COURSE SYLLABUS

FIN 357 BUSINESS FINANCE

Spring 2013

Course Information:

Course Number: FIN 357
Unique: 03375
Day & Time: MW 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Location: UTC 4.132

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Denys Maslov
E-mail: denys.maslov@phd.mccombs.utexas.edu
Office: CBA 3.332M
Office Hrs: MW 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Course Description and Objective

The objective of the course is to introduce concepts and techniques of finance. This course builds the foundation for all subsequent finance courses and provides basic tools every business student needs for success in their career. Regardless of your chosen future specialization, this course will help you make personal financial decisions such as investing into the stock market or buying a house.

Prerequisites

This class is limited to students in a business major. The prerequisites for this class are: ACC 311 (or 311H), 312 (or 312H), ECO 304K and 304L, STA 309 (or 309H), credit or registration for MIS 324 (or 324H). These prerequisites will be enforced and students without prerequisites will be dropped from the course.

Textbook

Stephen A. **Ross**, Randolph W. **Westerfield**, and Bradford D. **Jordan**, Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, **10th** edition, McGraw-Hill

Calculator

Each student is required to bring a calculator to classes and tests. At a minimum, the calculator must have *ln*, e^x, and x^y buttons. Although a business calculator is not required for the course, I strongly encourage its use as it will be helpful for this as well as future course work in finance, accounting, and other business disciplines. A student business calculator (such as HP 10bII, TI BAII Plus or calculators with similar capabilities) should be adequate for all business courses. Because of the variety of calculators used, students will be expected to learn how to use their calculators on their own. **Per Finance department policy, laptops are not allowed during class and are not to be used during exams.**

Establish a Connect Account

To register online go to the web address below and click on the "register now" button. If you have trouble with registration, please contact Customer Support at http://mpss.mhhe.com/

http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/d_maslov_spring_2013

Blackboard:

The syllabus, lecture slides, announcements, grades, and other materials will be posted on Blackboard. Please check it on a daily basis.

Course Structure

The course consists of lectures, homework, quizzes, and exams. All of this is subject to change.

The course grade will be based on the following:

-	Exam 1	25%
-	Exam 2	25%
-	Exam 3	30%
-	Quizzes	15%
-	Homework	5%
	Total	100%

Exams and quizzes:

All exams and quizzes will be given **in-class** during normal class hours on the assigned days. Exams will take approximately 80 mins and quizzes 20-30 mins. Both will start at the beginning of the class and turned in at the end of the allotted time. Students who arrive late will not be given additional time. Students who continue working after the allotted time may lose up to 10 pts. Any material covered in class and lecture notes may be tested on the exam. Quizzes will contain multiple-choice problems which will be generally easier than the ones on the exam. Students who only give a correct final answer on the exams without showing required work will receive half credit. A sheet with necessary formulas and scratch paper will be provided. Bring pencils and a calculator.

Missing exams or quizzes:

Students missing a test without my prior permission will receive a zero. For those students who miss a test with my permission, I will give a make-up which may be tougher than the regular one. Requests for an excuse from a test must be made **in writing** (e-mail is OK) and, except for extreme documented emergencies, their acceptance is determined solely at the instructor's discretion **prior** to the test.

Homework

Mostly multiple choice questions on the Connect website. Students receive full credit for finishing it once, but have unlimited attempts for practice.

Studying in this class

- ahead of class: read the relevant chapter from the textbook
- during class: follow the lecture, take notes, and ask questions **(class participation is important)**
- after class: review the lecture slides and notes, solve homework problems, and read the textbook

Financial lab

The free of charge FIN LAB will operate from 1/22 to 4/26 2013:

- Mondays 6:30-9 pm, GSB 5.153
- Tuesday 5-9 pm, GSB 5.153
- Wednesday 5-9 pm, GSB 5.154

Class policies

- Please note that any exception for one student is unfair to all other students.
- Please turn off and store away cell phones, Ipads, laptops, and other electronic devices.
- Talking during lecture is not permitted. It is disrespectful and disruptive to other class members and the instructor.
- If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to determine what was covered including any administrative announcements.

- Make-up or extra work to improve your grade is not possible. Your final letter grade is determined by the criteria set forth in the student evaluation section of this syllabus.
- If you need to leave class early or step outside, please leave quietly so as not to disturb the other members of the class.

Students with Disabilities

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/ or the General Information Catalog to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Chapter	Quizzes
01/14/13	Course introduction. Syllabus. Ch 1.	
01/16/13	Ch 1. Introduction to Corporate Finance	
01/21/13	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No class	
01/23/13 01/28/13 01/30/13	Ch 5. Time Value of Money Ch 6. Discounted Cash Flow Valuation	
02/04/13 02/06/13	Ch 7. Interest Rates and Bonds Valuation	
02/11/13 02/13/13	Ch 8. Stock Valuation	02/11/13 Quiz 1
02/18/13	**Exam 1**	
02/20/13	Ch 2. Financial Statements, Taxes and Cash Flow	
02/25/13 02/27/13	Ch 9. NPV and Other Investment Criteria	
03/04/13 03/06/13	Ch 10. Making Capital Investment Decisions	
03/11/13 03/13/13	Spring brake	
03/18/13 03/20/13	Ch 11. Project Analysis and Evaluation	
03/25/13 03/27/13	Ch 12. Some Lessons from Capital Market History	03/25/13 Quiz 2
04/01/13	**Exam 2**	
04/03/13 04/08/13	Ch 13. Return, Risk and the Security Market Line	
04/10/13 04/15/13	Ch 14. Cost of Capital	
04/17/13 04/22/13	Ch 16. Financial Leverage and Capital Structure Policy	
04/24/13 04/29/13 05/01/13	Ch 17. Dividends and Payout Policy	04/24/13 Quiz 3
05/10/13	**Exam 3 (Final)**	