



Dillard College of Business Administration

Syllabus: Financial Administration

FINC 5713 Section X10 Online

Fall 2019

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Qian Li, CFA, Associate Professor in Finance

Office: Dillard Building 205

Office Hours: Tuesday 2pm – 3pm; Wednesday 1pm -- 3pm, 5pm – 6pm; Thursday 9am –10 am

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Course Materials

1. Required Textbook:

- a. Corporate Finance: A Focused Approach, 6th Edition, by Michael Ehrhardt and Eugene Brigham, Cengage Learning, ISBN: 1133947530
- b. Customized [Harvard Business School \(HBS\) Coursepack](#). The link to purchase the coursepack is also provided on D2L. Please respect the publisher's copy rights and purchase the cases directly from the HBS Publishing website. Do NOT make photocopies without the publisher's consent.

2. D2L Access: Due to the online nature of this course, we will make extensive use of D2L. Make sure that you have access to this course on D2L. Course syllabus, lecture notes and other course materials will be uploaded on D2L. Important class announcement will be posted on D2L as well.

If you have problem accessing D2L, please refer to the [help page](#) about your login information. For more helps on using this system, please refer to the [FAQ page](#), or [contact MWSU Office of Distant Education](#).

Course Prerequisite(s)

BUAD 3033, FINC 3733 or BUAD 5006, and consent of the Graduate Coordinator.

It is the student's responsibility to make sure that you meet the prerequisite requirements. Failure to do that may result in withdrawal from the class, even at late point of this semester.

Learning Goals

A. DCOBA Graduate Program General Learning Goals

GLG1: Our students will exhibit the characteristics of leadership.

Objective: Our graduates will have the capacity to lead effectively.

In this class students will form teams to work on case analysis projects. Project grades will reflect students' leadership and participation in the team projects.

GLG3: Our students will produce creative responses to business situations.

Objective: Our graduates will demonstrate the capability to critically analyze business situations and develop creative solutions to opportunities and problems.

In this class students will be required to analyze numerous cases. The analysis will include identifying the problem(s), suggesting possible alternatives to solve the problems, recommending the best alternative, and presenting an implementation plan. Grades will reflect the quality of the analysis.

GLG5: Our students will communicate at a professional level.

Objective: Our graduates will be able to communicate in a professional business manner.

In this class students are required to write case analysis reports. Grades will be affected by the effectiveness of the writing communications.

B. Course Specific Learning Goals: After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. understand key financial concepts such as:

- Time Value of Money
- Financial analysis and forecasting
- Cost of capital analysis
- Corporate valuation analysis
- Capital budgeting analysis

2. integrate these concepts from the prospective of value creation;

3. apply these concepts to the analysis of intermediate level finance cases;

4. contribute to team projects based on logical and appropriately focused analysis and make reasonable conclusions and recommendations based on assigned cases; and

5. submit well written, grammatically correct and well-organized case report

Grading and Evaluation:

Grades are determined by the following components:

a. Exams:

There will be two equally weighted exams. Each exam is weighted 20% into the overall grade. Format and content of the exam will be announced on D2L prior to the exam.

- Both exams are mandatory. Please refer to the tentative course schedule at the end of this syllabus for scheduled exam dates. There will be no make-up for the exams. It is the student's responsibility to know when and how the exams will be held. If you miss one exam, with a valid reason, the weight of the missed exam can be transferred into the other exam you can take. This option can only be exercised once, meaning that if you miss more than one exam, you lose at least 20%.

Situations that can be excused include: active military/police/firefighter assignment, jury duty, university functions (for example, athlete events or student conferences), and medical emergency for yourself or your immediate family members. Supporting documents are required. Missing any exam without a valid excuse will automatically result in a grade of zero for that specific exam.

- Students are not allowed to capture/record the exam questions by any means while taking an exam. Collaboration among students while taking an exam is considered cheating and is

prohibited. Please refer to the Academic Integrity section of this syllabus regarding to the consequences.

b. Case Analysis Reports:

Students will form groups to work on several case analysis reports. Each group should have no fewer than 3 students, and no more than 4 students. Each group needs to submit one copy of their written report, including supporting Excel Spreadsheet file(s), to the D2L Dropbox for each case assignment by the deadline. Deadline for each case will be provided on D2L. Submission after the specified deadline will NOT be accepted and will automatically result a grade of zero for everyone in the group.

Table 1 and Table 2 below illustrate the grade components and the grading standard.

Table 1: Grade Components

Element	Points
Exam 1	20
Exam 2	20
Case Analysis Reports	20*3 = 60
Total Points	100

Table 2: Grading Standard

Grade	Points
A	90 or greater
B	80 to 89.99
C	70 to 79.99
D	60 to 69.99
F	Lower than 60

To maintain the fairness to the entire class, the same grading criteria will be applied to all students. Grades are not negotiable. There will be no bonus/additional assignment/project designed for/given to any individual student.

Additional Course Policies

1. Students registered in this course are required to have the access to a computer capable of playing videos files, opening and editing Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, and opening PDF files. A reliable broadband internet connection is also necessary. No technical or internet connection problem at a student's end will be considered or excused for grading purposes.
2. Students have the responsibility to check this course on D2L regularly for new announcements and course materials. Failure to do so may result in missing important instructions and updates and consequently lower test grades.
3. Due to the online nature of this class, email is the preferred way to communicate with the professor. If you prefer a face-to-face conversation, you can visit me during my office hours or email me to set up an appointment to meet in my office. To protect student privacy, I will not discuss grade on email unless you use a MSU Texas student email address.
4. Redistribution of any course material provided by the instructor in any form outside this class is strictly prohibited.
5. This class follows [Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog](#) regarding to the Instructor Drop policy:

An instructor may drop a student any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to dropping the student from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the first 9 weeks of a long semester, the first 6 weeks of a 10 week summer term, or the 12th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date.

Academic Integrity

With regards to academic honesty, students are referred to the [Student Honor Creed](#), including the following statement:

We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests with each individual student.

This course follows Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog regarding to the Academic Dishonesty policy:

A grade of F given for academic dishonesty will be computed in the grade point average even if permission is granted for the course to be repeated. Additional college and program policies regarding academic dishonesty will apply.

Americans with Disabilities Act

If a student has an established disability as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act and would like to request accommodation, that student should see me as soon as possible (preferably within the first two weeks of the semester). Refer to my office hours and phone number shown on page 1. This class follows the guidelines suggested by [Office of Disabilities Support Services](#) for students who qualify for disability services. Please see [Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog](#) for details.

Campus Carry statement

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's [Campus Carry Policy](#) webpage.

Professionalism

The faculty, staff, and students of the Dillard College of Business Administration are committed to being a "professional" in our words, conduct, and actions. The qualities of a professional include:

- A commitment to the development of specialized knowledge
- Competency in analytical, oral and written communication skills
- Self-discipline
- Reliability
- Honesty and integrity
- Trustworthiness
- Timeliness
- Accountability for words and actions
- Respect for others and other cultures

- Politeness and good manners
- A professional image (professionals look professional)
- An awareness of their environment and adaptability to different settings
- Confidence without arrogance
- A commitment to giving back to your community

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is a guide for the course—not a “contract”—and is subject to change. Syllabus changes will be communicated via D2L and/or in class.

Course Schedule

Table 3: Tentative Course Schedule

Since this is an online class, you are in charge of your own learning pace. The table below serves as a guideline for a reasonable study load each week and a reminder of the exam dates and group project report due dates.

Week	Monday Start	Coverage
1	26-Aug-19	Syllabus and Class Policy Discussion
2	2-Sep-19	Lecture 1: Intro for Corporate Financial Management
3	9-Sep-19	Lecture 2: Financial Statement Analysis
4	16-Sep-19	Lecture 3: Financial Planning and Forecasting
5	23-Sep-19	Case Report 1: AT&T vs. Verizon. Report due on Sunday, Sept 29
6	30-Sep-19	Lecture 4: Time Value of Money
7	7-Oct-19	Exam 1 on Oct 11, 2019
8	14-Oct-19	Lecture 5: Basic Bond and Stock Valuation
9	21-Oct-19	Lecture 6: Cost of Capital
10	28-Oct-19	Lecture 7: Corporate Valuation
11	4-Nov-19	Case Report 2: Whole Food. Report due on Sunday, Nov 10
12	11-Nov-19	Capital Budgeting: Evaluating Cash Flows
13	18-Nov-19	Capital Budgeting: Cash Flow Estimation
14	25-Nov-19	Group Discussion. Thanksgiving Holiday
15	2-Dec-19	Case Report 3: American Solar, Inc. Due on Sunday, Dec 8th
16	9-Dec-19	Final Exam on Dec 13, 2019