

FINC 4531 Intermediate Corporate Finance
Online
Expanded Course Outline
Summer 2016

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also by appointment

I. Catalog Description:

An in-depth study of financial planning and management with emphasis on capital structure and dividend payout policies, cost of capital and capital budgeting, and working capital management. The course serves as a framework for understanding a broad range of corporate financial decisions. Cases and directed readings are used extensively.

II. Required Background or Experience:

A. Prerequisites: FINC 3511

B. Prerequisite Justification:

A general knowledge of present value analysis, capital budgeting and cost of capital as well as financial planning concepts are required. These topics are covered in FINC 3511. In addition, a general knowledge of the concepts of accounting is needed. These topics are covered in ACCT 2101 and ACCT 2102, which are prerequisites to FINC 3511.

C. General Education (Core) Contributions:

The course uses the oral skills developed in COMM 1110 and the critical thinking and analysis abilities developed in mathematics. The knowledge gained in core area IV courses of ACCT 2101 and ACCT 2102 are used.

III. Expected Outcome: (<http://www.westga.edu/acffin/1676.php>)

A. Communicate effectively in oral presentations and in writing. (LG 1).

B. Improve research and analytical skills through analysis and presentation (LG 2, 3).

C. Understand the concepts of the theory of the capital structure and cost of capital of the firm (LG 2, 6).

D. Understand how to determine incremental cash flows (LG 2, 3, 6).

E. Understand and be able to apply the analytical techniques of capital budgeting to determine whether projects should be accepted or rejected (LG 2, 3, 6).

F. Apply statistical techniques to risk analysis as it applies to the budgeting process (LG 2, 3).

IV. Text:

Emery, Finnerty, and Stowe – Corporate Financial Management, Wohl Publishing, 4th edition, 2011 or 2012. The ISBN-13 is 978-1935938002. You will need the textbook.

V. Special or Unique Student Materials:

A financial calculator with a "cash flow" button, or competent use of spreadsheets, is highly recommended or access to spreadsheets. Examples include the Hewlett Packard 10B, Texas Instruments BA II Plus, or Texas Instruments 83 (or any TI-80 series with the Finance add-in), or Sharp EL-733A).

VI. Special or Unique University Facilities:

None. You will need access to CourseDen and the public version of the course webpage is at, http://www.westga.edu/~chodges/html/finc_4531.html.

VII. Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:

A. Expanded Course Description:

This course generally covers the same topics as those covered in FINC 3511. However, FINC 4531 covers the material with a much higher degree of rigor. Themes related to valuation, cash flow projection, principal-agent conflicts, and contingent claims analysis are recurring within the course. Students will learn both theory and advanced analytical techniques. Students are encouraged to integrate the various areas of finance into a coherent and holistic view of the firm. Students will have opportunities to improve their use of spreadsheets, calculators, and research techniques.

B. Instructional Methods

1. Lectures and problem solving. Topics are integrated into a complete theory of the financial structure of the firm.
2. Quizzes. There are CourseDen quizzes available for each chapter covered within the course. Students are allowed multiple attempts per quiz, with the highest grade being used in grade calculations. I will drop your lowest quiz score when computing your quiz average. Cooperation among students, when preparing for and completing the quizzes, is allowed. These quizzes will form the foundation of in-class exams.

VIII. Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:

A. Evaluation Tools

CourseDen Quizzes (KEY TO HIGH GRADE)	40%
Exam 1	18%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3	22%

(I reserve the right to curve grades.)

B. Administrative Policies

1. Credit Hour Policy (3 credit hours): Students in this class will spend 3 hours (160 minutes) per week with faculty instruction (either face-to-face or online). Generally, students can expect to spend about six hours of class work outside of the classroom each week. This out-of-class work may include, but is not limited to, quizzes, reading the chapters before a topic is covered in class, assignments, individual project, research, and test preparation. The amount of out of class time required for a given outcome will vary by student. **THIS APPLIES ONLY TO A REGULAR SEMESTER.**
2. Please carefully review the information at the following link: http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf. The document at this link contains important information pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.
3. Information regarding quiz and test scores is available in the Gradebook area of CourseDen.
4. Requests for adjustments to exam scores must be made in writing within ONE WEEK of the return of the test. Only WRITTEN requests will be considered.
5. Attendance Policy:
 - a) **Regular Class Meetings:** There are no regular class meetings. This course is 100% online.
 - b) **Scheduled Quizzes and Exams:** You must complete the quizzes and exams by the listed deadlines. Items not completed by the deadline will receive a score of 0.
6. Code of Conduct: Honesty and integrity are necessary to the academic and professional functions of business. Acts of dishonesty undermine the basic foundation of the academic environment. Improper academic conduct on the part of students shall be interpreted to mean the obtaining and using of information during an examination by means other than those

permitted by the instructor, including the supplying of such information to other students. All forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, and falsification of academic records are subject to disciplinary action.

C. Learning Domains

1. Cognitive: Knowledge; comprehension; synthesis; analysis; evaluation.
2. Affective: Receiving; responding; valuing; organization; characterization.

MY.WESTGA.EDU

The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her my.westga.edu e-mail account on a regular basis. I normally do not check the email contained within CourseDen, please send emails to chodges@westga.edu.

NOTE 1. This course covers the following AACSB perspectives:

- Influences of legal and regulatory issues
- Ethical issues
- Oral communication
- International issues
- Social issues

NOTE 2. This course covers the following teaching objectives:

- develops oral communication skills
- develops ability to do research
- develops problem solving (analytical) skills
- develops critical thinking
- encourages social responsibility
- provides depth in major

NOTE 3. I do not give extra credit and do not give credit for work done in other courses.

IX. Daily Course Outline: This schedule lists deadlines, you should complete the material before the deadlines. Deadlines will not be extended.

Session 1(July 5) Course Overview, watch the Introduction Video and download the Syllabus

Session 2(July 6) Chapter 1 (Introduction) and Chapter 14 (Agency Theory, pages 400-415 only) Quiz due

Session 3 (July 7) Chapter 2 (Concepts and Principles and Time Value of Money Review) Quiz due

Session 4 (July 8) Chapter 3 (Accounting Cash Flows and Taxes) Quiz due

Session 5(July 11) Exam 1 due

Session 6 (July 12) nothing due

Session 7 (July 13) Chapter 5 (Valuing Stocks and Bonds) Quiz due

Last day to withdraw with a grade of W is March 3

Session 10 (July 14) Chapter 8 (Cost of Capital) Quiz due

Session 11 (July 15) Chapter 16 (Capital Structure Theory) Quiz due

Session 12 (July 18) Chapter 17 (Capital Structure in Practice) Quiz due

Session 13(July 19) Chapter 18 (Dividend Policy) Quiz due

Session 14(July 20) Exam 2 due

Session 15(July 21) nothing due

Session 16(July 22) Chapter 9, Business Investment Rules Quiz Due

Session 15(July 25) Chapter 10 (Capital Budgeting Cash Flows) Quiz Due

Session 16(July 26) Chapter 12 (Options) Quiz due and Chapter 11 (Capital Budgeting in Practice) Quiz due

Session 17, Final Exam due by 11:30 pm July 27, You must begin by 9:00 pm to receive the full amount of time.

PLEASE NOTE: This schedule is tentative and could require modification.