

[FIN 4403](#)  
[Honors Finance](#)  
[Section 5320](#)

[Tentative Course Syllabus](#)  
[Fall 2016 Term](#)

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**INSTRUCTORS / CLASS**

John Banko, Ph.D., CFA  
Senior Lecturer of Finance

Section: 5320  
Class Time: Wednesday, Periods 7-8 (1:55 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.)  
Room: 230 Heavener Hall

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Office: 321 David Stuzin Hall  
Phone: (352) 392-6395  
E-Mail: [john.banko@warrington.ufl.edu](mailto:john.banko@warrington.ufl.edu)

Office Hours: Announced weekly

**PREREQUISITES**

Students must be selected for admission to this class and enrollment is limited. To be selected, a student must be majoring in finance, have an outstanding academic record, received an A in FIN 3403, and agree to be a teaching assistant for FIN 3403. Grades of A in other finance classes that the student has taken are expected. Extracurricular activities, strong interpersonal skills, and evidence of leadership are expected. A personal interview with the selection committee is required.

**OVERVIEW**

The primary goals of the Finance Honors Program include: (1) challenging our best students in an educational framework, (2) helping them develop and refine skills needed for success in their future careers, (3) helping them to gain a deeper understanding of basic financial theory, as well as exposing them to advanced topics within the field, and (4) creating an opportunity for them to interact and network with other top students in the college.

To help meet these goals we wish to expose our best students to the senior faculty within the Warrington College of Business and to professionals in the field. We have arranged for some of the senior faculty to come in as guest speakers. This has been one of the favorite activities of students in the past and we expect everyone to attend, be prepared, and ask good questions.

There is also a requirement that you attend presentations by at least two outside speakers, either through the Professional Speakers Series run by the department (we will keep you informed of speakers and dates), or through the Faculty Seminar Series, which features faculty presenting some of their cutting-edge research: seminars are usually scheduled for Friday mornings from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. You must write up a one-page summary of each presentation and turn this into Dr. Banko within one week of the session; please include your name, the name of the speaker, the date and location of the presentation, and then your summary.

In addition, I want to help you learn about current research trends within finance, to develop your own research agenda, to gain more focused knowledge of a topic within finance, and to learn how to do collaborative research. To that end, students in FIN 4403 may elect to write an honors research paper:

- (a) Select a topic and develop a research paper plan. Prepare a Topic Outline and a Literature Review for the paper and present this in class on before the end of the fourth week of class.
- (b) Write a 40-50 page paper on the topic, with each student taking responsibility for a sub-topic.
- (c) Submit a draft by 12:00 noon on Friday, October 28th.
- (d) Submit a final paper by 12:00 noon on Friday, November 11th.
- (e) Present the research results to the class prior to the end of the term.

Finally, we want to help you develop your communication skills. This will be accomplished through both your roles as a student in FIN 4403 (discussions, written reports, class presentations, etc.), as well as your role as a Primary TA for FIN 3403.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF FIN 3403 TEACHING ASSISTANTS

A major component of FIN 3403 is the responsibilities given to and expected of the teaching assistants.

As a TA, your responsibilities include:

1. TA's will discuss with the instructor feedback they are receiving from students; discuss criteria for grading assignments; help determine assignments/exercises for the discussion groups on an ongoing basis; and help determine future projects.
2. TA's will mentor the FIN 3403 students.
3. Each TA will monitor/hold office hours as required, with some additional hours the week before an exam: TA's are encouraged to develop a professional relationship with the members of the class and meet/interact with students as needed.

### GRADING

Grades in FIN 4403 will be based on the following:

Attendance and Interaction in FIN 4403	40%
Professional Speakers / Faculty Seminar Series	10%
TA Responsibilities (Office Hours, New Questions, etc.)	<u>50%</u>
	100%