General Information

This is an advanced course in financial management, therefore, much of the responsibility for a successful course rests with you. You are expected to be prepared to contribute to class every period and thereby realize the greatest benefit from the course.

Course Materials


Harvard Business Cases, I'll send you an email with the link and list of cases for ordering.

Evaluation of Your Performance

The grade earned in this course will be based upon the following criteria:

- Quiz (1 total) 5%
- Analysis Summary (3 total, 10% each) 30%
- Exams (2 total, 20% each) 40%*
- Class Participation 25%
- * see Bonus section on page 2

Quiz

We will have one announced quiz – see the class schedule for the date. The capital budgeting material covered on the quiz will be drawn from assigned readings in the text, course videos, any other reading material assigned in class, and any material covered or discussed in class. There will be no make-up quizzes and a missed quiz is a failed quiz.

Analysis Summary

You are required to write an executive summary of your analysis and your answer to the key question for each summary. I will announce the key questions in class and via D2L several weeks before each summary is due. Due dates are identified in the Schedule. Grades are based on thoroughness of analysis and clarity of writing.

Analysis summaries must be typed and in formal report form, with correct spelling, proper sentence construction, use of headings, etc. Papers may be a maximum of one double-spaced page, not including data presented at the end of the paper for substantiation of points made in the text portion of the paper. Summaries are due in Word format in the D2L dropbox at 9:00 am on the due date. You may want to make a hardcopy for your use during class discussion.

Late papers, if accepted, will receive a minimum of ten percentage point reduction in score. Incomplete papers are not acceptable. Extremely late or missing papers will be assigned a failing grade.
Exams

There will be two exams during the semester. Exam dates are listed in the Schedule. Material covered on each exam will be drawn from assigned readings in the text, class discussions of cases or current business topics, class videos, and any other material assigned or used in class. Because exams will be given during the regular class periods, no scheduling conflicts should arise. There will be no make-up exams and a missed exam is a failed exam.

Bonus

In addition to earning exam points on the two exams, you may also earn bonus points to be added to your exam scores by creating an analogy that demonstrates one or more of the finance principles we’ll discuss in class. Presenting an analogy presentation will earn you between 0 and 7 percentage points to be added to your exam score. The number of points awarded will be based on the clarity with which your analogy demonstrates the intended finance principles and the insight it provides into those principles. Contact me to discuss your presentation, which is intended to be informal and less than 5 minutes in length. You are required to provide a one page written, sketched, drawn, photographed, or finger-painted description of your analogy. All analogy presentations must be made before the final week of class.

Class Participation

You are expected to be prepared to contribute to the class every period and thereby realize the greatest benefit from the course. I will take attendance and call on students to answer questions in class, especially on case discussion days.

Problems and Questions

Assigned problems and questions will be used in this course as a basis for discussion to illustrate important points in the chapter and to demonstrate the application of financial analysis in the decision making process. I will recommend specific problems for each chapter as we proceed through the semester. It is essential that you come to class prepared with as complete and viable solutions to the problems as you can in order to obtain full benefit from our class discussions.

Contact With Me

As we proceed through the course, you may have questions about some of the assigned course material. If you don’t understand the material after it has been covered in class, I encourage you to contact me during my office hours as these questions arise. Should my office hours not be convenient for you, we can arrange to meet or talk at another mutually convenient time. I can also be reached via email, (niendorf@uwosh.edu) to answer short questions concerning course material or administrative questions.

Other (unpleasant)

Incompletes are not given for failing grades; please refer to the 2012-2013 Undergraduate Bulletin for the conditions under which an incomplete may be given. This course will follow requirements for academic integrity specified in the UW Oshkosh Student Discipline Code 2012-2013. Students who fail to follow these requirements will receive a failing grade for this class. This syllabus is subject to change during the semester.