

**Bus 731 – Section 021
Financial Management
Spring 2010**

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Meeting Time: Monday 6:00 – 9:10 P.M. (Green Bay Location)

Office Hours: Tuesday: 8:15 – 9:45 A.M.
Thursday: 2:15 – 3:45 P.M.

Course Description:

Business 731 is a graduate level course designed to expose students to business management with an emphasis and financial decision making. The course examines common financial problems encountered by firm managers using financial theory and financial analysis techniques. Examples of topics covered include, but are not limited to, financial statement analysis, stock and bond valuation, capital budgeting and capital structure.

Required Materials:

- Ross, Westerfield and Jordan, *Fundamentals of Corporate Finance*, 9th edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin 2010.
- Financial Calculator: I will use the TI BAI Plus financial calculator for all in-class demonstrations. I strongly encourage students to use the same calculator so as to best follow along in class. The TI BAI Plus calculator can be found at most retail stores for less than \$35. Students using anything other than the TI BAI Plus calculator will be held responsible for learning how to use their own calculator.
- Case Packet: In addition to the assigned text book, I will be using cases for in-class demonstrations. Additionally, I will assign one case to be turned in by students. I will give details on how to obtain the cases on the first day of class.

Course Objectives:

- This course is intended to be an intermediate level course, using the concepts, skills and problems solving techniques learned in previous courses to solve financial problems encountered by firm managers. The primary learning objectives of the course are to:
 - Review basic finance concepts and skills including, but not limited to, financial statement analysis, discounted cash flow valuation, working capital management, capital budgeting, and capital structure.
 - Apply the above mentioned skills to real world problems via homework problems and case studies.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is mandatory. Class participation and attendance is worth 10% of each student's final grade. Class attendance is essential to the understanding of course material. Please note that participation and attendance are not the same. Students who attend all classes but do not participate will receive 7% as their participation grade. In order to receive a higher participation grade (up to 10%), students must regularly participate in class discussions.

Students who miss one class will lose one third of their participation grade. Students who miss two classes will not receive any participation credit. Students who miss three or more classes will have their final course grade lowered by one letter grade for each additional absence.

Assigned Problems:

I will assign problems out of the book as the semester progresses in order to help students prepare for upcoming cases and exams. While problem solutions will not be graded, there is a strong correlation between the successful completion of the assigned problems and the grade that a student earns in the course.

Case:

Students will be required to write a complete solution for The Super Project Case. The case will be assigned a weight of 30% of the final grade. The due date is April 19th, 2010. Case write-ups must be presented in a formal report (typed with a title, headings, proper spelling and grammar, etc.) The written report should be double-spaced and not exceed 7 pages (excluding data analysis). The data analysis section must corroborate the findings of the written report and be legible, concise and logically ordered for ease of grading. Students must also submit an electronic version of their case write-up via the dropbox in D2L.

Written Case Reports will be graded on the following criteria:

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| ○ Statement of Problem | 20% |
| ○ Data Analysis and Written Solution/Report | 65% |
| ○ Report Construction (spelling, grammar, organization) | 15% |

Late Cases:

Late cases generally are not accepted. However, if accepted, late cases will have an 8% grade reduction for each day late.

Exams:

There will be two in-class exams, given on regularly scheduled class meeting days. Each exam will be assigned a weight of 30% of the final grade. Exam format will be multiple choice and problem/essay. It is the student's responsibility to come prepared. On exam days, students are expected to bring a financial calculator and working mechanical and/or #2 pencil.

Exam dates are listed in the tentative course schedule. Students are expected to take each exam on its scheduled day. There will be **no make-up exams**. If a student is unable to

take an exam at the scheduled time, they must contact me at least **5 days prior** to the exam date to indicate why they are unable to take the scheduled exam. **If a legitimate conflict arises and the absence is pre-approved by me, the student will be allowed to take the exam early.** Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero on the exam. No exceptions.

Grading Criteria:

Grades will be assigned based on individual performance on exams, the super case, and participation:

- Exams: 60% (2 each worth 30%)
- Case: 30%
- Participation: 10%

Tentative Grading Scale:

A 91% and higher	A- 89.0% - 90.9%	B+ 87.0% - 88.9%
B 78.0% - 86.9%	B- 76.0% - 77.9%	C+ 74.0% - 75.9%
C 65.0% - 73.9%	F Below 65%	

General Policies:

- **Communication:**
 - The best way for students to contact me is via E-mail. I am readily available to students outside of class during my scheduled office hours (or by appointment). Given the complicated nature and length of many of the assigned problems and cases, I prefer to answer homework and case questions in person during my office hours. That said, I understand the busy schedules of graduate students and will do my best to answer questions as they arise.
- **ADA Statement:**
 - If a student believes that they have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, they should notify me immediately and I will make the necessary arrangements.
- **Cheating:**
 - Academic Dishonesty is a serious offense. The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to a standard of academic integrity for all students. The system guidelines state: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors." (Section UWS 14.01, WI Administrative Code). Students are subject to disciplinary action for academic misconduct, as defined in Section UWS 14.03, WI Administrative Code.
 - Students are encouraged to review the procedures related to violations of academic honesty as outlined in Chapter 14, WI Administrative Code (www.uwosh.edu/dean/08.09DisciplinaryCode.pdf).
 - **Students who are caught cheating will receive an automatic grade of F for the course.**

*******Note: This syllabus is subject to change with advance notice*******

Bus 731 Tentative Course Schedule – subject to change with advance notice

Week	Day	Coverage	Textbook Topic(s) Covered	Due
1	02/01/10	Ch. 5 & 6	Time Value of Money/Discounted Cash Flow Valuation	
2	02/08/10	Ch. 3 & 4 Case: Identify the Industry	Working with Financial Statements/Long-Term Financial Planning and Growth	
3	02/15/10	Ch. 7 & 8 Case: Valuation and Discounted Cash Flows	Bond Valuation/Stock Valuation	
4	02/22/10	Ch. 18	Short-Term Finance and Planning	
5	03/01/10	Case: Toy World Case: Clarkson Lumber Company		
6	03/08/10	Case: O.M Scotts & Sons Company		
7	03/15/10	Exam 1	Exam 1	Exam 1
	03/22/10	Spring Break *No Class*		
8	03/29/10	Ch. 9 & 10	NPV and Other Investment Criteria/Making Capital Investment Decisions	
9	04/05/10	Ch. 9 & 10 (Continued)		
10	04/12/10	Case: Pressco Inc.		
11	04/19/10	Case: The Super Project		Case Due
12	04/26/10	Ch. 16 Case: Mountain Springs	Capital Structure	
13	05/03/10	Tie Up Loose Ends		
14	05/10/10	Exam 2	Exam 2	Exam 2