



Course Syllabus: Business Finance

Dillard College of Business Administration

FINC 3733 Section 101

Fall Semester, August 24 – December 9, 2026

Monday & Wednesday 12:30 to 1:50 p.m.

Classroom DB 129

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Robert C. Forrester

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Office hours: MTWR 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or by appointment

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Course Description

Introduction to the principles of financial management applied by domestic and international firms. Core topics include financial analysis, time value of money, risk and return, asset valuation, cost of capital and capital budgeting.

Course Prerequisites

Junior standing or above or consent of the chair, ACCT 2143, and ECON 2433.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

1) Course Material (available through D2L), and

2) M: Finance 6e, by Marcia Cornett, Troy Adair & John Nofsinger, McGraw-Hill/Irwin. ISBN: 978-264412754. In weblink for students choosing the eBook option.

3) Each student will need a financial calculator, such as a Texas Instruments TI BAI Plus Professional. Graphing calculators such as TI-83 or TI NSpire are not allowed on exams. Cell phones are not allowed on exams.

Course Objective

General Learning Goals:

Upon successful completion of the course, students should:

- 1) Demonstrate problem solving and decision-making abilities through the critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information.
- 2) Demonstrate a competency in speaking and writing for common business scenarios.
- 3) Be able to utilize available technology for common business applications.
- 4) Demonstrate ethical reasoning skills within a business environment.
- 5) Understand issues that are related to globalization and international business activities.

Course Specific Learning Goals:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should have developed the understanding of:

- 1) Firm organization and principal-agent relationships.
- 2) Fundamental financial statement analysis.
- 3) Time value of money, asset valuation, and the risk-return relation.
- 4) Cost of capital and capital budgeting.

Grading and Evaluation

Course Grade - Exams 1 to 4 are each 20% or 100 points, Homework is 16% or 80 points, Ch 12 Assessment Quiz is 4% or 20 points. For grade A you need at least 450 points, for grade B the range goes between 400 to 449, for grade C between 350 to 399, grade D is 300 to 349 and F is below 300 points.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Ch. 12 Assessment Quiz	20
Final Exam	100
Homework	80
Total Points	500

Table 2: Numerical Grade to Letter Grade Conversion

Grade	Points	Meaning
A	450	Excellent
B	400 to 449	Good
C	350 to 399	Satisfactory
D	300 to 349	Passing
F	Less than 300	Failing

Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance

Tutoring assistance is available with the econ finance tutor in DB 207. The schedule for this is set every semester and it subject to change. Check the schedule on the board outside his/her office.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Homework

For the chapters we cover this semester, there are online assignments on the textbook companion website. I recommend you finish the chapter reading assignment before we cover that chapter in class, and work on the practice assignments while we cover that chapter. The assignments allow multiple attempts. I will record your highest score.

Quizzes

There is one assessment quiz for the 12th Chapter of the book. The quiz will be in class. The date of the quiz is on the course schedule. There is no make-up allowed for the quiz (with the exception of valid excuses or authorized absences due to required participation in university-sponsored activities).

Exams

There will be four exams during this semester in the assigned classroom. The first three exams will be held during the regular class hours. The final exam will be held by the university schedule. There is no make-up exam in this course after the fact, and students missing an exam at the scheduled time without prior consent from the instructor will receive an exam grade of zero for the specific exam. Students with valid excuses or authorized absences due to required participation in university-sponsored activities (please see Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog for the definition) should make prior arrangements with the instructor to take the exam at an alternative time. **The use of cell phones is not allowed during the exams.**

Projects Required

There are no projects in this course.

Mid-Term Exams

There will be three mid-term exams. Each is worth 100 points or 20 percent of the overall course grade. Each consists of 30 multiple-choice problems. Students will be provided a formula sheet. Each student will need a financial calculator as described in this syllabus and a pencil and Scantron. They will be given during our regular classroom during our regular class time of 12:30 – 1:50 p.m. (80 minutes). The dates of the exams will appear on the Course Schedule in more detail.

Final Exam

The final exam is worth 100 points which is 20 percent of the overall course grade. It consists of 40 multiple-choice problems. Students will be provided a formula sheet. Each student will need a financial calculator as described in this syllabus and a pencil and Scantron. It will be in our regular classroom on December 9, 2026 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (2 hours).

Late Work

No late submissions will be accepted for any reason.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: August 27, 2026
- Deadline to file for graduation: September 21, 2026.
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W": November 23, 2026 by 4 pm.
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. An instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

For the record keeping purpose, each class period a roll sheet will be passed through the class and students need to make sure that they sign on the roll sheet. Signing any other student's name on the roll sheet is considered as an act of disruptive conduct in this course.

Online Computer Requirements

This course is taught in person, but students are required to use D2L and have regular access to a reliable computer with internet connectivity. Course materials, announcements, homework, grades, and other assignments may be posted or submitted through D2L. Students are responsible for ensuring that they can access D2L and complete all online course requirements by the stated deadlines. **Personal computer problems or internet connectivity issues generally will not be accepted as reasons for late work.** Computers are available in various locations on campus, including the Academic Success Center and campus computer labs. Students experiencing technical difficulties should contact the MSU Help Desk or use the support resources available through D2L as soon as possible. For help, log into [D2L](#).

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Instructor Class Policies

Instructor Drop, Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog:

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 8 weeks of a long semester, the first 6 weeks of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th 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. Students who fail to show up for class meetings more than three times without valid excuses will be dropped from this course with a failing grade.

A valid excuse is defined as an authorized absence (see Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog for the definition) or an unforeseeable, proved, and documented event that requires the student's presence in a place other than the classroom during the class period, and such event is deemed acceptable by the instructor. In the case of an excused absence, the document justifying the absence must be turned to the instructor within one week from the absence. Students who fail to meet class assignments, show indifferent attitudes, or reveal disruptive conducts will be given warnings each time such instance occurs.

Students with more than two warnings will be dropped from this course with a failing grade.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the

information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

The course is scheduled over 16 weeks covering all 12 Chapters of the book. Exams are scheduled in week three, seven, eleven and 16. Labor Day and Thanksgiving holidays are included in the schedule as well.

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 1 8/24 to 8/28	Syllabus Introduction to Finance & Reviewing Financial Statements	08/26/2026
Week 2 08/31 to 09/04	Analyzing Financial Statements Part 1 & 2	09/02/2026
Week 3 09/07 to 09/12	Labor Day & Exam I (Ch. 1, 2, 3)	09/09/2026
Week 4 09/14 to 09/18	Time Value of Money: Part 1a & Part 1b	09/16/2026
Week 5 09/21 to 09/25	Time Value of Money: Part 2a & Part 2b	09/23/2026
Week 6 09/28 to 10/02	Valuing Bonds part 1 & 2	09/30/2026
Week 7 10/05 to 10/09	Exam II (Ch. 4, 5, 6, 7) & Valuing Stocks part 1	10/07/2026
Week 8 10/12 to 10/16	Valuing Stocks part 2 & Characterizing Risk and Return Part 1	10/14/2026
Week 9 10/19 to 10/23	Guest Speakers – Financial Planning & Internships	10/21/2026
Week 10 10/26 to 10/30	Characterizing Risk and Return & Estimating Risk and Return part 1	10/28/2026
Week 11 11/02 to 11/06	Estimating Risk and Return & Cost of Capital	11/04/2026

Week or Module	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date
Week 12 11/09 to 11/13	Cost of Capital & Exam III (Ch. 8, 9, 10, 11)	11/11/2026
Week 13 11/16 to 11/20	Chapter 12 Capital Budgeting Criteria	11/18/2026
Week 14 11/23 to 11/27	Weighting NPV and Other Capital Budgeting Criteria, Ch. 12 Quiz & Thanksgiving (no class Wednesday 11/25)	11/25/2026
Week 15 11/30 to 12/04	Weighting NPV and Other Capital Budgeting Criteria & Final Exam Review	12/02/2026
Week 16	Final Exam & Commencement	12/09/2026