



## Dillard College of Business Administration

Syllabus: Risk Management and Insurance

FINC 3753 Section X30 Online

Summer Semester 2019

### Contact Information

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

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### Course Materials

- **Required Textbook:** Required Textbook: Principles of Risk Management and Insurance, by Rejda and McNamara, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, Pearson, ISBN: 0134082575  
It's important that you have a copy of this book as there will be required reading from the book. In addition, many examples, discussion questions, and practice questions in the lectures are based on materials introduced in the textbook.
- **Computer and Internet:** Due to the online nature of this class, students are required to have access to a computer or mobile device capable of playing videos files, and opening and editing Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint files as well as PDF files. A reliable broadband internet connection is also 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.
- **D2L Access:** 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 announcements.  
If you have problem accessing D2L, please refer to the [help page](#) about your login information. For more helps on using this system, please contact the [Technical Support](#).
- **Remind.com:** Since this is an online class, we will not meet face-to-face. To receive class announcements and reminders, please join this class on remind.com. To join, go to the [course site](#) or text @e22cd6 to the number 81010. You can choose to receive the alerts and communicate with the instructor either by text or email or within the Remind app. An instruction about using Remind is also posted on D2L.

### Course Prerequisite(s)

Junior standing or above or consent of the chair. It is YOUR 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.

It's also highly recommended that you pass FINC 3733 (Business Finance) and BUAD 3033 (Business and Economic Stats) before taking this course.

## Learning Goals

### General Learning Goals:

GLG 1: Our students will be effective at problem solving and decision making.

Objective: Our graduates will demonstrate problem solving and decision-making abilities through the critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information.

GLG 2: Our students will be effective communicators.

Objective: Our graduates will be able to demonstrate a competency in speaking and writing for common business scenarios.

2b: Our graduates will be able to demonstrate a competency in writing for common business scenarios.

### Course Specific Learning Goals:

This course is designed to acquaint the business students with the general principles of risk management and the appropriate use of insurance as a key tool in the management of risk. This course analyzes the nature of risk in our environment and characteristics of life, health, retirement, property and liability exposures to losses. Topics also include the institutional bases for insurance and government regulation for the insurance market and industry.

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Explain the nature of risk.
- Describe the process and importance of risk management.
- Identify the fundamental life, health, retirement, property and liability exposures and evaluate their characteristics.
- Discuss the essential features of avoidance, risk control, retention and transfer as the principal methods for managing the risk of loss.
- Explain the nature of insurance and its role in risk management.
- Explain the fundamental characteristics of life, health, property and liability insuring devices.
- Explain the functions and organizations of insurers.
- Explain why insurance needs to be regulated, and the impact of government regulation

### Grading and Evaluation:

1. Exams: There will be four online exams. The exams will include questions on all covered materials, such as lecture notes and reading assignments. The exams are not comprehensive, but in some cases the coverage of a later exam may require the knowledge from chapters covered in previous exams. More details about the format and content of the exam will be communicated on D2L prior to each exam. The weight of each exam is listed in Table 1.

Each exam will be available from 8:00AM CST to 10:00PM CST on the scheduled exam date (please see the course schedule at the end of this syllabus for the scheduled exam dates).

Once you start an exam, the exam has to be completed within 120 minutes. If you log out before saving and submitting the exam, it will be automatically graded as zero. Each exam can only be

taken once, and it must be saved and submitted before 10:00 PM on the exam date. Failure to submit an exam before the deadline will result in a grade of zero.

There will be no make-up for the exams. It is the student's responsibility to know when and where exams will be held. Only absences due to the following situations can be excused:

Active military/police/firefighter assignment, jury duty, university-authorized absences (for example, athlete events or study-abroad programs), and medical emergency for yourself or your immediate family member. Supporting documents are required. For more information about university authorized absences, please refer to [Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog](#).

In the case of an excused exam absence, except for Exam 4, the document justifying the absence must be emailed to the instructor within three business days from the absence. Students that have to miss Exam 4 due to an authorized absence are required to submit the supporting document by 7:00 PM, Saturday, July 6, 2019.

If you miss one exam due to an authorized absence, its weight can be transferred to the other three exams. However this option can only be exercised once. If you miss more than one exam, at least one of the exams you miss will be graded as zero and carried into your overall grade.

Missing any exam without a valid excuse will automatically result in a grade of zero for that exam.

If you believe there is a mistake in your grade, please feel free to contact me within 2 business days after you receive your grade for the exam. I will be glad to correct my grading/recording/posting mistakes. However, grades are NOT negotiable if there are no grading/recording/posting errors.

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 in this syllabus regarding to consequences.

2. Course Project: We will have one group project. Please refer to the document on D2I titled Course Project Description.

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

Table 1: Points allocated to each grading element

Element	Points
Exam 1	20
Exam 2	20
Exam 3	20
Final Exam	20
Group Project	20
Total Points	100

Table 2: Grading Standard

Grade	Points
A	90 or greater

Grade	Points
B	80 to 89.99
C	70 to 79.99
D	60 to 69.99
F	Lower than 60

### Other Course Policies

1. Due to the online nature of this class, email is the preferred way to communicate with the professor. To protect student privacy, I will not discuss grade on email unless you use your MSU student email address.
2. This class follows MSU Undergraduate 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 12<sup>th</sup> class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods the grade will be an F.
3. Redistribution of any course material provided by the instructor in any form outside this class is strictly prohibited.

Violating above rules will either cause you being dropped from this class or cause your final letter grade to be lowered depending on the severity of the violation.

### Academic Integrity

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

"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 on 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 responsibilities for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonestly fundamentally rests with each individual student"

Academic dishonesty will be taken seriously and will be investigated. The minimum penalty is an "F" in this course and referral to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action, which may result in expulsion from the University.

### 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). This class follows the guidelines suggested by [Office of Disabilities](#)

[Support Services](#) for students who qualify for disability services. Please see [Midwestern State University Undergraduate 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: The table below has the class date, major topics and activities for each class, the associated readings, as well as the exam dates

<b>Week</b>	<b>Weekday</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
1	Monday	6/3/2019	Risk and its Treatment	Syllabus; Ch 1
1	Tuesday	6/4/2019	Insurance and Risk, Introduction to Risk Management	Ch 2, 3
1	Wednesday	6/5/2019	Types of Insurers and Marketing Systems	Ch 5, 6
1	Thursday	6/6/2019	Government Regulation of Insurance	Ch 8
2	<b>Monday</b>	<b>6/10/2019</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	Ch 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8
2	Tuesday	6/11/2019	Fundamental Legal Principles	Ch 9
2	Wednesday	6/12/2019	Insurance Contracts	Ch 10
2	Thursday	6/13/2019	Life Insurance	Ch 11
3	Monday	6/17/2019	Life Insurance Contractual Provisions	Ch 12
3	Tuesday	6/18/2019	Life Insurance, Annuities and IRAs	Ch 13, 14
3	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6/19/2019</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	Ch 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
3	Thursday	6/20/2019	Health Insurance	Ch 15
4	Monday	6/24/2019	Class Project Discussion	Project
4	Tuesday	6/25/2019	Employment Benefit	Ch 16, 17
4	Wednesday	6/26/2019	Social Insurance	Ch 18
4	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6/27/2019</b>	<b>Exam 3</b>	Ch 15, 16, 17, 18
5	Monday	7/1/2019	The liability Risk	Ch 19
5	Tuesday	7/2/2019	Auto Insurance	Ch 20, 21
5	Wednesday	7/3/2019	Wrapping up the project	Project
5	Thursday	7/4/2019	Independence Day Holiday	Happy Holiday!
5	<b>Friday</b>	<b>7/5/2019</b>	<b>Exam 4</b>	Ch 19, 20, 21