

## Syllabus

### FIN 3000-1 Introduction to Managerial Finance CRN 31810

Fall 2009

Dr. David Tufte

**Description:** A course for non-business majors and business minors that emphasizes financial statements, capital markets, present and future value analysis, decision-making tools, risk and return, asset protection, and financial strategy. Business majors must take Managerial Finance (FIN 3250).

**Pre-Requisites:** 1) MATH 1030 or higher, and 2) ACCT 2010

**Location:** Room 101, Dixie-Leavitt Business Building

**Time:** 11:00 to 11:50, AM, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

**What You Need to Buy:** *Hospitality Financial Management*, by Robert E. Chatfield and Michael C. Dalbor, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005.

You must buy an iClicker for this class.

**Office:** Room 313

**Office Phone:** 586-5407 (leave a callback number if you leave a message)

**E-Mail:** Tufte@suu.edu (not case sensitive)

E-mails from students are increasingly being caught by spam filters. If you'd like to make sure that I get your e-mail, write it professionally (*i.e.*, no l33t), and put one of the following keywords in the subject line: FIN 3000-1 or Introduction to Managerial Finance.

**Texting:** I don't pay any attention to text or other instant messages from students. You'll be happier with my reliability if I have an e-mail to remind me of our communication.

**Office Hours:** Monday, 1:00 to 2:00 PM (possibly in 202)  
Tuesday, 10:30 to 11:30 AM  
Wednesday, 1:00 to 2:00 PM (possibly in 202)

Thursday, 9:30 to 10:30 AM  
Friday, 1:00 to 2:00 PM (possibly in 202)  
Friday, 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Appointments are available at other times – just call first.

N.B. I teach two sections of ECON 2500 in 207 at 12 and 2. There's a class in that room at 1 PM, but there's a good chance I will be in 202 for my 1 PM office hours. Please feel free to go there if I'm not in my office: it's convenient for us to meet there, but that doesn't mean that those classes have exclusive use of my time in that hour.

Web Sites: <http://www.suu.edu/faculty/tufte/>

Grades: Your grade is the percentage of points you earn out of 1000. There is no curve.

However, you will be given opportunities to earn more than 1000 points:

I do give pluses and minuses, but only to the top and bottom 20% of the grade ranges. Note that when I post letter grade forecasts during the semester, I do not forecast the pluses and minuses.

The grade ranges are:

A	More than 92% of the 1000 points
A-	More than 90% of the 1000 points
B+	More than 88% of the 1000 points
B	More than 82% of the 1000 points
B-	More than 80% of the 1000 points
C+	More than 78% of the 1000 points
C	More than 72% of the 1000 points
C-	More than 70% of the 1000 points
D+	More than 68% of the 1000 points
D	More than 62% of the 1000 points
D-	More than 60% of the 1000 points
F	60% or less of the 1000 points

Exams: You must post an exam score on each of the 6 sections of the class. Each section consists of 2 consecutive chapters (note the text does not divide the chapters into sections in the Table of Contents, but it does in the preface).

There will be non-comprehensive in-class exams on each of the 6 sections of the class. Please note that you will be given the entire class for exams.

There will also be a comprehensive final of 6 sections. This will be held at the scheduled final exam time.

So, you have 2 opportunities to take each of the six sections of the class. Make-up exams will not be offered at other times. Absences from scheduled exams are entered in my grade book as zeroes.

There are two reasons to take the final exam: 1) you may take 1 section of the final to replace a low grade from an in-class exam, 2) you may take as many as 5 more sections of the final to replace zeroes you got from skipping exams. Please note that each section of the final should take about the same time as an in class exam, and that because the final exam is scheduled for about twice as long as a class, you are unlikely to be able to complete all 6 sections of it successfully.

You may also choose to skip the final exam.

All exams (or sections of the final) are worth 100 points, for a total of 600.

**Exam Dates  
and Material:**

Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

The final is Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM. Please note that professors are not obligated to offer final exams at alternative times.

**Homeworks:**

There will be homeworks. These are due at the start of class.

Homeworks may come as often as every day. You need them, but to be honest, I can't always keep up with that grading schedule.

Unless specifically directed otherwise, 1) you can and should work together on these, and 2) you must turn in your assignments handwritten.

Homeworks will be a mix of online assignments done in Aplia, and assignments done by hand.

These assignments will all be out of a different number of raw points. I will convert these grades to percentages.

I will drop the lowest third of your homework percentages.

The average of your remaining homework scores will be multiplied by 2 to get your total homework points (out of 200).

**Makeup  
Homeworks:**

Late homeworks will not be accepted.

On rare occasions I may permit you to do a make-up assignment. Expect such assignments to be twice the length of the regular assignment.

**iClickers:**

You will have iClicker questions that count towards your final grade almost every day.

The scoring for iClicker questions is identical to that for homeworks: different number of raw points each day, convert to a percentage for each day, drop the lowest third of those percentages, average what's left, and multiply by 2 to get a score out of 200 points.

**Absences:**

There are no excused absences from iClicker questions. This is why you are allowed to drop a third of your iClicker percentages.

**iClicker  
Discussion:**

You can and should talk as much as you need to about the questions.

You may not use someone else's iClicker.

**Scoring and  
Grading Tips:**

There is no curve. Your grade comes from iClickers, homeworks, and exams in order of decreasing chances for collaboration with people who may know the material better than you do. This means that your scores will probably decline in that order as well.

So, use the iClickers as a substitute for a curve. Your goal should be to put up as many points as you can with these. Also, be aware that in the end what will most differentiate your grade from your friends and neighbors is your exam scores. Homework scores will reflect a mix of those two issues.

The bottom line is that the iClickers and homeworks is what will help you pass the class, but the exams will be what determine where you fall in the A, B, or C range.

**My Exam and  
Homework  
Philosophy:**

My homeworks are not preparation for the exams. Finance is a subject that often takes a long time to "gel" in a student's mind. The due dates of your exams and homeworks are scattered through the semester to permit you multiple chances at scoring well on each topic.

Sometimes an exam will be first – so use that to improve your score on the homework that follows. Sometimes homework will be first – so use that to improve your score on the exam that follows.

It is intentional that you get multiple scores in multiple formats on each chapter as you progress through it.

### **Course Outline**

After exams, we have 37 days. Expect to spend about 3 days on each chapter. We will cover them in order.

### **Learning Objectives of the Course**

- 1) Understand the content of financial statements and how they indicate the strengths and weaknesses of companies.
- 2) Know about the workings and history of the stock market and other capital markets.
- 3) Apply present and future value analyses to past and projected cash flows.
- 4) Learn a variety of financial tools for evaluating projects and investments.
- 5) Use these financial tools to evaluate operational and strategic possibilities.
- 6) Calculate the relationships between risk and return.
- 7) Evaluate the difference between financial leverage and operating leverage.
- 8) Determine the optimal capital structure and growth rates for companies.
- 9) Establish methods of protection like hedging, diversification, options, derivatives, futures contracts, insurance, and guarantees to protect company assets and interests.
- 10) Synthesize the best financial strategies for companies to maximize value for their owners and the rest of society.

These desired outcomes will be assessed through tests, quizzes, written assignments, and oral presentations.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by Student Services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior.

### **Disability Statement**

Students with medical, psychological, learning, or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations, or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 206F

of the Sharwan Smith Center, or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

### **Disclaimer**

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.