

The University of Texas at Tyler
College of Business and Technology
Spring 2021

FINA 3311- Principles of Finance (Section 062)	
Instructor Name:	<i>Dr. Chialing Hsieh</i> (Pronounce: Charlene Shay)
Office Location:	Soules College of Business 350.14
Email Address:	chsieh@uttyler.edu (Best Contact Method)
Office Hours:	Due to COVID19 concerns, office visits are highly discouraged. The instructor will conduct Virtual Office hours via Zoom: 10:55 am – 12:25 pm on Tuesday and Thursday. A personal Zoom meeting may be scheduled by appointment. Contact will also be via e-mail. You can expect a response within 24 hours except for those sent on Saturday and Sunday as well as those sent after 5 pm on Friday, when you can expect a response within 48 hours.
Classroom Location:	Online
Prerequisite	ACCT 2301, and ECON 2301 or ECON 2302
Canvas Access:	All class materials, course grades, and class announcements will be posted in Canvas.
Required Course Materials:	Textbook: <i>Essentials of Corporate Finance</i> by Ross, Westerfield, and Jordan, 10 th edition, McGraw-Hill, ISBN10: 1260013952 Financial Calculator - BA II PLUS by Texas Instruments is recommended.

Course Objective:

This is an intensive survey course in finance so it assumes no prior knowledge of finance. It is designed to introduce students from all business disciplines to finance and also prepare those who are interested for further coursework in finance. Accordingly, the course will begin with a general overview and then go into depth on concepts such as financial securities and markets as well as techniques used in financial decision-making. Topics covered include time value of money, debt and equity valuation, capital structure, cost of capital, raising and returning capital and capital budgeting. At the end of this course, students are expected to have a good understanding of the basic techniques needed for making sound financial decisions.

Upon completion of the course you should be able to:

- Explain why financial markets exist.
- Understand the distinction between debt and equity securities and find their values.
- Be able to move cash flows through time using simple formulas and calculators.
- Describe the historical relationship between risk and return.
- Know how to raise capital and return excess capital to investors.
- Describe the components underlying a firm's cost of capital (technically, it's Weighted average cost of capital) and its uses.
- Compute cash flows for capital budgeting problems and know how to compare them using standard project evaluation criteria.

Course Structure

The course begins with a general overview of finance and how the financial system interacts with the economy. Then, it explores the techniques used by financial managers in deciding how to acquire and

invest funds and studies alternative investments for inclusion in a portfolio. Thus, this course is divided into three major segments that correspond with the course objectives; the financial system, corporate finance, and investments. To achieve these goals, students will be required to:

1. Read PowerPoint course slides and textbook chapters, Watch video lectures (if available).
2. Visit course on Canvas regularly.
3. Take every test and quiz.

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Over the course of the semester, activities and items may be added, removed, or rescheduled in order to provide more information, improve accuracy, enhance learning, or correct errors. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by instructions in class, announcements in Canvas, and/or Canvas email to students.

TOPICS	TIMELINE	Test Period
Ch. 1: Introduction to Financial Management	Week 1: 01/11/21	
Ch. 2 Financial Statements, Taxes, and Cash Flow	Week 2: 01/18/21	
Ch. 3 Working with Financial Statements	Week 3: 01/25/21	
Test 1: Chapters 1, 2, 3 (administered by ProctorU Auto)*	Week 4: 02/01/21	01/31 noon – 02/04 midnight
Ch. 4 Introduction to Valuation: The Time Value of Money	Week 5: 02/08/21	
Ch. 5 Discounted Cash Flow Valuation	Week 6: 02/15/21	
Ch. 6 Interest Rates and Bond Valuation	Week 7: 02/22/21	
Test 2: Chapters 4, 5, 6 (administered by ProctorU Auto)*	Week 8: 03/01/21	02/28 noon – 03/04 midnight
<i>Spring Break</i>	<i>Week 9: 03/08/21</i>	
Ch. 7 Equity Markets and Stock Valuation	Week 10: 03/15/21	
Ch. 8 Net Present Value and Other Investment Criteria	Week 11: 03/22/21	
Ch. 11 Risk and Return	Week 12: 03/29/21	
Test 3: Chapters 7, 8, 11	Week 13: 04/05/21	04/04 noon – 04/08 midnight
Ch. 13 Leverage and Capital Structure	Week 14: 04/12/21	
Ch. 14 Dividends and Dividend Policy	Week 15: 04/19/21	
Test 4: Chapters 13, 14	Week 16: 04/26/21	04/25 noon – 04/29 midnight

Course Evaluation Methods:

This course will utilize the following instrument to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

1. (Mandatory) Course Information Quiz (10 bonus points): This is a 20-minute true-false quiz designed to test your knowledge of the course requirements as explained in the syllabus. As an example, you may be asked how many tests are available in this class or other course policies. It will be given via Canvas only **between noon of Tuesday, January 12, 2021 and midnight of Thursday, January 21, 2021.**

2. Four tests: The lowest test score will be dropped from the computation of your course grade. Online tests will be designed to measure students' knowledge and understanding of course material. Tests will generally cover the topics discussed or presented in class, however, other material may be identified as exam material when appropriate.

Once you begin a test, you will be given a certain amount of time, depending on its length, to complete it. You can take the test at any time during the test period. Note that you are allowed only ***ONE*** attempt per test so please make sure you study the module material thoroughly before you begin and can devote sufficient time to complete the test. **Unless specified otherwise, each test period generally begins at noon on Sunday and ends at midnight on Thursday.** Please note that each test will be only available for a limited time so check the course calendar and plan accordingly. All material covered in readings, slides and video lectures are considered fair game for tests. You are advised to begin each chapter by reading the Powerpoint slides and the assigned chapter in course text for a more in-depth understanding of the topic, then watching the video lecture (if available) for solving selected numerical problems. But video lectures and Powerpoint slides are no substitute for reading the text.

***ProctorU Auto:** Please note that some tests in this class will be administered using ProctorU Auto. The University pays the proctoring fees. To find out more about the ProctorU Auto exam monitoring process, go to <https://www.utt Tyler.edu/digital-learning/proctoru-resources/> or www.proctoru.com and review training videos.

3. Assignments and Quizzes: At the discretion of the instructor, there may be various pop-quizzes, homework assignments. These activities are intended to supplement and reinforce course material. A student may be responsible for completing an activity in or outside of class. ***No late submission will be allowed except for documented emergencies.***

Extra Credit: Students may be given opportunities to earn extra credit at the instructor's discretion. Some possible sources of extra credit include ***online bonus quizzes to be announced on Canvas.***

Caution: Finance majors need a grade of A, B or C in FINA 3311 in order to take subsequent finance courses so D is not a passing grade. The same is true for non-finance majors because FINA 3311 is a business core requirement.

Exam and assignments policy:

Exams and quizzes should be taken as schedule; assignments should be submitted by the due date.

No makeup examinations, quizzes, or assignments will be allowed except for documented emergencies (official evidence documents are required). The student should make every effort to contact the instructor

prior to the exam. All requests for make-up or accommodation made after the due date for an assignment or deadline for a test will be rejected without any further consideration.

WARNING: Attempts to change your grade at the end of the semester by asking the instructor to “round up” or by asking for further extra credit will be ignored.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Course Information Quiz	Bonus 10 points	
4 Tests	4 Tests with 100 points each (one may be dropped)	300
Total possible points:		300

Grade Determination:

- A = 90% or better
- B = 80 – 89.99 %
- C = 70 – 79.99 %
- D = 60 – 69.99 %
- F = less than 60%

To determine your course grade percentage, take the total number of points that you earned (including Course Information Quiz, the 3 highest Tests, and bonus), and divide that number by the number of total possible points, i.e. 300.

Canvas Access

All class materials, course grades, and class announcements will be posted by Canvas. *To access our course, visit uttyler.edu/canvas. You are encouraged to participate in [Canvas 101](#), a practice course designed specifically for UT Tyler students to learn and refine Canvas skills. You can practice submitting assignments, participating in quizzes, customize your profile and notifications, plus get collaboration and Canvas tips.*

Important points when using Canvas:

1. Login using UT Tyler credentials. Contact itsupport@uttyler.edu for login assistance.
2. Use the HELP button at the bottom left corner of Canvas if you need assistance 24/7.
3. Reference your [Student Canvas Guide](#) for additional resources.

If you have issues with Canvas access that may hinder your completion of course assignments or quizzes, you must contact UT Tyler’s IT Support staff immediately (even on weekends) and get a ticket number. You must also inform the instructor of the issue BEFORE the due date for the assignment or quiz. Claims of Canvas access problems without a ticket number or ones reported to the instructor after the passing of the deadline will be dismissed without any further consideration. Deadlines may be extended only in case of Canvas system-wide issues reported by the university. All other Canvas-related issues are regarded as personal-level access issues and you must get them resolved without letting them interfere with your coursework. Personal-level access issues are not valid reasons to ask for deadline extension.

College of Business Statement of Ethics

The ethical problems facing local, national and global business communities are an ever-increasing challenge. It is essential the College of Business and Technology help students prepare for lives of personal integrity, responsible citizenship, and public service. In order to accomplish these goals, both students and faculty of the College of Business and Technology at The University of Texas at Tyler will:

- ✓ Ensure honesty in all behavior, never cheating or knowingly giving false information.
- ✓ Create an atmosphere of mutual respect for all students and faculty regardless of race, creed, gender, age or religion.
- ✓ Develop an environment conducive to learning.
- ✓ Encourage and support student organizations and activities.
- ✓ Protect property and personal information from theft, damage and misuse.
- ✓ Conduct yourself in a professional manner both on and off campus.

Information that must appear in each course syllabus:

Includes UT Tyler Honor Code, Student Rights and Responsibilities, Campus Carry, tobacco-Free University, Grade Replacement Policies, Course Drop Policies, Disability Services, Absences due to religious observances and university sponsored events, SS and FERPA, Evacuation, Student Standards of Conduct, and other resources).

<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations](#). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.