

Financial Policies

Finance 3501/6501
Spring 2024



*University of
Missouri
in St. Louis*

Course Information

Instructor: Christina Flynn, DBA
E-mail: Please use Canvas Inbox
Phone: (206) 735-0696 (you can text me)
Office Hours: by appointment

Welcome

Welcome to our online FIN3501 Financial Policies and FIN6501 Advanced Financial Management! Finance is a vibrant field driven by real-world practices and challenges. In today's business world, understanding the language of finance and business performance is essential for professionals in any organization. This course offers a deep dive into the areas of financial management for finance professionals, managers, executives and educated investors to make informed decisions. It will help you build financial acumen and enhance your ability to make intelligent business and investment decisions.

Program Course Description

FIN3501: This course covers the intensification and application of the concepts developed in FIN3500. Special emphasis is given to the development of top management policies and their application toward complex problems of finance. Techniques for identifying and dealing with these problems before they become acute will be investigated. Cases will be integrated with appropriate outside reading.

FIN6501: Additionally, this course includes exposure to recent financial management theory through selected readings. Financial management problems are considered by the use of cases and simulation models. An original research project under the supervision of instructor is required.

FIN3501 Prerequisites: FINANCE 3500 and a 2.0 overall GPA

FIN6501 Prerequisites: FINANCE 6500 and SCMA 5300

Credit hours: 3

Course Summary

This course covers in-depth analysis and decision making in various areas of financial management, with emphasis on development of the key management principles and policies and their application in the complex real-world situations. Many of the topics in this course are explored in various mathematical frameworks. Delivery of this course includes videos, discussion sessions, problem solving, and cases. We will apply financial modeling in EXCEL spreadsheet in real-life case studies and hands-on examples. In the discussions, we will conduct a comprehensive fundamental analysis on a publicly traded company. Upon completion of the course, you will develop analytical skills and ability to apply quantitative techniques in major decision-making areas of financial management such as valuation, working capital management, capital budgeting, financial planning, investment analysis, and capital structure etc.

Course Goals (Student Competencies & Outcomes)

The specific learning objectives for each module of this course are available in the Canvas course site. Below are the overall goals of this course. Upon completion the course, you will have learned to:

1. Identify and search sources such as firm reports, web publications, and library databases to obtain relevant financial data.
2. Analyze and apply analytical techniques to draw appropriate conclusions from financial information.
3. Apply financial management concepts, principles, and tools to various types of financial decisions faced by a firm.
4. Model financial problems and perform financial analysis using Excel.
5. Analyze and appraise the risk profile of a firm; specifically, estimate the costs of capital, including debt and equity capital, using financial data

Course Materials

Essentials of Corporate Finance 11th ed. By Ross, Westerfield and Jordan, McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2015. ISBN 9781259277214.

You can use the ebook access via this course. You will need to be sure you have access to McGraw Hill Connect. I have linked our class [Connect](#) course below the syllabus tab on Canvas.

Please be sure to register with Connect because that is how you will complete the homework, quizzes, and exams.

If you need more information on this or want to opt out, please visit [The Triton Store](#).

Below are links to McGraw Hill's privacy statements and support:

- [McGraw Hill Privacy Center](#)
- [McGraw Hill Higher Education Support](#)
- [McGraw Hill Accessibility](#)

This course includes content and assessments that contain images, graphics, and/or illustrations to communicate and represent the concepts you will be learning. If you anticipate any issues accessing these, please contact me as soon as possible, so that we can ensure you have full access to the required content.

A financial (Business) calculator is required. You can use a free smartphone app if you like, just be ready to learn how to use it. If you are getting a new financial calculator, I would recommend the "Texas Instrument BA II Plus" calculator. This calculator is consistent with the one used in the textbook for numerical examples and problem solution. The manual that comes with the calculator is an excellent tool to help you understand the workings of the financial calculator.

Access to Microsoft Excel is also required. We will use Excel in case studies and learn about Excel modeling in financial management.

Time Requirements

If this course were offered on campus, you'd be in class 2.5 hours/week plus travel time. The online version is no different in terms of expectations for your involvement. This is an active online course that requires 3 hours of your time each week in addition to the time it takes you to read the required materials, watch the videos, and complete the assignments. That means that you need to plan to spend a minimum of 6 hours every week (up to 9-10 hours a week) on activities related to this course. If you are worried about your preparedness, consider taking the [Online Readiness Survey](#) to help decide if an online course is right for you.

Technology Requirements

As a student in an online course, you are expected to have reliable internet access almost every day. If you have computing problems, it is your responsibility to address these 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 ([Apple Safari](#), [Microsoft Edge](#), [Google Chrome](#), [Mozilla Firefox](#))
3. Ability to navigate Canvas (Learning Management System)
4. Minimum Processor Speed of 1 GHz or higher recommended.
5. DSL or Cable Internet connection or a connection speed no less than [6 Mbps](#).

Technology problems are not the responsibility or specialty of the instructor. It is your responsibility to seek help from the above resources in order to complete your assignments on time.

If this is your first online course, it is recommended that you log into Canvas and complete the [Online Course Overview](#) listed in your Canvas course list. If you've already completed the orientation, you do not have to retake it but you can refer to it for helpful videos and tutorials about the technologies used in this course.

Grading Criteria

Table 1 Grading Scale

| | |
|----|---------|
| A | 940< |
| A- | 900-939 |
| B+ | 870-899 |
| B | 840-869 |

| | |
|----|---------|
| B- | 800-839 |
| C+ | 770-799 |
| C | 740-769 |
| C- | 700-739 |
| D+ | 670-699 |
| D | 640-669 |
| D- | 600-639 |

Table 2 Assignment Values

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4 Discussions/Case Studies | 200 points total (50 points each) |
| 13 Homework | 312 points total (24 points each) |
| 13 Quizzes | 312 points total (24 points each) |
| Midterm | 100 points total |
| Final | 100 points total |

Attendance Requirement: Please note that if you do not complete an assignment in the first couple of weeks of the course, I am required by the university to drop you from the course. So, to remain enrolled, you will need to submit an assignment by the end of Module 1. This can be submitting homework or a quiz. Please note you must actually submit something, not just be working on it.

FAQ: *How do I know my grade?*

The total points possible in this course are 1024. You can calculate your grade by adding all the points you have on assignments and matching the number to the scale above. You can also monitor your homework, quiz, and exam grades on *Canvas*.

Letter Grades:

- *"Incomplete", "EX", "DL", "FN"*: Please note that I do not grant either of these grades except in very extreme medical cases and only at my own discretion. Moreover, you must have completed all assignments in the course with the exception of the fourth exam and have a passing grade to even be considered.
- *"S", "Audit", "W"*: These letter grades are between you and the registrar, I play no role in them. It is your responsibility to know the final dates to apply for these – please see the Academic Calendar.

FAQ: *Is there Extra Credit in this class?*

There is no guarantee that there will be any extra credit in this course. Remember that extra credit is a privilege, not a right. You should focus on doing your best on the work assigned in the course. If I see an opportunity for extra credit, I will provide the details. But please note: I want you to focus on the course assignments, so the extra credit will most likely be additional and more difficult material.

When to Expect Your Grades

The quizzes and exams are automated by the Connect software so you should have immediate feedback on your work. For discussions, I aim to have grades back to you within a week of the

due date. If there is a change in this information, I will let you know. Please look for my feedback on the rubric or the comments of the assignment.

Checking Your Grades

Take charge of your education! Be an active learner and dedicate yourself to your success. Keep an eye on your grades on Canvas every week. If there is a discrepancy, e-mail me and put it in writing. Follow up before the end of the course. If there is a problem, don't wait 5 weeks to ask me about it. Follow up. Be sure to read the latest announcements on grading and opportunities for improvement.

Reaching Out

Please reach out to me if you need help, have questions, or concerns. The best way to reach me is Canvas Inbox or you can text me (206-735-0696). I aim to get back to you within a 48 window, but usually it will be less because I check these daily.

Special Needs

UMSL is committed to providing its students access to education. Your academic success is important. If you have a documented disability that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact Disability Access Services (DAS) immediately. Students must provide documentation of their disability to the office of DAS in order to receive official university services and accommodations. The staff is available to answer questions regarding accommodations or assist you in your pursuit of accommodations. Information about your disability is confidential. Once DAS reviews your medical documentation, they will provide you with the information and steps to inform me about the accommodations to which you are entitled. Your accommodations will begin as soon as we discuss your approved accommodations. To contact DAS: 144 Millennium Student Center, (314) 516-6554, cramert@umsl.edu, and/or [their webpage](#).

Discussion Board

Course Objectives: This assignment meets course goals 1-5 (please see page 2 for list).

Purpose: If the course material is the foundation to achieving the course objectives, discussion is the first step to help you learn the course material through application of the industry frameworks. The discussion is also designed to prepare you for the homework, quizzes, and exams.

Process: There are 3 steps that you will need to conduct:

1. Log on to our Canvas course page
2. Select the "Discussions" folder
3. Select and do the appropriate discussion

Procedure: There are 4 discussions in this course, based on each module of this course. You will need to complete 1 detailed main post in response to the discussion questions and 2 detailed

responses to classmates. Each discussion is worth 50 points for a total of 200 points for 4 discussions.

Due Dates: Discussions are always due on the Sunday at 11:59pm at the end of the module in which it was assigned and before the start of the next one. Please check the discussion tab or course outline on page 15 for specific due dates.

Late Policy: The Discussion Boards open on Monday mornings and close Sunday nights at 11:59pm. Since the idea behind the Discussion Board is to interact with your classmates and share ideas, once the period of discussion is over so is your opportunity to post. This is because we have moved on to other material. Thus you have the window in which we are covering the module in which to post and after that the Discussion Board is closed – there will be no opportunity to make it up.

FAQ: *What if my technology, internet, or power fails?* Know your options. If there is a problem with *Canvas*, immediately contact the campus [Technology Support Center](#) and record your ticket number. On your end, try to keep this from happening by using a computer on campus or somewhere else you trust the connection and electricity. Plan ahead: complete your work at least a day before the due date so you have buffer time. If you wait to do your work until the night it is due and something happens, or you wait weeks to reach out to me on a problem – I reserve the right to do nothing.

Academic Integrity: Remember, when you write a comment and post it to the Discussion Board, you must follow certain rules of professionalism and maintain a high level of academic integrity. The required citation format in this course is APA. If you draw upon information you have read on an internet site, you must cite that source in your comment by inserting the URL in parentheses. APA style is preferred. If you take information from a source, you need to cite the authors and year as in the following example: Summarizing Healey (2012)... Or, you could simply say: The percentages in Exhibit 1.9 are gross underestimates (Healey, 2012). You are expected to contribute original ideas and opinions to the discussion - do not simply quote something you have read (at least 95% of a post must be in your own words to get any credit for it). But certainly do draw upon and incorporate the work of others - and give them all proper credit. This, of course, also applies to ourselves. If the comments of a fellow classmate are especially insightful and you want to incorporate them into your discussion, by all means do so! Just be sure to give the proper credit where credit is due. For example, you might write: As Burt mentioned yesterday, (Rosevear, 4/26/2013) . . . if you are citing something a class member posted to the Discussion Board. Remember that citing your references is not only a professional requirement, it helps me assess whether you have actually conducted any research prior to posting your comments. This is an important grading criterion.

Grading: Your Discussion assignments will be graded by the following rubric. Use this as a checklist. Note that this scale is further explained in the Quality Measurement rubric below.

| Discussion Grading Criteria | Points Earned |
|---|---------------|
| Opinion (10 pts. possible) see Quality Measurement for more information | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Excellent/Good: Posted in the appropriate week; answered the questions posed; posted a coherent, thoughtful opinion. | |
| Good/Fair: Most but not all questions answered; and/or opinion lacks coherency and/or opinion was posted at the end of the forum week. | |
| Fair/Poor: Unclear thought, little or no evidence of critical thinking on the topic, did not relate concepts or support ideas. | |
| Research (20 pts. possible) see Quality Measurement for more information | |
| Excellent/Good: Demonstrated research was conducted by citing references and using references to support opinions and/or illustrate points. Logic and reason used to solve problems. | |
| Good/Fair: References cited but research not incorporated into opinions in a functional way. | |
| Fair/Poor: No or very little research indicated. | |
| Interaction Quality and Quantity (20 pts. possible) see Quality Measurement for more information | |
| Excellent/Good: Interacted with other students throughout the forum week, actively, meaningfully, and respectfully. | |
| Good/Fair: Quality and/or quantity of interaction could be improved and/or comments were posted at the end of the forum week and/or posted all at once. | |
| Fair/Poor: Interaction lacks substance and/or participation level is low and/or all comments were made at the end of the forum week and/or posted all at once. | |
| TOTAL (50 points possible) | |

| Quality Measurement | |
|--|--|
| Excellent | |
| <p>Your contributions to each topic indicate your mastery of the materials assigned. Your responses might integrate multiple views and/or show value as a seed for reflection for other participants' responses to the thread. You provide evidence that you are reading the assigned materials and other student postings and are responding accordingly, bringing out interesting interpretations. You know the facts and are able to analyze them and handle conceptual ideas. Examples of high quality posts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuing the discussion by adding additional information; • elaborating on previous comments from others; • presenting explanations of concepts or methods to help fellow students; • presenting reasons for or against a topic in a persuasive fashion; and • providing a URL and an explanation for a reputable area you researched on the Internet. | |
| Good/Fair | |
| <p>You have meaningful interaction with other participants' postings. Posts that state "I agree" or "I disagree" include an explanation of what is disagreed or agreed upon and why, or they introduce an argument that adds to the discussion. However, you may have rambling, lengthy</p> | |

posts that show no sign of having been re-read and refined before posting, and your writing suffers lack of clarity and comprehension. Your posts demonstrate some confidence with the materials but may be just a bit off target in one area or another.

Poor

You will receive little credit in the week's discussion if you just show up and make trivial comments, without adding any new thought to the discussion. At the low end of the spectrum, not participating gets a zero. If you are not in the discussion, you do not earn any points. If you only give opinion without support, you will earn few points.

Online Class Netiquette/Behavior

- Be self-reflective before you post an emotional response and reread what you have written to be sure it is positive. Think of your comments as printed in the newspaper. Your online comments will be seen, heard and remembered by others in the class.
- Use effective communication.
 - Avoid the use of all caps or multiple punctuation elements (!!!, ??? etc).
 - Be polite, understate rather than overstate your point, and use positive language.
 - If you are using acronyms, jargon or uncommon terms, be sure to explain them so everyone can understand and participate in the discussion.
- Ask for clarification to a point if you feel emotional from a classmate's post. It is likely that you misunderstood his/her point. This strategy will also help you step away from the intensity of the moment to allow for more reflection.
- Sign your name. It is easier to build a classroom community when you know to whom you are responding.
- Foster community. Share your great ideas and contribute to ongoing discussions. Consider each comment you make as one that is adding to, or detracting from, a positive learning environment for you and your classmates.
- Be constructive. You can challenge ideas and the course content, but avoid becoming negative online. When you disagree politely, you stimulate and encourage great discussion. You also maintain positive relationships with others with whom you may disagree on a certain point.
- Keep the conversation on topic by responding to questions, adding thoughtful comments about the topics at hand. Online dialogue is like conversation. If there is a certain dialogue going on, please add to it, but if you have something new to say, please post it in another thread.
- Define your terms. When using acronyms or terms that are particular to your field (or new to our course), please define them for others.

- Participation in the course should maintain a [positive work and learning environment](#), as outlined in the [UM Collected Rules & Regulations, 330.080](#)

How do you know a source is reputable and credible?

You cannot just Google and pull the first source that looks good. How do you know who wrote this source? How do you know it is not a propaganda piece posted by a terrorist group? One of the most important concepts you will learn as a college student and that will set you apart from the rest of the workforce is to question your sources of information. You need to learn how to vet your sources. If you do not, this will negatively impact your learning and your grade. But what if vetting is too much work and you're really busy? Real estate is a lot of work. It is a lot of research and analysis. Best get started on that now and develop a mindset conducive to a career in real estate.

So how do you vet a source? Ask these questions and verify credible, reputable answers.

- Who wrote it? If you cannot find the author, it is not a credible source. Companies do not count as authors. You need to find the actual, individual human being.
- What are the credentials of this person? Anyone and their cousin can write about real estate, even if they have absolutely no industry experience! Check the credentials of the author. Do they have licensing in real estate? Do they have decades of experience in real estate? Do they have a formal education in real estate? Any of these will do as long as it is extensive.
- What is the motivation (or angle)? What is the agenda of the author? Is s/he trying to convince you of something that might impact the content of their message? For example, if a real estate agent is proclaiming the benefits of using agents, don't you think this person might downplay the cons of using an agent? Just a thought. Try to find the whole picture, not someone's advertisement or propaganda.

Homework

Course Objectives: This assignment meets course objectives 1-5 (please see page 1 for list).

Purpose: If the course material is the foundation to achieving the course objectives, the homework is the first step to help you learn the course material through application of the financial frameworks. The homework is also designed to prepare you for class and to succeed on the quizzes and exams.

Process: There are 3 steps that you will need to conduct:

1. Log on to our [Connect course page](#)
2. On our course homepage, select the "Homework" folder
3. Select and take the appropriate homework

Procedure: There are 13 homework assignments in this course, based on each chapter of the textbook you are required to read. These are the textbook chapters 1-13. Each homework has 24 questions, including multiple choice, worksheet, and excel simulations. Each question is worth 1 point for a total of 24 points per homework. You will have unlimited attempts and no time limit to complete the homework. All questions are randomized for each student and on each attempt. It is open book, notes, and internet. But you must work on the homework by yourself.

Due Dates: Please see the course outline for due dates. The homework correspond to the chapters assigned in each module. There are no late penalties, you can take the homework up until the last day of the class, Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm. But keep in mind, the homework is meant to prepare you for the quizzes and exams. If you leave them until the last minute, you are missing out on valuable practice that you get credit for. So time management here, set your schedule early on and stick to it.

Late Policy: There are no late penalties, you can take the homework up until the last day of the class, Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm. But I strongly recommend that you keep up every week with the assigned homework. I have scheduled them to complement the course material and prepare you for the quizzes and exams. The decision is yours, but having to take 13 homework at the end of the course does not sound like very much fun. Please note that the Connect system will shut down the homework at the deadline so you will no longer be able to view or take them. If you wait until May 13 and have some kind of emergency, there will not be anything I can do to help you. So plan ahead.

FAQ: *What if I disagree with the answer?* Let me know and we will talk about it. I cannot promise you your point back, but I will hear you out. Any inquiries need to be made before the end of the last day of the session on Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm.

FAQ: *What if my technology, internet, or power fails?* Know your options. If there is a problem with Connect, immediately contact [Connect](#) and record your ticket number. On your end, try to keep this from happening by using a computer on campus or somewhere else you trust the connection and electricity. Plan ahead: complete your work at least a day before the due date so you have buffer time. If you wait to do your work until the night it is due and something happens, or you wait weeks to reach out to me on a problem – I reserve the right to do nothing.

Grading: Homework are graded by the Connect system. Correct answers will receive a point, incorrect answers will not. There is no partial credit. If you have concerns, it is your responsibility to contact me within a week of when you took the homework and before the end of the semester.

Quizzes

Course Objectives: This assignment meets course goals 1-5 (please see page 2 for list).

Purpose: The quizzes are designed to help you practice applying the course material and get ready for the exams. Use the quizzes as a way to test your knowledge of the course material to be sure you are learning what you need to know for the exams.

Process: There are 3 steps that you will need to conduct:

1. Log on to our [Connect course page](#)
2. On our course homepage, select the “Quizzes” folder
3. Select and take the appropriate quiz

Procedure: There are 13 quizzes in this course. These quizzes include material from the assigned readings in the textbook chapters 1-13 so you will want to be well-versed on the assigned reading for each module. Each quiz has 24 multiple choice, true or false, and fill in the blank questions. Each question is worth 1 point for a total of 24 points per quiz. You will have three attempts and no time limit to complete each quiz. All questions are randomized for each student and on each attempt. It is open book, notes, and internet. But you must work on the quiz by yourself. Please see the course outline for due dates. The quizzes correspond to the chapters assigned in each module.

Late Policy: There are no late penalties, you can take the quizzes up until the last day of the class, Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm. But I strongly recommend that you keep up every week with the assigned quiz. I have scheduled them to complement the course material and prepare you for the exams. The decision is yours, but having to take 13 quizzes at the end of the course does not sound like very much fun. Please note that the Connect system will shut down the quizzes at the deadline so you will no longer be able to view or take them. If you wait until Dec 17 and have some kind of emergency, there will not be anything I can do to help you. So plan ahead.

FAQ: *What if I disagree with the answer?* Let me know and we will talk about it. I cannot promise you your point back, but I will hear you out. Any inquiries need to be made before the end of the last day of the session on Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm.

FAQ: *What if my technology, internet, or power fails?* Know your options. If there is a problem with Connect, immediately contact [Connect](#) and record your ticket number. On your end, try to keep this from happening by using a computer on campus or somewhere else you trust the connection and electricity. Plan ahead: complete your work at least a day before the due date so you have buffer time. If you wait to do your work until the night it is due and something happens, or you wait weeks to reach out to me on a problem – I reserve the right to do nothing.

Grading: Quizzes are graded by the Connect system. Correct answers will receive a point, incorrect answers will not. There is no partial credit. If you have concerns, it is your responsibility to contact me within 48 hours of when you took the quiz.

Exams

Course Objectives: This assignment meets course goals 1-5 (please see page 2 for list).

Purpose: Reading is one of the best ways to achieve knowledge. It is important that you read, reflect, and analyze the course material. It introduces the foundations of international investments so is thus important to achieve the course objectives. The module material and discussions have helped you learn the material while the quizzes helped you test your knowledge. The exams are designed for you to demonstrate and solidify your knowledge.

Process: There are 3 steps that you will need to conduct:

1. Log on to our [Connect course page](#)
2. On our course homepage, select the “Exams” folder
3. Select and take the appropriate exam

Procedure: There are two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. These exams include material from the modules and the assigned readings in the textbook chapters 1-13. If you have been doing the homework and quizzes, the exam questions will be familiar. You will have 120 minutes to take each exam. Expect 100 multiple choice, true or false, and fill in the blank questions for each exam, each question being worth 1 point. Each exam is 100 points. You will have 1 attempt for each exam. Be sure you have checked your internet connection, computer for updates, and anything else that would keep you from completing your one attempt! All questions are randomized for each student. It is open book, notes, and internet. But you must work on the exam by yourself. You can take the exam at any point up until the due date.

Midterm Exam: Covers Modules 1-3 – due Sunday, March 3 at 11:59pm

Final Exam: Covers Modules 4-7 – due Saturday, May 11 at 11:59pm

Late Policy: You get one attempt at the midterm and final exam and you have all semester to take them up until the due date. Please note that the Connect system will shut down the exams at the deadline so you will no longer be able to view or take them. If you wait until the due date and have some kind of emergency, there will not be anything I can do to help you. So plan ahead.

FAQ: *What if I disagree with the answer?* Let me know and we will talk about it. I cannot promise you your point back, but I will hear you out. Any inquiries need to be made before the end of the last day of the session on May 11 at 11:59pm.

FAQ: *What if my technology, internet, or power fails?* Know your options. If there is a problem with Connect, immediately contact [Connect](#) and record your ticket number. On your end, try to keep this from happening by using a computer on campus or somewhere else you trust the connection and electricity. Plan ahead: complete your work at least a day before the due date so you have buffer time. If you wait to do your work until the night it is due and something happens, or you wait weeks to reach out to me on a problem – I reserve the right to do nothing.

Grading: Exams are graded by the Connect system. Correct answers will receive a point, incorrect answers will not. There is no partial credit. If you have concerns, it is your responsibility to contact me within 48 hours of when you took the exam.

Course Policies

Attendance Policies

- Present in class for online courses is determined by participation in an “academically related activity,” i.e. submission of an assignment, assessment or discussion forum posting. The last day of attendance is the last day a student is academically participating in the online course.
- Documentation that a student has logged into an online class is not sufficient by itself to demonstrate academic attendance.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism

- You are responsible for being attentive to and observant of University policies about academic honesty as stated in the [University’s Campus Policies](#) and [Code of Student Conduct](#) found in the UMSL Bulletin
- Academic dishonesty is a serious offense that may lead to [probation, suspension, or dismissal from the University](#). One form of academic dishonesty is plagiarism – the use of an author's ideas, statements, or approaches without crediting the source. Academic dishonesty also includes such acts as cheating by using any unauthorized sources of information and providing or receiving unauthorized assistance on any form of academic work or engaging in any behavior specifically prohibited by the faculty member (e.g., copying someone else’s answers on tests and quizzes). Unauthorized possession or distribution of academic materials is another type of academic misconduct. It includes the unauthorized use, selling or purchasing of examinations or other academic work, using or stealing another student’s work, unauthorized entry or use of material in a computer file, and using information from or possessing exams that an instructor did not authorize for release to students. Falsification is any untruth, either verbal or written, in one’s academic work. Facilitation is knowingly assisting another to commit an act of academic misconduct. Plagiarism, cheating, and falsification are not acceptable.
- All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs who will determine whether you will appear before the Student Conduct Committee for possible administrative sanctions such as dismissal from the university. The instructor will make an academic judgment about the student’s grade on that work in this course. The campus process regarding academic dishonesty is [described in the “Policies” section of the Academic Affairs website](#)

Title IX Policies

Mandatory Reporting: Under Title IX, all UMSL faculty, staff, and administrators (with limited exception) are obligated to report any incidents of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, sexual assault, or gender discrimination to the Student Affairs office and/or other University officials. This ensures that all parties are protected from further abuses and that victim(s) are supported by trained counselors and professionals. Note: There are several offices at UMSL (e.g., Counseling Services, Health Services, Community Psychological Service, Center for Trauma

Recovery, and Student Social Services) whose staff are exempt from Title IX mandated reporting, when the information is learned in the course of a confidential communication.

Student Resources

Access, Disability and Communication

Your academic success is important. If you have a documented disability that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact Disability Access Services (DAS) immediately. Students must provide documentation of their disability to the office of Disability Access Services in order to receive official University services and accommodations. The staff is available to answer questions regarding accommodations or assist you in your pursuit of accommodations. Information about your disability is confidential. Once DAS reviews your medical documentation, they will provide you with the information and steps to inform me about the accommodations to which you are entitled. Your accommodations will begin as soon as we discuss your approved accommodations.

- 144 Millennium Student Center (MSC)
- Phone: (314) 516-6554
- [Email: Tara Cramer, cramert@umsl.edu](mailto:cramert@umsl.edu)
- [The DAS Website](#)

Office of International Students and Scholar Services

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

- 362 Social Sciences & Business Building (SSB)
- Phone: (314) 516-5229
- [Email: iss@umsl.edu](mailto:iss@umsl.edu)
- [The ISS Website](#)

Student Enrichment and Achievement

SEA provides comprehensive support and intervention strategies that support your road to graduation!

- 107 Lucas Hall
- Phone: (314) 516-5300
- [Email: umslsea@umsl.edu](mailto:umslsea@umsl.edu)
- [The SEA Website](#)

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

MSS provides comprehensive student retention services to diverse student populations; through their tutoring center, the MSS offers comprehensive tutoring services free to students at UMSL.

- 225 Millennium Student Center (MSC)
- Phone: (314) 516-6807

- [Email: multicultural@umsl.edu](mailto:multicultural@umsl.edu)
- [The MSS Website](#)

Technical Support

Canvas

If you have problems logging into your online course, or an issue within the course site, please contact the Technology Support Center:

- Phone: (314) 516-6034
- [Email: helpdesk@umsl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@umsl.edu)
- [The Technology Support Center Website](#)

If you are having difficulty with a technology tool in Canvas, consider visiting the [Canvas Student Guides](#), which has overviews of each tool and tutorials on how to use them.

If you continue to experience problems or just have questions, you can also contact the Learning

Resource Lab:

- Phone: (314) 516-6704
- [Email: lr@umsl.edu](mailto:lr@umsl.edu)
- [The Learning Resource Lab Website](#)

Academic Support

Math Academic Center (Math Lab)

The Math Academic Center offers free individual assistance on a walk-in basis to students needing help with any mathematics from basic math through calculus or any course involving mathematical skills.

- 222 Social Sciences and Business Building (SSB)
- [The Math Lab Website](#)

Course Outline

Start Here Module: January 16 – 21 (This is a 1 week module)

To-Do List:

- Read the Syllabus on Canvas
- Get access to the textbook, either electronic or hardcopy
- Go through the Start Here module on Canvas
- Introduce yourself on the discussion board (optional extra credit)

Module #1: January 22 – February 4 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 1: Introduction to Financial Management

- Textbook Chapter 2: Financial Statements, Taxes, and Cash Flow

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 1-2
- Quizzes 1-2
- Discussion 1

Module #2: February 5 – 18 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 3: Working with Financial Statements

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 3
- Quiz 3
- Discussion 2

Module #3: February 19 – March 3 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 4: Introduction to Valuation: The Time Value of Money
- Textbook Chapter 5: Discounted Cash Flow Valuation

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 4-5
- Quizzes 4-5
- DUE Sunday (March 3) at 11:59pm: Midterm Exam

Module #4: March 4 – 17 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 6: Interest Rates and Bond Valuation
- Textbook Chapter 7: Equity Markets and Stock Valuation

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 6-7
- Quizzes 6-7
- Discussion 3

Module #5: March 18 – April 7 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 8: Net Present Value and Other Investment Criteria
- Textbook Chapter 9: Making Capital Investment Decisions

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 8-9
- Quizzes 8-9
- Discussion 4

Spring Recess: March 23 – 31

Module #6: April 8 – 21 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 10: Some Lessons from Capital Market History
- Textbook Chapter 11: Risk and Return

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 10-11
- Quizzes 10-11

Module #7: April 22 – May 5 (This is a 2 week module)

Readings:

- Textbook Chapter 12: Cost of Capital
- Textbook Chapter 13: Leverage and Capital Structure

Assignment To-Do List:

- Homework 12-13
- Quizzes 12-13

Module #8: May 6 – 11 (This is a 1 week module)

DUE Saturday (May 11) at 11:59pm:

- All Homework
- All Quizzes
- Final Exam

No Grace Period, No Exceptions!