



## **Course Syllabus: Foundation of Business**

Dillard College of Business  
BUAD 5006 Section X20  
Spring 2026 January 20<sup>th</sup> – May 8th

### **Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. DeAndrea Y. Davis

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### **Supporting Instructors:**

If you have questions on the modules' materials, please contact the corresponding instructor:

1. Accounting: Dr. Catherine Gaharan at [catherine.gaharan@msutexas.edu](mailto:catherine.gaharan@msutexas.edu)
2. Business Statistics: Dr. John Martinez at [john.martinez@msutexas.edu](mailto:john.martinez@msutexas.edu)
3. Economics: Dr. Pablo A. Garcia-Fuentes at [pablo.fuentes@msutexas.edu](mailto:pablo.fuentes@msutexas.edu)
4. Finance: Dr. Qian Li at [qian.li@msutexas.edu](mailto:qian.li@msutexas.edu)
5. Management: Dr. DeAndrea Davis at [deandrea.davis@msutexas.edu](mailto:deandrea.davis@msutexas.edu)
6. Management Information System: Dr. Grace Zhang at [grace.zhang@msutexas.edu](mailto:grace.zhang@msutexas.edu)
7. Marketing: Dr. Franklin Tillman at [franklin.tillman@msutexas.edu](mailto:franklin.tillman@msutexas.edu)

### **Course Description**

The course provides a graduate-level introduction to the foundations of accounting, statistics, economics, finance, marketing, management, and management information systems, which are built upon during subsequent graduate classes.

## **Textbook & Instructional Materials**

Recommended but Not Required Materials:

**Accounting:** Financial and Managerial Accounting by Warren, Jones, and Tayler.

**Business Statistics:** Statistics for Business and Economics by Anderson, Sweeney, and Williams

**Economics:** Modern Principles of Micro and Macroeconomics by Cowen and Tabarrok.

**Finance:** Applications and Theory by Cornett, Adair, and Nofsinger

**Management:** None

**Management Information System:** Using MIS by Kroenke and Boyle

**Marketing:** MKTG 12th by Lamb, Hair, and McDaniel

## **Study Hours and Tutoring Assistance**

ASC offers a schedule of selected subjects tutoring assistance. Please contact the ASC, (940) 397-4684, or visit the ASC homepage for more information.

## **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Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given).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.

## Homework

### Learning Goals

#### **General Learning Goals**

Our students will integrate knowledge across business disciplines. The course builds a proper foundation for further study of the functional areas.

Our students will produce creative responses to business situations. Our graduates will demonstrate the capability to critically analyze business situations and develop creative solutions to opportunities and problems. This course focuses more on the analytical foundations.

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, Dillard College is assessing its programs. The assessments will help us improve our curriculum and its delivery.

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

Understand the accounting principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the statistical methods that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the economic principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the financial principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the management information systems principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the marketing principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

Understand the organizational behavior principles that form the foundation of an MBA.

#### **Teaching Method**

This is an online course that begins on January 20, 2026, and ends on May 14, 2026. Students must complete a module every two weeks and submit the module exam as required by the course outline below. The student is responsible for studying the assigned module and additional class material. Class modules and related materials will be posted on D2L. The student can ask questions on

any point that is not understood. In this class, you will use the internet to access the class material posted on D2L. The week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday

## **Course Policies**

### **Copyright**

The class materials associated with this course are provided to facilitate student learning and are protected by U.S. copyright laws. Dissemination or sale of the class material (including the World Wide Web) is not permitted. The class material is only available to students enrolled in the course that requires the use of the corresponding textbook. Students should abide by these restrictions.

**Course Prerequisite:** Consent of the Graduate Coordinator.

### **Attendance Policy:**

Attendance will be checked based on module exam submissions and on students accessing the course on D2L. Students must submit all assignments (attend all scheduled classes) for this course, given the university's attendance policy. Missing two or more module exams during the semester is considered excessive by the instructor. Therefore, students who reach this level of missed exams will be dropped by the instructor with a grade of "F", in accordance with the university attendance policy, as outlined in the Student Handbook and Activities Calendar, which can be found at Handbook. Graduate Course: BUAD 5006 is a graduate course, and students are treated as graduate students and managers. This is different from an undergraduate course. Correspondence: All correspondence regarding class issues must be conducted in person or by email using your Midwestern State University (MSU) email only. I will not respond to questions sent to email accounts other than the one listed. Grades will be posted on D2L and MSU Banner. I will not discuss grades or class standing over the phone or by email.

Since email is often the most convenient means of communication, it is recommended that students use and regularly monitor their MSU email account. Grades will not be transmitted electronically (e.g., emails).

Please link your D2L email with your MSU email, so the messages sent through D2L will be forwarded to your MSU email. To do this,

Log in to D2L.

Click on your name in the upper right-hand corner of the screen.

Click on "account settings".

Click on "email".

Check "Forwarding incoming messages to an alternate email account" and enter your email in the box.

Click on "save and close".

**Webcams:** This course requires students to have access to a webcam. Missed Examination Policy: Since this is an Online course, a generous window of time will be provided for taking exams. There is no provision for late submittals in this course. Students are required to monitor their pace so that they complete the required coursework prior to the course deadlines.

**Grading and Evaluation:** Student's performance will be assessed using the following elements.

1. Module Exams: There are 7 modules in this course. Each module has its own module exam. A passing rate of 70% or better is REQUIRED for EACH module exam to pass the course. Students will be allowed to retake each exam if their first attempt is not successful. You will have 120 minutes to complete an attempt.
2. At the end of the semester, if you have passed four or more modules, you will be given the opportunity to complete the remaining modules before the next semester starts.
3. If you have only passed three or fewer modules by the end of the semester, you will need to retake the course in the next semester before you can register for any MBA courses. 4. BUAD 5006 would be graded as Pass/Fail (Credit/No Credit)

### **Extra Credit**

Extra Credit is not provided in this course.

### **Late Work**

No late submission will be accepted and graded. Students who experience an emergency need to contact the instructor for late submission permission. Valid documentation is required.

### **Make Up Work/Tests**

All course activities must be submitted before or on set due dates and times. If the student is unable to abide by the due dates and times; it is her/his responsibility to contact the instructor immediately. Valid documentation is

needed for the acceptance of late assignments. The student will receive a score of zero for all late assignments, exams, and projects.

Note: The due dates and times for the activities will adhere to Central Time Zone.

### **Important Dates**

- Last day for term schedule changes: January 23, 2026
- Deadline to file for graduation: February 16, 2026
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 29, 2026
- Refer to:

### **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 serves as the 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. 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.

### **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 a 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 in 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 with an internet connection worldwide. Contact your instructor immediately if you experience computer trouble. If you encounter technical difficulties in the course, a student helpdesk is also available to assist 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, logging into [D2L](#).

### **Instructor Class Policies**

All the course activities will generally be graded one week after the set due date on an absolute scale. You can check your grades by going to Gradebook. If there is any discrepancy in the grade, you must contact me immediately. I will provide individual feedback or general feedback on the performance of the course activity.

### **Additional Grading Information:**

Regarding academic honesty, students are referred to the "Student Honor Creed" and "Academic Dishonesty Policies and Procedures" in the Student Handbook, which may be found at Handbook. Academic dishonesty (cheating, collusion, and plagiarism) is 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. This is an online course and requires a high level of commitment to integrity in completing exams. All work is expected to be done individually unless stated otherwise. Sharing computer files for any purpose in assisting another student is considered a violation of academic integrity for BOTH students.

### **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) exists 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 information, please visit [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 designated smoking areas outside 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](#)

### **Course Schedule:**

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

<b>Week or Module</b>	<b>Module</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1, 2 (Jan 20, Feb 1)	Business Finance	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, practice problems, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 2/1, 11:59pm.
Week 3, 4 (Feb 2, 15)	Business and Economic Statistics	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 2/15, 11:59pm
Week 5, 6 (Feb 16, Mar 1)	Macroeconomics and Microeconomics	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 3/1, 11:59pm.

<b>Week or Module</b>	<b>Module</b>	<b>Topics</b>
Week 7, 8, 9 (Mar 2, 22)	Financial and Managerial Accounting	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 3/22, 11:59 pm.
Week 8 (Mar 9-15)	Break	Spring Break
Week 10, 11 (Mar 23, Apr 5)	Management	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 4/5, 11:59 pm.
Week 12, 13 (Apr 6, 19)	Management Information Systems	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, practice problems, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 4/19, 11:59 pm
Week 14, 15 (Apr 20, May 3)	Marketing	Module Introduction and Guidelines  Module Content Materials (slides, text, notes, videos, practice problems, etc.)  Module Exam (2 attempts), due 5/3, 11:59 pm.

Note: The instructor can change the exam dates and location if it is necessary