



Course Syllabus: Financial Management

Dillard College of Business

FINC 4653 Section Y20 Online with Face-to-Face Classes & Exams

Spring Semester January 20, 2026 - May 11, 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

Advanced treatment of core topics from business finance and coverage of such additional topics as working capital management, capital structure and dividend decisions, cash flow estimation, risk analysis, and introduction to real options in capital budgeting.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Intermediate Financial Management, by Brigham and Daves, Thomson/South-Western Publishing; 14th edition.

FINC 4653 201 is included in the Courseware Access & Affordability Program at MSU Texas. What does this mean?

1. Your materials will be available the first day of class, for all students in your class. To access your materials, please log into D2L and navigate to your course.
2. The charges for this material have been posted to your student account at the Business Office. If you want to "opt out" of this program and the cost savings, you will receive the "opt out" instructions in your my.msutexas.edu email on the second day of class.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact the MSU Bookstore: jenny.denning@msutexas.edu.

Other Requirements

Each student also needs to have a financial calculator capable of calculating the time value of money and will need to bring it to each class. A student is expected to be familiar with his/her own calculator's functions. I will be using a Texas Instruments BAII Plus Professional for examples. The "Professional" model performs some finance functions that other models cannot. Graphing calculators such as TI-83 or TI NSpire are not allowed on exams. Cell phones are not allowed on exams.

Learning Goals

A. General Learning Goals:

- 1) Demonstrate problem solving and decision-making abilities through the critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information.
- 2) Demonstrate utilization of available technology for common business applications: Students will finish several sets of homework that require them to conduct analysis and computation using software such as MS Excel.
- 3) Demonstrate team building and collaboration to achieve group objectives: Students will work in teams as they gather information, conduct financial analysis, and solve spread sheet problems. Grades in assignments are partially based on student's ability to work in a team.
- 4) Demonstrate a competency in speaking and writing for common business scenarios. Each student will make a presentation in class about current business events/news. Students will be graded on the quality of their oral speaking skills and the effectiveness of their presentation.

B. Course Specific Learning Goals:

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

- 1) The practical and conceptual problems associated with the financial management of the non-financial corporations.
- 2) Topics including financial planning and forecasting, risk and return analysis including the capital asset pricing model (CAPM), valuation of debt and equity, cost of capital, value-based management, capital budgeting and project evaluation techniques, etc.
- 3) Have an understanding of how each of the above relates to shareholder value maximization.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

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.

Grading

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Final Exam	100
Cengage Mindtap	75
Cengage Excel	25
Total Points	500

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	450
B	400 to 449
C	350 to 399
D	300 to 349
F	Less than 300

Homework

Please complete the assigned homework prior to the chapter discussion in an effort to be able to participate in chapter discussions.

The assigned homework and Excel assignments are located under the Cengage 'Apply It' tab. Only those assignments with a due date are required and graded.

Please ignore Mindtap 'Counts Towards Grade' or 'Practice' designation and instead complete any assignment with a due date.

The Mindtap homework for each chapter must be completed prior to the exam covering the material in order to receive credit (see Course Schedule). Dates for planned chapter completions are also posted on Mindtap. Your combined homework and Excel is 20% of your grade. **There will not be extensions to the homework deadlines.**

Exams

Exam grades will be shown on D2L under Gradebook after each exam. All grades are firm and nonnegotiable. There is no rounding in grades, and there are no bonus points at the end of semester. To maintain the fairness to the entire class, the same grading criteria will be applied to every student, and no personal reason will be considered for grading purposes.

For students approved as Distance Learners, the preferred location for exams is the MSU campus. However, for approved distance learners only, the exam instructions may be sent to testing centers via email, or uploaded to the proctor service. Only certified testing centers are permitted to administer exams. Students are responsible for arranging a testing center to oversee the exam process. Students enrolled in a course(s) requiring proctored exams, must have a proctor on file. Proctors must be able to monitor the student throughout the entire exam. The proctor information must be submitted within one week from the start of the course and approved by Dr. Robert Forrester. Libraries are prohibited from proctoring exams. ETC Testing Center in the DFW metroplex is not an approved proctor location. Students are not allowed to handle the exam after completion under any circumstances. Proctored exams are not to be removed from the testing center at any time. No late exams will be accepted.

There will be four exams during this semester in the assigned classroom. The first three exams will be allowed 80 minutes and held at 2:00 pm in DB 323. The final exam will be held by the university schedule of 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m. in DB 323. The exams will include questions on any covered material, e.g., lecture notes, classroom discussions, and reading assignments. Each student will need a calculator for the exams. The use of cell phones is not allowed during the exams. The exams must be taken as scheduled. There are no make-up exams in this course and students missing an exam without a valid excuse will receive an exam grade of zero for the specific exam. Athletes traveling during an exam time must coordinate the exam prior to departure. 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, and the weight assigned for the missed exam will be redistributed to the other exams. No student will be allowed to miss the final exam. Final exam is mandatory. Due to grade reporting requests, students graduating with honors may be required to take the final exam early. Please book your travel accordingly. If you miss the final exam, please refer to above paragraph regarding to missing exam policies.

Final Exam

The final exam will be in DB 323 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on May 11. It is worth 100 points and is comprehensive. provided.

Face-to-Face Mandatory Attendance

Other than the mandatory face-to-face exam times, this course will have additional face-to-face class times that are mandatory. I will notify you well in advance so that you may plan to attend. You should schedule face-to-face class time attendance for Friday, May 8, 2026, for a course review. It will be in DB323 from 2:00 pm until 3:20 pm.

Late Work

Late work is not accepted.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: January 23, 2026. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Deadline to file for graduation: February 16, 2026. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 29, 2026. Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- 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.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer in this class. ****Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ****Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!*** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, log into [D2L](#).

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](#).

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:

Week	Monday	Topic	Reading	Wednesday	Topic	Reading
1	1/19/2026	Syllabus Overview of Fin Mgmt	Ch 1	1/21/2026	Risk and Return (Part 1)	Ch. 2
2	1/26/2026	Snow Day – No Classes		1/28/2026	Risk and Return (Part 2)	Ch. 3
3	2/2/2026	Risk and Return (Part 2)	Ch. 3	2/6/2026 2:00 p.m.	Exam I (Ch. 1, 2, 3)	-
4	2/9/2026	Bond Valuation	Ch. 4	2/11/2026	Bond Valuation	Ch. 4
5	2/16/2026	Financial Options	Ch. 5	2/18/2025	Financial Options	Ch. 5
6	2/23/2026	Accounting for Financial Management	Ch. 6	2/25/2026	Accounting for Financial	Ch. 6
7	3/2/2026	Financial Statement	Ch. 7	3/4/2026	Financial Statement	Ch. 7
8	3/9/2026	Spring Break	-	3/11/2026	Spring Break	-
9	3/16/2026	Stock Valuation	Ch. 8	3/20/2026 2:00 p.m.	Exam II (Ch. 4, 5, 6, 7)	Ch. 8
10	3/23/2026	Stock Valuation	Ch. 8	3/25/2026	Corporate Valuation & Financial Planning	Ch. 9
11	3/30/2026	Corporate Valuation & Financial Planning	Ch. 9	4/1/2026	Determining the Cost of Capital	Ch. 11
12	4/6/2026	Determining the Cost of Capital	Ch. 11	4/10/2026 2:00 p.m.	Exam III (Ch. 8, 9, 11)	-
13	4/15/2026	Capital Budgeting: Decision Criteria	Ch. 12	4/15/2026	Holiday Break	-
14	4/20/2026	Capital Budgeting: Decision Criteria	Ch. 12	4/22/2026	Capital Budgeting: CF Estimation	Ch. 13
15	4/27/2026	Capital Budgeting: CF Estimation	Ch. 13	4/29/2026	Capital Budgeting: CF Estimation	Ch. 13
16	5/4/2026	Weighting NPV and Other Capital Budgeting Criteria	Ch. 14	5/8/2026 Mandatory Face-to-face (2:00 pm – 3:20 pm)	Course Review	-
16	5/11/2026	Final Exam 1:00-3:00 PM	-	5/13/2026	Commencement	-