

**FIN 3500 Financial Management
Spring 2024, UMSL**



Welcome:

Let me warmly welcome you to the on-line *Financial Management* class. This is an important class for business students to be exposed to the world of finance. You should enjoy materials in this class that will affect you for the rest of your life in terms of understanding the value of money, planning for your retirement, social responsibility of corporations, and how you learn to make sound corporate decisions. I will work with you closely to get through this course.

Please read the following the structure and time line of the course and supplementary materials that will be of help to you to succeed in the class.

Instructor: Hung-Gay FUNG, Ph.D.

Class: On-line or in a zoom format

Office: ABH 234, University of Missouri-St. Louis

Email: fungh@umsl.edu

Office Hour: 8:30-9:30am (MW) or by appointment

Telephone: (314) 516-6374

Textbook required:

Ross, S., Westerfield, R., and Jordon, B., *Fundamentals of Corporate Finance*, 13th edition, McGraw Hill.

Teaching Philosophy:

As an online course, please bear with me for your added efforts required. So, please read the syllabus carefully and follow the specified requirements. Please go the UMSL canvas to follow the instruction there. I will work with you all the way until we finish this course. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly (email: fungh@umsl.edu) so we can work together for the journey! We can set up a zoom meeting to talk about the issue if necessary.

Please note that the zoom link is listed on canvas.

Questions to be answered for FIN 3500 Class in this semester to be on-line section:

How will our class meet?

If we are unable to meet on campus for class, I will post an announcement on Canvas about how we will be meeting going forward. Zoom will be used for the class meetings and class discussion will take place on the Canvas discussion board. I will post regular announcements through Canvas but please do not hesitate to reach out through email with any questions you may have.

How will I meet with my instructor?

I will hold virtual office hours with you over Zoom if necessary or phone conversations with you during my designated office hours. If these hours no longer work with your schedule, please reach out and let me know. Please call me at my office phone (listed above) to discuss. Emails sent during the week (M-F) on the syllabus, will receive a response within 24 hours. Emails received over the weekend or during breaks/holidays will receive a response within 48 hours.

How often do I need to login to Canvas to view our online course?

You are expected to participate in the online activities for as long as we are unable to meet on campus. This may be one day if we experience inclement weather, or several weeks in the event of another wave of the pandemic. It is expected that you visit the course site daily. Below you will see a suggested schedule for how you should plan your time online and interact with the content.

Is it possible to receive course announcements as a text?

*I will set notifications within Canvas to send you announcements as a text.
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-26683-42121235713>*

How will I turn in my homework?

Homework and other assignments will be turned in through the assignments tab within Canvas. If you have questions, you can email it to my email address (fungh@umsl.edu). Instructions for submission can be found within the assignment on canvas.

How will I take my exams?

Exams will be delivered through Canvas. We will co-create an honor code for the class for ethical behavior in the class. Exams will now be open book. However, it is expected that you do not collaborate with others on exams. Please see the academic integrity specification by the University requirements about what is considered cheating and the associated consequences.

How will I see my Grades?

You can view your grades through the gradebook on Canvas.

If I am ill or can't attend class for any other reason how I can participate in class?

Please contact me if you are ill or have changing situations so that I can understand how I can best help you through this difficult time. I will post a recording of the lecture, you can also

participate through Zoom live. Participation can be completed through an asynchronous discussion board about the content.

Manner in communication on the internet

Please be reminded that netiquette and civility are expected during the course of discussions over the internet in my class. Please be polite and respectful to the other people, your colleagues, and your group members.

Technology Requirements:

As a student in a blended course, you are expected to have reliable internet access almost every day. Please reach out to your academic advisor or student success network if you need hardware or access to the Internet. If you have computing problems, it is your responsibility to address these through the ITS Helpdesk (helpdesk@umsl.edu) or to use campus computing labs. Problems with your computer or other technology issues are not an excuse for delays in meeting expectations and missed deadlines for the course. If you have a problem, get help in solving it immediately. 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 (Google Chrome (required) or Mozilla Firefox)
3. Ability to navigate Canvas (Learning Management System)
4. Minimum Processor Speed of 1 GHz or higher recommended.
5. Reliable and stable internet connection.
6. Adobe Reader or alternative PDF reader (free)
7. A webcam and/or microphone is highly recommended.

Required Course materials (3 credit hours):

(1) Wall Street Journal (WSJ)- to subscribe, type in the following:

https://store.wsj.com/v2/shop/60616004?mbsy_source=09364539-f58a-4a82-9039-

(2) Power points slides and other materials for lectures

- All lecture materials will be available in *canvas*

This 3-credit course introduces students some basic concepts of financial management. In particular, students will be introduced to the general US economic and business environment.

The course adopts a diverse and innovative approach to familiarize students with an overall picture of financial issues facing a firm. The approach used in the course includes lectures, short cases analysis, student project presentation on Chinese business issues and companies

Please note that this course requires **9-10 hours** of work in addition to the lecture time per week.

Grade Determination:

6 Quizzes (each test 14 points; Pick the top 5 quizzes)	70%
Homework:	
End-of-Chapter exercises assignment due (before posting of <u>answer key</u>) (late 50% credit; late after the solution is post, zero credit)	24%
Assignment (write-up comment to the Questions for the article)	6%
Total	<u>100%</u>

Home-work assignments to earn points for your grade:

- Homework exercise at end of Chapter of Ross et al.'s text book. Please note that chapter problems are graded based on efforts (not on accuracy). Make sure you hand in on time listed on the *syllabus* and *canvas*.
- A written report for writing a comment on an article (1- or 2-page report) due list on *syllabus and on canvas*.

* Under normal situations, no late reports or make-up quizzes are acceptable for grading.

Grading Scale: The UMSL Grading System is based on a four-point scale. The grade value for each letter grade is as follows:

A = 4.0; A- = 3.7

B+ = 3.3; B = 3.0; B- = 2.7

C+ = 2.3; C = 2.0; C- = 1.7

D+ = 1.3; D = 1.0; D- = 0.7

F = 0

EX = Excused

DL = Delayed

FN = Failure/Non

Participation

Schedule for the semester

Date	Lecture	Topic
1/17	1	Chapter 1: Introduction
1/22	2	continued
1/24	3	Chapter 2: Cashflows, <i>Homework (1 point) due at the <u>chapter end</u> of Ross's text book: Problem #19</i>
1/29	4	Chapter 3: Financial statements analysis, <i>Homework due: Problems (2 pts) #3.1, #26-27.</i>
1/31	5	Homework Review and Quiz 1

2/05	6	Assignment due for 1-2 page write up for firm objective Question (2 pts): Do you agree the objective of the firm is to maximize firm value? Why and why not?
		Chapter 4: Long-term planning and growth
2/7	7	Chapter 5: Time value of money, problems (2 pts) due: #7, 8, 18
2/12	8	Chapter 6: Discounted cash flows, problem (2 pts) due :#34 & 42
2/14	9	continued
2/19	10	Homework Review and Quiz 2
2/21	11	Chapter 7: interest rate and bond valuation
2/26	12	continued. Problem (2 pts) due: #19 & 34 Assignment due for the write-up (1- or 2-page comment) on the bond issue Question (2 pts): Should a firm should issue green bonds? Comment
2/28	13	Chapter 8: Stock Valuation
3/04	14	continued, problem (2 pts) due: #9; 24;
3/6	15	Homework Review and Quiz 3
3/11	16	Chapter 9: Net present value Investment Criteria Question (2 pts) due: Is stock buy-back a good idea? Why and why not? Assignment due for the write-up for stock-buy back
3/13	17	Continued, Problems (3 pts): #3, 9; 13;
3/18	18	Chapter 10: Making capital decision
3/20	19	continued, problem (2 pts): #4, 22
3/23-3/31		Spring break
4/1	20	Homework Review and Quiz 4
4/03	21	Chapter 11: Project analysis and evaluation
4/08	22	Chapter 11: Problem (1 pt) due: #20; Chapter 12: lessons from capital market history

4/10	23	Chapter 12: Problem (2 pts) #9, 13
4/15	24	Chapter 13: Risk, return and security market line
4/17	25	continued, Problem (3 pts) #7;13; 26
4/22	26	Homework Review and Quiz 5
4/24	27	Chapter 14: Cost of capital
4/29	28	Continued, Problem (2 pts): #12, 17
5/01	29	Quiz 6