



Dillard College of Business Administration

Syllabus: Financial Analysis

FINC/ACCT 3633 X30

Summer I Semester 2025

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Robert C. Forrester, Dillard Distinguished Professor of Energy Finance

Office: Dean Suite

Office hours: by appointment

Office phone: (940) 397-4360

E-mail: robert.forrester@msutexas.edu

Course Materials - Required

Financial Statement Analysis & Valuation, by Easton, McAnally, Crawford, Sommers, 7th Edition.
Published by Cambridge Business Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-61853-625-9

There are at least two purchase options (note—if one purchases a used text, one must purchase MyBusinessCourse code separately):

eBook subscription - approximately \$139 + tax for 6 months, includes free access code to myBusinessCourse. This may be accessed by going to your Financial Analysis course in D2L, click on 'Content,' then select 'MyBusiness Course Homework and click on any assignment or video resource and an account will be autogenerated for you to sign up.

myBusinessCourse — Online Learning System (Required)

Course Name: FINC ACCT 3633 Financial Analysis - Summer I - 2025

Course Materials – Required (Continued)

Excel: you will need Excel version 2016 or newer

Desire2Learn (D2L) Learning System. From D2L you will see this syllabus, lecture slides, important announcement and a message board where communicating with other students, etc.

Course Description

The study of financial tools and techniques used in the analysis of financial statements and other information for the purpose of deriving reasonable judgments about past, present, and future conditions of a firm and the effectiveness of its management.

Course Prerequisite(s)

Junior standing or above or consent of the chair; Acct 2143, Acct 2243, Math 1203/1233. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure that you meet the prerequisite requirements. It's also highly recommended that you pass FINC 3733 (Business Finance) before taking this course. This course is designed for Finance majors. The course may be taken for Finance or Accounting credit. Some employers require Finance majors to have 3 upper level accounting courses to apply for job openings. Finance majors may want to register for this course as ACCT 3633 to help meet that requirement. **THIS COURSE IS NOT DESIGNED FOR ACCOUNTING MAJORS.** Accounting majors are required to take Intermediate Accounting I and Intermediate Accounting II. Taking Financial Analysis would be redundant. Any Accounting major taking this class to satisfy degree requirements would need the approval of their advisor and the chair of the Accounting Department before registering. General Business majors may take this course to satisfy their upper level finance elective or the upper level finance elective. Failure to do that may result in withdrawal from the class, even at late point of this semester.

Other Requirements

Each student registered in this course is required to have the access to a modern personal computer, laptop, or other electronic device that is capable of playing videos files with sounds in the MP4 format, and opening PowerPoint files, PDF files, and Excel files. A student webcam is required. A reliable broadband internet connection is also required for downloading the course material. No technical problem at a student's end will be considered for grading purposes.

Learning Goals

I. General Learning Goal:

- Problem solving and decision making abilities through the critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information: Students will demonstrate problem solving and decision making ability as they synthesize information from different angles to conduct financial analysis.

These general learning goals are among those established by the Dillard College of Business Administration. General learning goals represent the skills that graduates will carry with them into their careers. While assessing student performance in obtaining these general learning goals, the Dillard College is assessing its programs. The assessments will assist us as we improve our curriculum and curriculum delivery.

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

This course is designed to prepare students to analyze, interpret, and evaluate financial statements effectively. Specifically, upon completion of this course, students are expected to know how to:

- Analyze and interpret accounting principles and practices
- Compute and interpret financial ratios
- Conduct qualitative and quantitative analysis for a company's business environment and strategy
- Conduct qualitative and quantitative analysis for specific Financing, Investing and Operating activities
- Identify and interpret a company's profitability and risks using profitability analysis

Course Policies

Reading the assigned material and completing assignments prior to class is expected. See the university catalog for the University Class Attendance Policy.

Class attendance, *Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog*:

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 submit more than three assignments 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 that prevents an assignment submission, 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.

Other Related Policies

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. A valid excuse is defined as an authorized 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.

Grading and Evaluation:

Participation Grade - Reading, lectures and Guided Examples: There are 15 modules within our text. It is important to read each module, watch the lectures, and watch the guided examples. Assigned readings are listed in the course schedule. You can adjust the speed of the lectures that summarize the chapters with PowerPoints by speeding up the verbal content or slowing it down to better understand the material. You may watch it as often as you need. The guided examples on the mybusinesscourse website walk you through examples of how to work problems. Your participation grade is based on your reading/viewing the lectures, and guided examples. Please do not underestimate the time required to read the material, watch the videos and guided examples and work the homework. **Plan ahead and give yourself plenty of time!!!!!!**

Student Honor Creed: "As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

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 within each individual student.

Homework: All homework for this semester is available online beginning after June 2, 2024. It is important that you adhere strictly to the homework deadlines contained on mybusinesscourse and the course schedule. These dates are to help you plan your time and succeed. The dates listed on my businesscourse are the **last dates** to submit homework. You will note that the schedule suggests a completion date to keep you on track for the material. The due dates are set for 7 am for those that work and prefer to work on homework late in the evening. **There will be no homework date extensions. Please do not ask.**

Exams: There will be two exams during this semester. The exams will include questions on any covered material, e.g., lecture notes, assignments, Excel, videos, and reading assignments. The exams are worth 200 points each. The use of cell phones or other electronic devices is not allowed during the exams.

Grading Scheme

Item	Points
Homework	450
Participation	50
Exam 1	200
Exam 2	200
Total	900

Grading System

Grade	Points
A	810 or greater
B	720 to 809
C	630 to 719
D	540 to 629
F	Less than 540

Semester grades will be reported through normal University channels with no exceptions.

Other Course Policies

- The instructor cannot provide technical supports to a student's hardware/software problems other than making sure that the provided course material is in working order. For problems related to D2L, please check [link to MSU technical support](#) or contact the University at distance.ed@msutexas.edu

- Students have the responsibility to check regularly the course pages on D2L for new postings and course material. New material for the coverage of each exam will be posted over time.
- Redistribution of any course material provided by the instructor in any form outside this class constitutes copyright infringement and is prohibited.

Academic Integrity

Students shall follow the “Student Honor Creed” on the Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog. A student who commits academic dishonesty is subject to conduct sanctions (please refer to the Midwestern State University Student Handbook for the definitions of Academic Dishonesty, Conduct Sanctions, and Academic Misconduct Procedures).

Americans with Disabilities Act

This course follows the university policies and guidelines suggested by the Disability Support Services Office for qualified students. Students are referred to the Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog for details.

Syllabus Change Policy

This syllabus is a guide for this course and is subject to change with advanced notice.

References

Midwestern State University Student Handbook

[Link to MSU Student Handbook](#)

Midwestern State University Undergraduate Catalog

[Link to MSU Undergraduate Catalogue](#)