

Wharton

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

International Corporate Finance, Finance 731 Fall 2009

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Office Hours
Monday: 1:00-2:30
2438 SH-DH

Course Syllabus

Description of topics: The course begins by asking how are exchange rates and financial markets related – by arbitrage and by equilibrium pricing relationships, and how can foreign exchange risk be hedged. Then the focus shifts to longer-term issues of international corporate finance. Key corporate financial issues are explored including exchange rate exposure, taxation, securities pricing, the cost of capital, and the evaluation of foreign projects.

Prerequisites: A thorough knowledge of FNCE 601/100 is assumed.

Reading material: A bulk-pack is available online.

Text: Class notes prepared by Prof. Karen Lewis provide an invaluable introduction to many of the topics in the course. These class notes are available on the web café. There is no textbook in the course. For later topics in the course not covered by Prof. Lewis's notes, there are chapters taken from textbooks included in the bulkpack.

Cases: There are five cases, two mini cases, and four problem sets/exercises that will be discussed in class. Students must form case study groups of 3 to 5 students to prepare the cases and other assignments. All team members are responsible for these assignments. *Every student in the group must retain a copy of the write-up and bring it to the class where the case or problem set is discussed. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. If group members attend different classes, the assignment must be submitted in the earlier class.*

Grading: You must submit all of the cases and exercises. The exams are also mandatory.

The final grade will be awarded as follows:

Exams: 65 %
Cases and problem sets: 30 %
Class participation: 5 %

A numerical weighted average will be computed. The numerical grade distribution will dictate the final grade, according to the faculty's recommended grade distribution.

Important Notice: There will be two mid-term exams on the following dates:

Wednesday, October 14th (in class)

Wednesday, Dec 2nd (in class)

Please make a note of these dates. There will be no specific makeup exams for these exams. If either exam is missed, it is necessary to take a makeup exam covering the entire course to be given at the beginning of the spring term. *There will not be a final exam in the course.*

Exam policy:

In the exams, students will be allowed to bring in a one-page "formula sheet". Calculators will also be needed. Exams may (almost surely will) contain questions regarding cases. There will be a review session before each exam.

Course Topics

Note: For dates of each class and due dates for assignments, see the course schedule.

FIRST HALF

Classes 1-3. Short-run exchange rate behavior: interest parity and expectations

Notes by Prof. Karen Lewis (Lewis notes), Section I, "Introduction to Foreign Exchange and Eurocurrency Markets"

Lewis notes, Section II, "Understanding Exchange Rate Behavior: Interest Rate Parity"

Assignments (due in later classes – see schedule):

Problem set on Arbitrage

Classes 4 and 5: Long-run exchange-rate behavior: PPP and Real exchange rates

Lewis notes, Section VI, "PPP and Real Exchange Rate Risk"

Assignment (due in later classes – see schedule):

Case 1: Cemex: Cross-Currency Debt and Exchange Risk (Thunderbird)

Classes 6 and 7: Hedging I: Hedging with Forwards and Options

Lewis notes, Section III, “Forwards: Hedging”
Lewis notes, Section IV, “Hedging Part 1: Foreign Exchange Options”
Lewis notes, Section VIII, “Foreign Exchange Options,” pages 168-182
“1998 Survey of Derivatives Usage by U.S. Non-Financial Firms”

Assignment: Problem set on Hedging (due later – see schedule)
Case 2: Tiffany – 1993 (HBS) Instructions will be distributed in class

Classes 8, 9, and 10. Hedging II: Multi-year cash flows and hedge ratios

Lewis notes, Section V, “Hedging Part 2: Hedge Ratios”

Assignment: Problem set on Hedge Ratios (due later – see schedule)

EXAM # 1 (Wednesday, October 14th in class)

Special Topics: In addition to the assigned topics listed, there will be special topics introduced in the first half of the term when time is available.

Special Topic 1: The “Euro”
Special Topic 2: Mexican Devaluation of December 1994
Special Topic 3: Future of the Dollar
Special Topic 4: Argentina and Brazil

SECOND HALF

Classes 12 and 13: Foreign Exchange Exposure

Lewis notes, Section VII, “Exchange Rate Exposure”

Adler and Dumas, “Exposure to Currency Risk: Definition and Measurement”,
Financial Management, Summer 1984.

Bodnar and Marston, “A Simple Model of Foreign Exchange Exposure”, in
Economic Theory, Dynamics, and Markets (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001),
pp. 275-286.

Assignment (due in a later class – see schedule):
Case Study 3: Jaguar plc - 1984
Case Study 4: Tektronix (C) (Thunderbird)

Class 14 and 15: International Financing

Lewis notes, Section IX, “Foreign Currency Bonds,”
Lewis notes, Section XI, Syndicated Loans, except Sections C and D

Bekaert, Geert, and Robert J. Hodrick, *International Financial Management*,
Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008, Chapter 11, “International Debt Financing,”

Assignment: Mini-case – Tirstrup
Mini-case – Semen Indonesia’s Financing

Class 16: International Equity Markets

Lewis notes, Section XII, “International Portfolio Choice and Equity Markets”

Bekaert, Geert, and Robert J. Hodrick, *International Financial Management*,
Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008, Chapter 13, “International Capital Market
Equilibrium”

Class 17 and 18: Cost of Capital for International Investments

David Eiteman, Arthur Stonehill, and Michael Moffet, *Multinational Business
Finance*, 11th Edition, Chapter 11, "Global Cost and Availability of Capital" (in
bulkpack)

Bodnar, G., B. Dumas, and R. Marston, “Cross-Border Valuation: the
International Cost of Equity Capital,” *Globalizing: Drivers, Consequences and
Implications*, INSEAD-Wharton Alliance Volume, Fall 2004.

Assignment: Case Study 6: GM Plant X Brazil
Partial submission – (see instructions for case and schedule)

Class 19 and 20: Capital Budgeting for International Investments

“Note on Adjusted Present Value”, HBS 9-293-092, October 1994

Eun-Resnick, *International Financial Management*, 4th edition, “International
Capital Budgeting,” Chapter 18 (in bulkpack)

David Eiteman, Arthur Stonehill, and Michael Moffet, *Multinational Business
Finance*, 11th Edition, Chapter 18, "Multinational Capital budgeting" (in
bulkpack)

Assignment:

Case Study 6: GM Plant X – Brazil (rest of case - see schedule)

Class 21: International Taxation

J.C. Baker, “Taxation of International Operations,” International Finance, Chapter 17, Prentice Hall 1998

Assignment: Case Study 6: GM Case – Part 2: Cost of capital and valuation of project

EXAM # 2 (Wednesday, December 2nd in class)

Class 23: Discussion of GM Plant X - Brazil