Accounting 327 – Fall 2014

Financial Statement Analysis

Professor
Dr. Patrick Badolato, CPA
Office Hours
4M.252. To be determined.
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E-Mail
patrick.badolato@mccombs.utexas.edu (best method)
Course Time/Location
TTh: 11:00-12:30 GSB 2.122
Teaching Assistant
Jeanmarie Lord (Accounting PhD student).
Office Hours
To be determined.

Our objectives include:

- Increase our understanding of financial filings (including financial statements, managers’ commentaries, footnotes and other sources of financial information) in order to:
  - Understand how firms operate and create value—*we put considerable emphasis on understanding how financial information helps us understand and guide operating decisions.*
  - Concisely articulate the firm’s past—*without this, valuation and forecasting could be misguided so we must be able to tell the story of the firm*
  - Increase our understanding and ability to use tools to analyze information presented in financial statements. Understand the benefits and limitations of financial information provided in financial filings and the motivation for and process of making adjustments to this information—*we will adjust, change and challenge ratios, metrics and formulas to ensure they work in real world situations.*
  - Use our understanding of the firm and its financials to make informed predictions about future performance—*we will stress how understanding financial information provides us with an excellent framework for considering the future.*
  - Motivate, understand, construct and implement various inputs in valuation models—*we will show how valuation is the easy and mechanical step once the other, more useful and challenging steps of motivating inputs are mastered.*

We will review (and learn) accounting concepts as this knowledge is critical to making decisions with financial information. However, the primary objective of the course is not to improve our understanding of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP or IFRS); the goal is to improve our ability to interpret and use financial statements in a variety of settings including a primary focus on credit and equity analyses and supplemental coverage of corporate finance, planning and control. **This is not a journal entry class.**

A few notes:
Historically this has been a very challenging class that requires a commitment. It should also be very valuable to your academic and future careers. Why? Well, this is also a class that actively shuns memorization of terms and formulas and the regurgitation of anything. Memorization and regurgitation is not learning, is not useful, and has **no place** in higher education. We will not waste your time (and your educational investment) with memorizing, and we will focus on more useful ways of approaching various issues. Therefore, you may hear many “Yes, but…” questions from me: “Yes, but in your own words.” “Yes, but why?” “Yes, that is the general economic argument, but how has it played out in this scenario?” “Yes, that is the change, but what drove that change?” “Yes, but what should we focus on for forecasting in this expected scenario?” We will get dirty trying to best understand various firms and how to best use financial information.

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1 This syllabus will serve as our main syllabus for the class. Any material changes to this syllabus will be noted in class or posted on Canvas.
This class is also one that has a straightforward plan for success. Students who truly commit to all of the following usually end up with solid grades: (1) consistently preparing for class; (2) being active learners within the classroom and on the Discussion Board and (3) carefully reviewing the material in the 24 hours after class. In a related manner, I encourage group work as this enables you to work together and talk through the assignments both before and after class and discuss each class after class. Each semester students who use the groups to challenge each other usually get high grades. Each semester students choose not to do this and even try to game the system by allocating out the work and never discussing the assignments or class with each other; these student usually end up learning less.

In addition:

1. By financial statements, we mean “information provided in financial filings and other publicly available sources,” which involves more than the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows.
2. This course is not a review of financial accounting. It is expected that you have mastered the material covered during your intro to financial accounting class. Interestingly, once you have mastered the basics of Financial Accounting, a good general knowledge of business and operations will serve you better than any advanced Accounting classes.
   a. This class will consistently build off of and *apply* this knowledge
3. This course is not a mechanical valuation class. It is a course that helps you use financial information *to better understand the main inputs to valuation models*. This course enables you to move away from an over-reliance or fixation on valuation inputs provided by firms or other analysts and move towards understanding and constructing firm-specific inputs. … Besides, once we have a solid set of inputs, valuation is simply division and addition. Seriously, it is elementary school math.
4. This course does not cover technical analysis (analyzing fluctuations in stock prices). If you want to master technical analysis, we recommend that you consider advanced degrees in computer science, statistics, math and psychology-intensive fields in addition to your business studies and if you do not believe you can move more quickly than other market participants, I strongly advise you not to pursue this path (unless you want to lose money as quickly as possible).

Materials

- **Required text:** The textbook for the course is *Financial Reporting, Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation: A Strategic Perspective* by Wahlen, Baginski and Bradshaw, *eighth edition*.
  - The text provides our *background reading*, so while you need consistent and reliable access to the text and the cases, *you can share the textbook with another student if you are able to work out a plan that ensures sufficient access*. Also, I can put a few copies for you to access in the two hour reserve at the PCL. Please let me know if this would help you.
  - Suggested Text for those who pursue FSA careers: *Accounting for Value* by Stephen Penman
    - Anyone who is planning to pursue a career in finance is strongly encouraged to read this and Ben Graham’s *The Intelligent Investor*.
- Throughout the course we will be examining publicly available material including corporate press releases, corporate filings (10K’s, etc.), analyst reports and articles from the business press. When appropriate, these and other supplemental information (or links to these documents) will be provided via Canvas. You will be responsible for downloading and printing these articles.
- We will also have a *Discussion Board on Canvas*. 
Course Structure
The class format involves coverage of the main areas and tools noted below. In addition, there will be a considerable amount of discussions/cases that focus on specific firms and specific financial issues. These cases will involve a careful analysis of the financials, the opportunity to dig deeper to support (or challenge) information that is presented, and the consideration of the benefits and limitations of various tools, metrics and ratios.

During the semester we will learn a framework for business analysis and valuation. The steps in the framework include:

1. Business Strategy Analysis: The purpose of business strategy analysis is to assess the profit potential of the firm at a qualitative level. This involves an understanding of the firm’s strategy and its industry and considering how these affect and are affected by the firm’s financial performance.

2. Financial Analysis: The purpose of financial analysis is to assess the firm’s historical financial performance in the context of its goals and strategies. Tools used for financial analysis include ratio analysis, cash flow analysis, and common size financial statements. Ratio Analysis is not computing ratios (i.e., division), but carefully using and changing them to provide us with information.

3. Accounting Analysis: The purpose of accounting analysis is to develop an understanding of whether a firm’s accounting captures its true underlying economic condition(s). This involves understanding accounting transactions, identifying accounting flexibility, evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies and estimates, and at times, altering financial statements to enhance decision making.

4. Valuation/Prospective Analysis: The purpose of valuation/prospective analysis is to forecast the firm’s future financial performance and valuation. To do this we will learn the mechanics and intricacies of forecasting financial statements and we will cover the components and usage of valuation models.
   - The course will be taught using a combination of examples, discussion questions, cases and homework problems. We will learn new concepts using various firms’ historical and current financial data.
   - A tentative schedule of class meetings is attached to the end of this document. This schedule may be revised.

PREREQUISITES

ACC 326 is required. I assume familiarity with basic accounting and financial reporting concepts. However, I have taught this course in every program at the University of Texas and assure you that you do not need to be experts in accounting or financial reporting to succeed in the course.

GRADING SCALE FOR FINAL COURSE GRADES

I will determine the final distribution of letter grades at the end of the semester. This means that numerical scores on specific assignments do not correspond to a particular letter grade prior to the end of the semester. Final grades are determined by summing up all pieces, then ranking all students and then following the class distribution. Some areas of the distribution may be very tight. This means that it is mathematically unavoidable that some students with similar grades do not get the exact same final letter grades. Ultimately, someone must fall at each “break point” that means that someone gets the lowest of one grade (for example, the lowest A-) and someone else, with similar grades, gets the highest of the next letter grade (for example, the highest B+). The class’s distribution dictates the percentage of each of the letter grades. That is, your classmates’ performance, more than I, determine your final letter grade.

My expectation is that the final grade distribution will result in a mean GPA of between 3.2 and 3.4, consistent with guidance for business major courses provided by the BBA program office. However, please keep in mind that it is a target, not a rule, and the distribution within an individual section might deviate considerably from this target (either up or down).
Course Requirements and Grading

Your grade in the course will be determined as a combination of assignments as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Requirements</th>
<th>Breakout</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is entirely effort-based (very easy to get a perfect score)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Accounting Review: 30 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation 1: 50 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements: 50 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Forecasting: 50 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Valuation 2: 50 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td>230</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Class Cases (labeled Case 1-12)</td>
<td></td>
<td>240</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You must submit 8 of these: 30 points each. No late submissions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (Nov 4th at Night)</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Professionalism</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project (Presentation and Written Report)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation: 50 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Submission(s): 150 points</td>
<td></td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project (Presentation and Written Report)</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exam (20%)

We will have only one exam. The exam will be on Tuesday November 4th, 2014 from 6 pm to 9 pm. All notifications of exam conflicts must be received at least three full weeks before the exam is scheduled.

The exam is primarily built around class discussions and homeworks and involves your analysis of actual firms’ financial information. This exam is not one for which you should try to cram. You prepare for the exam by doing the work day to day in this class and then by relaxing the night before the exam. Cramming is not useful in the real world (an elective for which you can cram is a good example of a class not worth taking).

Group Course Project (20%)

Each student will be part of a small team that is responsible for conducting an analysis of a public company. These teams can be between four and five students. This will include a written report and an in-class presentation. More details about course project will be posted to Canvas during the semester.

Cases (50%)

The Cases are broken into two main types: required and pre-class cases and a 30 point introductory survey, which will be very easy.

Required Cases: There are a total of 5 required cases which constitute 23% of your total grade. These are designed to elaborate on what we have covered in prior classes or will cover. Some of this work is more mechanical and most will follow class. You must submit all of these 5 cases. The format of these will vary (details will be provided on Canvas). Late submissions are accepted for these and only these cases with the following contract: up to 24 hours late: 25% deduction, up to 48 hours late, but before it is covered in class or keys are posted: 50% deduction. More than 48 hours late or after it is covered in class or a key is posted: 100% deduction.
**Pre-Class Cases:** There are a total of 11-12 pre-class cases which constitute 24% of your total grade. The primary objective of the Case is to help you review the class material before attending class; many of these constitute the reading for the course as well. You should assume that all of these cases are due by 11:00 am the day of the class—*any exceptions to this will be explicitly noted*. These cases are designed to draw from your prior knowledge and expose you to what we will elaborate on during class. You only have to submit 8 of these. If you submit more than 8, you can keep your highest 8 (and drop the lowest ones). There are no late submissions *for any reason* as this is already explicitly considered in the extremely generous fact that you only need to submit 8. These should be submitted in memo format.

The grading for all of the cases will be as follows: roughly a C for effort, but incorrect answers; roughly a B for well-supported answers that are internally consistent, but may miss the main idea; and roughly an A for well-supported answers that are internally consistent and capture the main idea or error-free submissions for Spreadsheets. Many questions offer more than one right answer and students can receive a good score without having answers that are exactly the same as the class discussion. Please note: obtaining a grade for effort requires more than putting random words on the page—your answer must have support and make sense, even if it is not the perfect answer.

All of the cases may be completed in groups of 2-3 students (not more) and you should not work across groups—this is a violation of the academic policies of this class. You may choose your own groups and the members may vary from one assignment to the next. You are also responsible for monitoring the groups that you have chosen; if you have any issues, try to deal with them whenever possible.

All group members are also responsible for each assignment: *if all of the names are not clearly listed at the top of the assignment, no group members will get credit; if the assignment is late, no group members will get credit. No exceptions*. You are allowed to work alone if you prefer. In the past, students have effectively used Skype, Facetime, Google Docs, Dropbox and Comments and Track Changes in Microsoft Word to collaborate from different locations and good, old-fashioned meetings to collaborate in person. All assignments should be submitted electronically through Canvas using a program that is compatible with Microsoft Office.

**Format and length for Cases:**

a. Cases should be written as memos that are written concisely with real sentences and paragraphs (as if you are writing a memo to professional colleagues and NOT as if you are writing a text message to your BFF). This format is NOT simply listing question numbers and responding (i.e., your submission should be a stand-alone document that can be understood without having to refer back to the questions).

b. The length of the content portion of memos (excluding exhibits) will be given for most questions—you must follow these. The total length of each submission will be a maximum of two pages unless otherwise noted. Please clearly add all names, page numbers and references to any Exhibits (if needed—not all Cases need exhibits). No cover page is needed. Submissions that use egregiously unprofessional formatting (i.e., 8 or 20 point font, wingdings font or quadruple spacing) will not be accepted. Submissions that do not run Spellcheck or have other careless errors will receive a serious deduction.

c. Cases and assignments that involve Excel submissions will be explicitly noted and guidance and/or Excel worksheets will be provided for these.

**Class participation (10%)**

Much of class is conducted in a discussion setting. We will not spend much time going over basic computations or mechanics, rather we will analyze specific firms and discuss which metrics are important, the reasons for our

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2 I attended a seminar and have read many articles which call this approach a “Flipped Classroom.” These noted that a flipped classroom was the new way of approaching education. I have not been in the profession that long, but my initial thought was that this is just a new way to market common-sense, student-focused education that deemphasizes memorization and regurgitation.

3 This lenient policy is designed to incorporate all valid and unavoidable reasons for missing any of the required work (for example, students whose textbooks and computers are stolen and whose hotels’ internet completely stops working while they are busy saving a litter of puppies from a nearby fire when they are out of town on an interview, which was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and had to occur the night before the case is due) as well as those reasons, which are less valid, such as missing a name, missing a deadline or turning in an incomplete version.
approach, and the implications of our choices. The assignments are geared to prepare you to participate in and learn from these discussions. Accordingly, your completion of the assignments and your participation in our discussions are vital. At times, I will only be a facilitator of your discussions with each other. After each class, I will make class notes, with particular attention to the quality of comments or questions, not the quantity. You do not need to always be correct to participate: insightful questions are also important and I encourage students to answer, even when they are unsure—this is a great way to learn. To be as clear as possible, students who consistently added value with good questions or perspectives, even without the right answers, have earned perfect scores.

I expect you to treat this class as you would a professional responsibility. Accounting at McCombs has consistently been ranked as the #1 program in the country, and the professionalism of our graduates is a big part of that. You therefore owe it to yourself, your professors, your fellow students, and past and future McCombs graduates to behave professionally, both inside and outside of the classroom.

Active participation in class and group work is a key element of professionalism. Accordingly, I will assess your participation in class discussion. Some characteristics of effective class participation include:

- Are the points that are made substantive and relevant to the discussion in terms of increasing everyone's understanding, or are they merely regurgitation of facts? Do the comments provide useful insights?
- Do the comments take into consideration the ideas offered by others earlier in the class, or are the points isolated and disjointed? The best contributions tend to be those that reflect not only excellent preparation but also good listening, interpretative and integrative skills.
- Do the comments show evidence of a thorough reading and analysis of the required readings/cases and of prior class information?
- Does the person distinguish among different kinds of data (facts vs. opinions vs. assumptions) and provide reasonable substantiation of arguments?
- Do the comments take the discussion into a new and relevant direction, without disrupting the current flow of the discussion?
- Is there a willingness to test new ideas or share uncertainties, or are all comments “cautious” or "safe" (sharing uncertainties about an issue can be valuable and can in fact lead the discussion in interesting directions)?
- Is the person willing to interact with classmates by asking questions or challenging conclusions in a courteous manner?

You are not required to contribute to each and every class session. You are required to make good contributions in multiple class sessions in order to earn better than a C for your class participation grade; you’ll need to make good contributions consistently (nearly every class) over the semester in order to earn an A.

Since so much of the learning in this class takes place through discussion and debate, attendance is necessary to your success --- it’s impossible either to contribute or to benefit from others if you’re not in class. However, perfect, but passive, attendance is not sufficient for your success and it will not ensure you achieve passing grade for your participation grade. In short, attendance is critical and will help you get >0% for this component, but do not confuse participation with attendance.

Here’s a general idea of how I plan to grade your class participation over the course of the semester:

- Outstanding Contributor (A±): Contributions to large-group discussions reflect thorough preparation. Ideas offered are usually substantive, provide good insights and sometimes change the direction of the class for the better. Arguments, when presented, are generally well-substantiated and often persuasive. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of the large-group discussions would be diminished significantly. In addition to exceptional large-group discussion contributions, also actively participates in small-group discussions.
- Good Contributor (B±): Contributions to large-group discussions reflect satisfactory preparation. Ideas offered are usually substantive, generally provide useful insights, and occasionally offer a new direction for the discussion. Arguments, if presented, are reasonably well-substantiated. If this person were not a member
of the class, the quality of the large-group discussions would be diminished. In addition, also offers comments in small-group discussions.

- **Marginal Contributor (C±):** Contributions to large-group discussions reflect some minimal preparation. Ideas offered are occasionally substantive but seldom provide clear insights or new directions for the discussion. Arguments may be occasionally presented but are generally not well-substantiated. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of the large-group discussions would be diminished only slightly. This grade is warranted for those who participate only in small-group activities with no large-group contributions.

- **Non-participant (D):** This person has maintained attendance to some extent but has said little or nothing in class; hence there is no adequate basis for evaluation. If this person were not a member of the class, the quality of the discussions would be unchanged.

- **Disruptive Contributor (F):** If present in class at all, contributions to discussions reflect inadequate preparation. Ideas offered are rarely substantive, provide few, if any, insights and never offer a constructive direction. At best, contributions are obscure, confused, and indicate a lack of familiarity with the fact of the issues under discussion. At worst, comments demonstrate disrespect for others. If this person were not a member of class, valuable airtime would be saved. *I hope no one achieves this grade as this represents a major lack of professionalism and respect for our University.*

### The Classroom is a Boardroom

I ask that you observe McCombs’ “the classroom is a boardroom” protocol:

1. Arrive on time
2. Be prepared (to discuss the case, summarize the readings, etc…)
3. Listen respectfully
4. Build on previous points
5. Direct comments to your classmates
6. State your assumptions
7. Speak concisely
8. Articulate your argument systematically
9. Give evidence to support your claims
10. Participate wholeheartedly
11. **No cell phones or laptops. No texting.**
12. **NO TEXTING. It is incredibly distracting.**
13. **NO TEXTING. It is incredibly unprofessional**
14. **After the first class, you can expect to receive 2-5 percentage points off of your total class participation score for each class that you use your phone for anything other than an emergency.**

Our class will also make use of Discussion Board. This is the forum for outside-of-class questions related to assignments, our class coverage and any related current events. Your Discussion Board involvement can help enhance your class participation grade.
Academic Integrity

Cheating involves copying work across groups, cheating on the exam, plagiarizing the final and other things as well.

Don’t cheat as (1) it is wrong; (2) the costs far outweigh the benefits: you don’t want to get kicked out in a short-sighted attempt to make a B a B+; and (3) there is a very good chance that your cheating will be revealed and we will all be extremely disappointed.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

The McCombs School of Business has no tolerance for acts of scholastic dishonesty. The responsibilities of both students and faculty with regard to scholastic dishonesty are described in detail in the BBA Program’s Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty at [http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Code-of-Ethics.aspx](http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Code-of-Ethics.aspx). By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all student responsibilities described in that document. If the application of the Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty to this class or its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. 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, the integrity of the University, and the value of our academic brand, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/) to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.

Additional Important Notifications

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259, [http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp/](http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssp/).

Religious Holy Days

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Campus Safety

Please note the following recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, [http://www.utexas.edu/safety](http://www.utexas.edu/safety):

- Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.
- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation should inform the instructor in writing during the first week of class.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors.
- Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.
- Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232-5050
- Further information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at [http://www.utexas.edu/emergency](http://www.utexas.edu/emergency).
Preliminary Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class #</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Intro to FSA</td>
<td>Intro Survey</td>
<td>Sept 1 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Intro to Valuation</td>
<td>Valuation 1</td>
<td>Sept 6 11:59pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Business Strategy Analysis</td>
<td>Case 1</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>FA: IS and Profitability</td>
<td>Case 2</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>FA: Balance Sheet and Efficiency</td>
<td>Case 3</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>FA: Cash Flows</td>
<td>Case 4</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>FA: Cash Flows and Performance</td>
<td>Case 5</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>AA: Revenue Recognition</td>
<td>Case 6</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>AA: Expenses and Margins</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>AA: Risk, Hedges and Derivatives</td>
<td>Case 7</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>AA: Assessment of Taxes</td>
<td>Case 8</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>AA: Leases and Off Balance Sheet Analysis</td>
<td>Off Balance Sheet</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>AA: Fixed Assets and Capital Expenditures</td>
<td>Case 9</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>AA: R&amp;D and Asset Capitalization</td>
<td>Case 10</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>AA: Working Capital and Liquidity</td>
<td>Case 11</td>
<td>Before class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>AA: Financing and Financial Arrangements</td>
<td>Case 12</td>
<td>Before class</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>AA: Additional Topics and Current Events</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>AA: Wrap Up</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Midterm Exam <strong>at Night</strong> 6pm-9pm (no class)</td>
<td>None</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Intro to Forecasting</td>
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<td>Nov 9 11:59pm</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>None</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Valuation and Course Wrap Up</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Final Project Presentations</td>
<td></td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>No class. Thanksgiving</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Th</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Th</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Written Final Projects Due for All Groups</td>
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</table>

* Due Dates and the course schedule may change during the semester. This includes the matching of Cases to classes. All changes will be posted on Canvas and those changes will replace this preliminary schedule. The exam date and the final project presentation dates will not change.

(The Exam date could change if there is a major disruption to the schedule.)