



FIN301 – Business Finance

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course shall focus attention on the tools and concepts for financial decision making in five broad areas: financial management, valuation of financial assets, capital budgeting, capital structure, and working capital management. The study includes the time value of money, capital budgeting, sources of long-term capital and short-term financial management. Other topics will address financial ratio analysis, organization of financial markets, and international (global) finance.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Analyze financial markets and their environment
2. Identify the types of securities traded and priced in the financial markets.
3. Analyze financial statements and evaluate company performance.
4. Explain how the time value of money works and calculate value of money at different points in time.
5. Examine the tradeoff between risk and return.
6. Identify different types of bonds and compute the intrinsic value of bonds.
7. Identify different types of stocks and compute the intrinsic value of stocks.
8. Identify what the firm's cost of capital is and explain how the firm's cost of capital factors into capital budgeting decisions.
9. Determine whether a new project should be accepted or rejected using different capital budgeting techniques.
10. Calculate a project's free cash flows.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

ACC201, ECO221, ECO222

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

For this course you will need the following materials:

Required Textbook

Brigham, E. F., & Houston, J. F. (2020). *Fundamentals of financial management* (Concise 10th ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9781337902571

An online version of the above textbook is included in your course fees. You may be also able to order a loose-leaf hardcopy at a discount from the bookstore.

Required Calculator

A financial calculator is required for this class. The TI BAII Plus calculator is recommended for this course. If you choose to use a different kind of calculator, please make sure you can operate it comfortably. Learning the calculator takes time. It is highly recommended that you watch the time value of money and calculator tutorials in Week 3 as soon as possible.

Note: this course may contain additional resources for specific activities or modules. Be sure to read the instructions carefully for individual assignments or activities for those requirements. Where applicable, Tiffin University has obtained permission to use copyrighted material.

Visit the [Tiffin University Library](#) for access to databases, research help, and writing tips. A link is also available in the Course Home area. I also suggest you register for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the [Library Events - Upcoming Events](#) web page.

If you register but cannot attend a live session, the library will email you a link to the session recording after the event.

For further assistance email a librarian, at: library@tiffin.edu.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help you plan your time and keep you on track toward successful completion, this course maintains a distinctive rhythm for assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).

2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

Each week of the course involves a discussion with your classmates about a complex, real-world problem or issue, related to the topic. You will be asked to respond to at least one of your classmates. In addition to the discussions, you will be completing assignments which involve applying the concepts and calculations that you learned during the week.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussion	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	280
Assignment	90	90	110	90	90	90	90	650
Reflection	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Total	140	140	160	140	140	140	140	1000

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Please see the [Academic Bulletin](#) for grade appeal information.

FIN301 Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
Start Here	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.1 (Forum): Meet Your Classmates! – Initial Post
Week 1: Introduction to Financial Management	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.2 (Forum): Roles in Financial Management – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT Activity 1.2 (Forum): Roles in Financial Management – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 1.3 (Assignment): Question Set <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 1.4 (Weekly Reflection)
Week 2: Financial Statement Analysis	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 2.1 (Forum): Financial Statements – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 2.1 (Forum): Financial Statements – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 2.2 (Assignment): Question Set <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.3 (Weekly Reflection)
Week 3: Time Value of Money	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 3.1 (Forum): The Time Value of Money – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 3.1 (Forum): The Time Value of Money – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 3.2 (Assignment): Question Set <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.3 (Weekly Reflection)
Week 4: Bonds and Their Valuation	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 4.1 (Forum): The Risk-Return Relationship – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 4.1 (Forum): The Risk-Return Relationship – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 4.2 (Assignment): Integrated Case: Western Money Management Bond Valuation <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 4.3 (Weekly Reflection)

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
<p>Week 5:</p> <p>Risk-Return Relationship and Valuation of Stocks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 5.1 (Forum): Intrinsic Value – Introductory Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 5.1 (Forum): Intrinsic Value – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 5.2 (Assignment): Question Set <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.3 (Weekly Reflection)
<p>Week 6:</p> <p>Cost of Capital</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 6.1 (Forum): Discount Rate – Introductory Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 6.1 (Forum): Discount Rate – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 6.2 (Assignment): Integrated Case: Dragon Company <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.3 (Weekly Reflection)
<p>Week 7:</p> <p>Capital Budgeting and Cash Flow Estimation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 7.1 (Forum): Capital Budgeting Techniques – Introductory Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 7.1 (Forum): Capital Budgeting Techniques – Secondary Posts <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 7.2 (Assignment): Integrated Case: Allied Components Company <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 7.3 (Weekly Reflection)

Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. You should accept constructive feedback as a gift. Your course is a place for you to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements in any given week are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

Your Instructor Will Expect You to:

- Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.
- Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.
- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:
 - Fully participate in all learning activities.
 - Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.
 - Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations).
 - Utilize and incorporate instructor provided feedback to improve your work.
 - Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.
 - Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For more information, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).
 - Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

You Should Expect Your Instructor to:

In general, your instructor should advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes. To accomplish this, your instructors should:

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.
- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.
- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.
- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."
- When grading your work, your instructor should:
 - clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),
 - thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and

- provide constructive feedback that indicates the strengths and weaknesses of your work and provides suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.
- In general, your instructor should advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

Accommodations

The **Office for Disability Services** supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity 419.448.3021 or via email at disabilityservices@tiffin.edu.

Additional Resources & Support

For technical support, either email moodlesupport@tiffin.edu or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200.

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's [Meet the Team](#) page.

For information about TU's peer tutoring program see the Murphy Center's [Tutoring Policies and Procedures](#) page. Veterans and active military can seek assistance from TU's [Veteran and Military Services Web Page](#).

Comments or Concerns

TU's online programs are designed to be student *driven*: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways that you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at online@tiffin.edu.