2016

300-20 Business Finance

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Xavier University

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Business Finance, FINC 300-20  
Summer 2016 Intersession

Instructor: Julie Cagle    Office Hours: by appointment
Office: 229 Smith Hall    Phone: Office: 745-3103, Cell: 513-505-9461
Course Meeting Time: 1-4:45 MTWRF    E-mail: cagle@xavier.edu
Course Meeting Location: SMH 250    Fax: 745-4383

Course Materials: Essentials of Corporate Finance by Ross, Westerfield and Jordan, 8th edition; Canvas (canvas.xavier.edu); calculator

Additional Materials: PowerPoint presentations are used as the basis for class discussions. Files for printing the PowerPoint Presentations are available in canvas. Students should print them out and bring them to the class in which the presentation is scheduled to be discussed. Study guides will be provided to students prior to each exam. The study guide lists the types of problems and topic areas from which exam questions will be taken. An equation sheet will be included with the exam.

Mission of the Williams College of Business: We educate students of business, enabling them to improve organizations and society, consistent with the Jesuit tradition.

Course Objectives: This course is designed to introduce students to financial management and convey an understanding of the role of finance in the management scheme of modern organizations. Short-term and long-term financing and investment decision-making are emphasized. The course will also introduce students to spreadsheets and ethical issues in finance. The course is designed to prepare those students with an interest in additional finance courses with the foundation needed to continue in the curriculum. Financial calculators will not be used and algebraic solutions to problems are required.

Student Learning Outcomes: After completing this course students should be able to: distinguish between debt and equity, analyze and calculate common financial ratios, apply time value of money equations, value stocks and bonds, estimate cash flows, evaluate a capital budgeting decision, estimate a firm's cost of capital, discuss the role of risk in investment and financing decisions, discuss capital structure policies, compare and contrast alternative short-term investment and financing policies for current assets, and identify ethical issues in finance.

Course Format: The class meetings will be a mixture of class discussion and problem solving. Students are required to participate through questions and comments, as well as group problem solving.

Students should prepare for class meetings by:
1. Reading assigned chapters prior to the class in which they are assigned.
2. Practicing the end of chapter questions and problems.
3. Checking the solutions manual for answers to the problems and questions identified in the course calendar and asking questions when necessary. The instructor relies on student
feedback to determine which end of the chapter problems should be worked during class meetings.

4. Bringing a calculator and the PowerPoint slides to each class meeting to be able to participate in problem solving.

**Prerequisites:** The course prerequisites of ACCT 200 will be strictly enforced. If students have not met this requirement they may be dropped from the course.

**Attendance Is Required.** A student missing 2 or more classes will not receive credit for the course, unless illness or other serious conditions contribute to absence. The instructor reserves the right to determine what qualifies as excused absenteeism.

**Academic Honesty:** Xavier University policies regarding privacy rights, incomplete work, and academic honesty will be strictly enforced. If an incident of academic dishonesty occurs, the most severe disciplinary action will be taken. Students should consult their Xavier catalog on these policies.

**Performance Evaluation:** Course grades will be determined as follows:
Four Exams  22.5% each     Online quizzes 10%

Exams are made up of short answer questions, multiple choice questions and problems. Students must show work on the problems to receive credit. If the equation and mathematics used to arrive at a solution is not shown, no credit will be granted. Partial credit is given on the problem part of the exam. The more work a student shows, the greater the potential for partial credit.

A standard grading scale is used:
90% and above A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, below 60% F
 +/- may be added to letter grades depending on the distribution of course grades. Students must receive a B- or better in this course, FINC 300, to take upper level finance courses at XU.

**Questions Regarding Grading:** Any questions regarding grading of assignments or exams must be addressed within one week of return of the graded assignment or exam to the student.

**Make-Up Exams:** All exams must be taken on the date specified in the course calendar unless the instructor grants approval of a make-up exam PRIOR to that date. Without prior approval, make-up opportunities are limited to documented emergencies. Instructor discretion is used in determining whether a situation constitutes an emergency.
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