Course Information: On Canvas

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce techniques of financial analysis, with emphasis on topics in the corporate finance area. The concepts developed in Finance 100 form the foundation for all elective finance courses. The main topics covered include (1) the time value of money and the net present value rule; (2) valuation of bonds and stocks; (3) principles of capital budgeting; (4) uncertainty and the tradeoff between risk and return; (5) corporate financing and dividend policy decisions; and (6) capital budgeting decisions under uncertainty.

Course Materials:

Required:


Textbook options (details provided by McGraw-Hill)
Option A: Rent the hardback from the UPENN bookstore for $70, ISBN #: 9781259918940.
Option B: Purchase a customized version of the 12th edition containing only the 16 chapters you’ll be responsible for, entitled: FNCE 100 Corporate Finance by MacKinlay, ISBN # 9781307466799, only available from the UPENN bookstore for approximately $80.
Option C: Rent the eBook from McGraw-Hill for $55 from this URL: https://www.mheducation.com/ enter Corporate Finance in the search box and click the 12/e cover (image below) then the $55 RENT NOW box.

A scientific or business calculator. (It will be necessary for your calculator to have a $x^y$ function.)

Solutions for end-of-chapter problems in RWJJ (available online).

Sample exams with solutions (available online).
Optional:


Evaluation:

The course grade will be based on two midterm exams, a final exam, and two assignments (to be handed in). The weightings are:

- Maximum of Midterm I and Midterm II: 10%
- Midterm Exam II: 35%
- Final Exam: 45%
- Assignments: 10%

The first midterm exam is not optional. Failure to take this exam will result in a score of zero for the 10% allocated to the maximum of midterms I and II.

Schedule of Classes:

Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from August 31 until December 9 except for October 14 (Fall Break) and November 25 (Thanksgiving).

Schedule of Exams:

- Midterm Exam I: Thursday, September 30 (in class)
- Midterm Exam II: Thursday, November 4 (in class)
- Final Exam: Tuesday, December 21 (6 pm – 8 pm)

Please note that there will not be any make-up exams except as required by university policy.

Policy for regrade requests:

All regrade requests must be submitted within one week of the day exams are returned.
Office Hours:

My weekly scheduled office hours will be on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:45. Any week this time needs to be changed will be announced in advance. Additional office hours in exam weeks will be added as needed.

The course teaching assistants will also have office hours scheduled throughout the week. Their schedule will be posted on canvas.

Course Outline:

I.  Time Value of Money.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 4

II. Valuation of Simple Cash Flow Streams.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 4

III. Valuation of Bonds.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 8

IV. Valuation of Stock.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 9

V. Principles of Capital Budgeting.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapters 5, 6, and 7

VI. Risk and Return in Capital Markets.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapters 10, 11, and 12

VII. Cost of Capital.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 13

VIII. Market Efficiency
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 14

VIII. Corporate Financing and Capital Structure.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapters 15, 16, and 17

IX. Valuation and Capital Budgeting.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 18

X. Dividend Policy.
   
   Readings: RWJJ Chapter 19

Additional readings will be available online.