



## **Dillard College of Business Administration**

Syllabus: Financial Administration FINC 5713.270

Spring 2024; Hybrid Class

Wednesdays 5:30 PM to 6:50 PM; DB 129

### **Instructor Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. Qian Li, CFA, Professor of Finance

Office: Dillard Building 205

Office Hours: Tuesday 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM; Wednesday 1:30PM until 3:30PM;

Thursday 11:00 AM until 12:00 PM

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### **Course Materials**

- Required Textbook: Corporate Finance: Core Prin & Applications, 7th Edition, by Ross, Westerfield, Jaffe and Jordan. ISBN: 9781265215972. Published by McGraw Hill.

To save student time and money, I have opted to have this course in the University's Textbook Affordability Program. Online access to the textbook and the textbook companion website (Connect) will be available in D2L on the first day of class for all students enrolled in this class. The price has been charged to your student account. This pricing is below the publisher's website price.

You have the choice to opt out of this special pricing and purchase your course material and online access on your own. If you decide to opt out, the instructions will be in your MSU student email on the second day of class. For questions concerning the Textbook Affordability Program or if you need assistance, please contact the university Bookstore at [jenny.denning@msutexas.edu](mailto:jenny.denning@msutexas.edu).

- D2L Access  
Due to the hybrid nature of this course, we will make extensive use of Desire2Learn (D2L) this semester. Make sure that you have access to this course on D2L. From D2L you will see many important materials such as course syllabus, lecture notes and videos, and class announcements. If you have problem accessing D2L, please refer to the [help page](#).

- Online Exam requirements  
A reliable broadband internet connection is required for downloading and viewing course materials and taking online exams. No technical problem at a student's end will be considered or excused for grading purposes.

This course requires the use of Respondus LockDown Browser for online exams. A webcam is required to take the online exams. Students need to take the online exams on a computer that meets the system requirements for installing Respondus Lockdown Browser. Please be advised that Chromebooks Laptop, smart phones, or tablet may not meet the requirements for the Respondus browser and webcam monitoring. Watch [this video](#) to get a basic understanding of the LockDown Browser. Download instructions and guidelines are available on D2L.

### **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 a late point of this semester.

### **Learning Goals**

#### A: DCOBA Graduate Program General Learning Goals

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 course students will have the opportunity 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.

GLG4: Our students will integrate knowledge across business disciplines.

Objective: Our graduates will demonstrate the capability to integrate knowledge across business disciplines.

In this course, to conduct reasonable valuation analysis, students will integrate their knowledge across business disciplines such as Accounting, Economics, and Management to assess firm performance and project firm growth. Grades will reflect their knowledge and skills in the analysis.

#### 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

- Bond and stock markets and bond and stock valuation analysis
  - Corporate valuation analysis
  - Capital budgeting and project valuation analysis
2. integrate these concepts from the prospective of value creation.
  3. apply these concepts to valuation analysis.

### **Grading and Evaluation:**

Grades are determined by the following components:

**a. Exams:**

There will be three exams. Please refer to Table 1 for the weight of each exam. Exam 1 and Exam 2 will be online. Exam 3 (the final exam) will be offline in class. More details such as the format and coverage of each exam will be announced in class or on D2L.

All exams are mandatory. Please refer to the tentative course schedule at the end of this syllabus for 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 a student must miss one exam for a valid reason, the weight of the missed exam can be transferred into the other exams the student can take. This option can only be exercised once, meaning that if one misses more than one exam, one loses at least 15 points.

Situations that can be excused include religious holy days, active military, police or firefighter assignment, jury duty, university functions (for example, athlete events or student conferences), and medical emergency for yourself or your immediate family members. For more information about authorized absences, excused absences defined by state regulations, and the required documentations, please refer to the [Registrar](#) section in the university catalog.

For exam absences due to religious holy day, military/policy/firefighter/jury duty, or personal emergencies, please contact the [Dean of Students](#) office. The Dean of Students will process student request and notify the instructor.

Absences due to required participation in university-sponsored activities must be approved by the college dean, Athletic Director, or the Provost. Absences due to academically related activities such as class field trips or student conferences require a written notification from the faculty member who sponsors or organizes the activities.

Missing any exam without a valid excuse and supporting documents will result in a grade of zero for that 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 the consequences.

**b. Assignments:**

There will be online assignment(s) for each chapter covered in this course. More details such as the format, coverage and due dates of the online assignments will be communicated in class or on D2L. Students are required to have individual access to the Connect website and complete the online assignments independently. Late submission will not be accepted and will automatically result in a grade of zero for the assignment.

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

Table 1: Grade Components

Element	Weights
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	20%
Exam 3 (Final Exam)	15%
Assignments	5% * 10 = 50%
Total	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 or project designed for or given to any individual student. Emails to bargain for higher grades will not be replied.

**Additional Course Policies**

1. When emailing the instructor, please include "FINC 5713-270" in the email subject line.
2. Students have the responsibility to check in 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 or assignment grades.
3. Redistribution of any course material provided by the instructor in any form outside this class is strictly prohibited.
4. No food or beverage is allowed in the classroom. This is a college policy.

5. This class follows [Midwestern State University Graduate Catalog](#) regarding to the Instructor Drop:

*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.*

### **Academic Integrity**

With regards to academic honesty, students are referred to the University's 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 and the attached course schedule serve as a guide for the course—not a “contract”—and are subject to change. Syllabus changes will be communicated in class or on D2L.

## Course Schedule

Table 3: Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Date	Coverage	Chapter
1	1/17/2024	Class introduction, syllabus and class policy discussion	*
2	1/24/2024	Lecture 1: Intro for Corporate Financial Management	1
3	1/31/2024	Lecture 2: Review of Financial Statements	2
4	2/7/2024	Lecture 3: Financial Statement Analysis	3
5	2/14/2024	Lecture 3 Cont.: Financial Models	3
6	2/21/2024	<b>Exam 1 (Online)</b>	*
7	2/28/2024	Lecture 4: Discounted CF Valuation	4
8	3/6/2024	Lecture 5: Interest Rate and Bond Valuation	5
9	3/13/2024	You have worked very hard. Enjoy the spring break.	*
10	3/20/2024	Lecture 6: Stock Valuation	6
11	3/27/2024	Lecture 7: NPV and Other Investment Rules	7
12	4/3/2024	<b>Exam 2 (Online)</b>	*
13	4/10/2024	Lecture 8: Capital Investment Decisions	8
14	4/17/2024	Lecture 9: Risk and Return	10 & 11
15	4/24/2024	Lecture 10: Risk and Cost of Capital	12
16	5/1/2024	<b>Final Exam (In-class, 5:45 pm–7:45 pm)</b>	*