ch. 20	Credit and Inventory Management
May 4, 10 am – 12 pm (noon)		Exam 2

Instructions on How to Prepare For This Course

To prepare for this course, you need to do the following:

- Read the book.
- Listen to the audio lectures. I have posted them in the assignments section for each chapter. If you do not see them, it would be due to cookies in your browser or McGraw Hill website. You need to remove those cookies. With browser cookies, you can remove them from that browser or switch to another browser.
- Practice with the end-of-chapter questions with solutions posted in the assignments section for each chapter.

Time Requirements:

I may guess seven hours per week on average, but it can be more or less depending on your prior work or education experience.

Student Support Services

- **Technology Requirements**

As a student in an online course, you are expected to have reliable internet access almost every day. At a minimum, you will need the following software/hardware to participate in this course:

- The latest version of Java
- An up-to-date Adobe Reader or alternative PDF reader
- A current word processing software
- Browsers including Google Chrome or Firefox
- Computer with an updated operating system (e.g., Windows, Mac, Linux)
- Updated Internet browsers (Apple Safari, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox)
- Internet connection with a speed of no less than 6 Mbps
- Media player such as VLC Media Player

Honor Code, Academic Integrity, and Netiquette

Academic integrity requires students and faculty to communicate with one another in a mutually respectful manner and to accept responsibility for one's actions. I expect class members to treat each other with respect and use professional language in exchanges. In your interactions with me, you can address me either as Professor or Dr. Arshadi. You can follow the university's policies related to academic honesty stated in [Honesty](#).

When submitting your graded assignments, please ensure that the work you're submitting is original and does not involve copying from someone else. Plagiarism can occur both intentionally and unintentionally, and it involves using someone else's work without proper attribution. To maintain academic integrity, I will be employing Turnitin software to assess the authenticity of your submissions. It's important to note that generating answers using ChatGPT for assignment questions would also be considered a form of plagiarism. Your dedication to original work is greatly appreciated.

Technology Requirements:

As a student in an online course, you need reliable internet access almost every day. At a minimum, you will need the following software/hardware to participate in this course:

1. Computer with an updated operating system (e.g., Windows, Mac, Linux)
2. Updated Internet browsers (Apple Safari, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox)
3. Ability to navigate the Canvas Learning Management System
4. Internet connection with a speed of no less than 6 Mbps
5. Media player such as VLC Media Player
6. Adobe Flash Player (free)
7. Adobe Reader or alternative PDF reader (free)

How to Use Canvas

If this is the first time you use canvas, you first log in to [Canvas](#), sign in, go to the first column on the left, select help, click on the Search the Canvas Guide, and follow the instructions. If you have any issues with canvas, you can contact the Technology Support Center:

- [Help Desk](#)
- [Technology Support Center](#)
- 314-516-6034

Disability Access Services

"The mission of Disability Access Services ("DAS") is to acknowledge the uniqueness of each student as a valuable member of the UMSL community. Recognizing UMSL's commitment to equal access of education, we strive to ensure full and equal participation in all education opportunities by

- Providing individualized appropriate accommodations and services
- Maintaining a high level of involvement with campus administrators, faculty, and staff
- Helping students with disabilities develop and maintain independence and self-advocacy skills for college and beyond"

For more information visit 131 Millennium Student Center.

Phone: 314.516.5671

[Disability Access Services](#)

Office of Multicultural Student Services (MSS) and the University Tutoring Center(UTC)

MSS provides comprehensive student retention services to diverse student bodies, and through their tutoring center, the MSS offers tutoring support:

- 225 Millennium Student Center (MSC)
- [Office of Multicultural Student Services](#)
- [University Tutoring Center](#)
- 314-516-6807

Student Enrichment and Achievement (SEA)

SEA provides support and intervention strategies to support your plans for graduation.

- 107 Lucas Hall
- [Student Enrichment and Achievement Email Address](#)
- [Student Enrichment and Achievement Weblink](#)

Office of International Students and Scholar Services (ISS)

If you have difficulty communicating in English with the instructor of this course, contact ISS.

- 362 Social Sciences & Business Building (SSB)
- [Office of International Students and Scholar Services Email Address](#)
- [Office of International Students and Scholar Services Weblink](#)
- 314-516-5300

How to Contact Me

You can reach me by phone, email, or make an appointment to visit in person or by zoom.

Course Grade

Your weekly graded homework assignments are posted every Monday morning and are due on Sunday at 11:59 pm. These assignments constitute 35% of your final grade, while two exams account for the remaining 65%. Since weekly assignments are graded separately from the exams, you should not expect exam questions to mimic those of homework problems. In general, weekly homework assignments are longer and more involved, while exam questions and problems are often shorter.

You will take your exams on the designated dates/times.

Finally, be sure to stay on top of your studies. This is a technical course, and you do not want to fall behind.

Homework	30%
Exam I	35%
Exam II (Not comprehensive)	35%