Warrington College of Business
University of Florida

COURSE INFO:

Course: FIN4414
Term: Spring 2017
Schedule: Class: T, R
Time: Sec 2109: Sessions 7-8: 1:55-3:50; Heavener 250, Final Exam 26A
Sec 2111: Sessions 9-10: 4:05-6:00; Stuzin 0104, Final Exam 25E

CONTACT INFO:

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Office Hours: Wed: 10:00-12:00, Thu: 10:30-11:30 (after 2/9) and by appt.

PREREQUISITES:

You should be familiar with the basics tools of financial (investment) decision making, including the risk-return relationship, valuation, cost of capital, and time value of money. You should also understand the basics of corporate finance (e.g., capital structure, working capital management, financial statement analysis), financial markets (e.g., market efficiency, CAPM, sources of financing), and the basics of investment valuation (e.g., dividend models, P/E, time value).
I. STATEMENTS

The University of Florida Policy on Course Syllabi requires a section on academic honesty to be included in all syllabi:

A. The Academic Honesty Guidelines at the University of Florida are designed to develop and engender a community of honor, trust and respect. The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students within the system receive the benefits of the academic pursuit of knowledge, free from the obstacles of lying, cheating and stealing. In return, the Academic Honesty Guidelines demand that students act with integrity in all of their endeavors. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to also act with integrity. Every student who approaches their studies with honesty and forthrightness suffers when another student attains an unfair advantage by cheating.

B. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. As a University of Florida student, one is expected to neither commit nor assist another in committing an academic honesty violation. Additionally, it is the student's duty to report observed academic honesty violations. The following actions are examples of violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines:

1. Cheating: The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes, but is not limited to, copying graded homework assignments from another student; working together with another individual(s) on a take-home test or homework when not specifically permitted by the teacher; looking or attempting to look at another student's paper during an examination; looking or attempting to look at text or notes during an examination when not permitted. Tendering of information includes, but is not limited to, giving your work to another student to be used or copied; giving someone answers to exam questions either when the exam is being given or after taking an exam; giving or selling a term paper or other written materials to another student; sharing information on a graded assignment.

2. Plagiarism: The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is published or unpublished, or simply the work of a fellow student. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on an exam, term paper, homework, or other written materials or oral presentations for an academic requirement; submitting a paper which was purchased from a term paper service as your own work; submitting anyone else's paper as your own work.

3. Bribery: The offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting any materials, items or services of value to gain academic advantage for yourself or another.

4. Misrepresentation: Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes using computer programs generated by another and handing it in as your own work unless expressly allowed by the teacher; lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.

5. Conspiracy: The planning or acting with one or more persons to commit any form of academic dishonesty.

6. Fabrication: The use of invented or fabricated information, or the falsification of research or other findings with the intent to deceive for academic or professional advantage.
II. POLICIES

A. ATTENDANCE
   1. Fact: Graduates with (content) knowledge and skills get better jobs.
   2. Assumption: You want a (better) job.
   3. Logic: Therefore, you want knowledge and skills.
   4. Fact: Much of the content/skills in my course are only delivered in the classroom, not the text.
   5. Data: In an analysis of previous courses, I tracked quiz scores and attendance. Of 8 points:
      a. Avg score = 2.00 for those who missed 2 days of 2 days leading up to a quiz.
      b. Avg score = 4.75 for those who missed 1 day of 2 days leading up to a quiz.
      c. Avg score = 7.09 for those who missed 0 days of 2 days leading up to a quiz.
   6. Finding: Those who attend, learn more content.
   7. It follows: Show up, engage.

B. CLASSROOM FORMAT
   1. Discussion and lecture to complement the readings. Lectures are not sufficiently detailed to replace readings. Readings alone are insufficient. Do both.
   2. During discussions, engage. My professional (and life) advice: don't spectate, participate.
   3. If assigned topics/questions are exhausted, we often do (unplanned) in-class exercises using real data, in real-time to apply what we have learned. You learn more by doing.
   4. When time permits, we might discuss related topics and skills that will make you more successful business people. Just ask if you want to discuss careers, industries, etc.

C. COMMUNICATIONS
   1. Email and in-class announcements are the primary mechanisms for communicating, so:
      a. Check your email early and often; and
      b. You are responsible for asking classmates for missed in-class announcements.

D. WRITING STYLE
   1. Write memos as if you were doing so in business. Cite work that is not your own.

III. THE COURSE

A. OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES SOUGHT
   1. This course is intended to develop financial competencies that are foundational elements of a business education that will help you identify, quantify, create, and obtain economic value.
   2. My pedagogical intent centers on intuition. In short, finance concerns relationships among time, value, and risk. We use lots of formulae to represent these relationships. While you need to learn these formulae for the course, five years from now you may not recall an exact formula, but you should still recall the underlying relationship(s) represented.

B. TEXTBOOK/CONTENT
   1. Brigham & Daves, Intermediate Financial Management, 11e or 12e. The "do" problems assigned may be numbered differently. Use those from 12e assigned. It is your responsibility to find the same problems if you have 11e.
   2. Subscribe to and read the Wall St. Journal during this course.
   3. Watch CNBC or Bloomberg TV.

C. ELECTRONICS
   1. You need a financial calculator with a five-button TVM function.
   2. During quizzes and exams you will have only your calculator; no phones, no laptops, etc.
   3. You will need a computer with Excel for in-class exercises.
4. **It is against UF policy (and Florida law) to record video or audio without explicit permission (of every student in class, and ME).** This policy enables us to speak with candor without fear of showing up on ________ (← your favorite social media platform). Now is the time to ask "silly" questions.

5. **No phones (or anything else) on during class.** At some point, I might ask you to find data, look up a firm, do some Excel. At THAT point, you may turn on laptops, etc.
   a. **Do not take pictures of what is on the board. Write it down.** All research on pedagogy has shown us that writing things helps you to learn while taking pictures does not.
   b. I have experimented with courses in which I allowed texting, surfing, messaging, posting, snapchatting, faxing (still reading?), etc. versus those in which I banned everything. The paper and pen (to take notes) class outperformed the distracted class by 26 bps (26 points higher on quiz and exam scores). *It was not even close.*

**D. GRADING**

1. Philosophy – Your grade will reflect both your level of effort and your subject mastery.
   a. Prepare, attend, participate. This demonstrates to me that you are learning.

2. Components
   a. Final exam 35%
   b. Participation/attendance 5%
   c. Quizzes 30%
   d. Assignment 1 10%
   e. Assignment 2 10%
   f. Assignment 3 10%

3. Participation Grades
   a. I track attendance on random days. I only weight it 5%, but that is because attendance has a much larger effective weighting. If you miss class, you will do VERY poorly on the quizzes. Much of the content is discussed in the classroom and is not in the text and I give lots of in-class guidance as to what will be on quizzes.
   b. Those who participate and engage – I will likely come to know you. Those who do not attend and participate – I will not know you. I track this using attendance records and my daily recollection of participation and assign the 5% portion of your grade. **THIS IS THE EASIEST 5% YOU CAN GET.** Hint: show up, sit toward the front, speak up, introduce yourself a few times.
   c. In the event of unavoidable absence, inform me beforehand. Email to me (before class) a 1-page max outline (bullets, not prose) of key points from the chapter/topics for the day, plus answers to the assigned problems. You will then have important reference materials.

4. Grades:
   a. A through F, scaled per typical UF/Warrington scales.

**E. TEAMWORK**

1. Form **teams of 4-5 students** and maintain these groups throughout the course. One assignment should be turned in per team for team assignments.

2. In (most of) the corporate world, teams are the norm. Teams will be made up of individuals with varying levels of ability and willingness to contribute. However, both here and in the corporate world you will be judged on the team’s output. As such, a skill that will serve you is the ability to “manage” the team process to maximize the quality of team output. You are in a situation in which you are individually responsible for the output, but have no individual authority over the team, per se. Learn to self-manage dead weight and help the team perform well. If a problem persists, please discuss it with me.

**F. ASSIGNMENTS**
1. **Details:**
   a. **Assignment 1** – Valuation project (team). See Canvas for details.
   b. **Assignment 2** – IPO Project (team). See Canvas for details.
   c. **Assignment 3** – Capital Structure Project (team). See Canvas for details.

2. **Choice of firm:**
   a. You must submit to me a list of your top 3 choices for the target firm as shown on the syllabus. I will choose the firm to ensure no two teams do the same firm.
   b. You may use the same firm for all projects.

3. **Submission:**
   a. A single file in Word or PDF, includes all exhibits, graphs, charts, Excel, etc., must be submitted to BEFORE the class session in which it is due.
   b. Due as shown on schedule below.

4. **Presentations:**
   a. Some assignments will be briefly presented in class. Very short, 3-5 minutes, a couple of slides or the (Excel) models, if they can be clearly presented. Make it understandable.

5. **Late policy:**
   a. Assignments help you learn. Late assignments will not earn full credit. You must do the assignments anyway…so why not do them on time.
   b. 1 minute – 24 hours late, lose 20%;
   c. 24 – 48 hours, lose 30%;
   d. 48 hours +, lose 50%.

**G. HOMEWORK PROBLEMS**
1. I assign problems that YOU SHOULD COMPLETE BEFORE CLASS. I do not collect these.

**H. IN-CLASS QUIZZES**
1. There will be 5-6 very short quizzes on the chapter(s) shown. If you do the ("Do") problems, you should be well prepared for these quizzes. If you do not, you will likely fail the quizzes.
2. I will drop your lowest score (even if it is a zero for having missed it).

**I. EXAM**
1. Final exam. Cumulative of all materials, likely short answers, calculations, perhaps some multiple choice. The exam will resemble the quizzes.
2. You may have only your calculator (no phones, no laptops) and *a one-page, two-sided formula sheet* with anything you want on it (e.g., formulae, notes).

**J. SCHEDULE**
1. See schedule below; *(Dates will likely shift).*

**SESSION-BY-SESSION SCHEDULE:**

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Read</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<td>01/05/17</td>
<td>R 1</td>
<td>Intro &amp; Assessment Excel</td>
<td>Read about Nobel prize winners in finance (Economics Prize…)</td>
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<td>Review of Markets</td>
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<td>Risk &amp; return</td>
<td>Ch 2</td>
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<td>Bonds cont., practice</td>
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<td>Ch 8</td>
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<td>Stock/project valuation Quiz</td>
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<td>Firm valuation presentations</td>
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<td>IPOs, Banking</td>
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| 03/30/17   | R   | 23     | Securities Issuances, cont.  
In-class Excel (Groupoff)                                                 | In-class Excel exercises  
In-class Excel: IPO model                                      |
| 04/04/17   | T   | 24     | IPO Project Presentations                                                | **In-class quiz 5 (Ch 15, 18)**  
Due: (A#3) IPO Project                                           |
| 04/06/17   | R   | 25     | Working K Mgmt  
AFN Exercise in class                                                   | Ch 21  
Do: Q 21.2, 5; P 21.1, 2, 3, 5  
Bring a BS and IS from a public co                                      |
| 04/11/17   | T   | 26     | Lease Financing Quiz                                                     | Ch. 19  
Do: P 19.2, 3  
**In-class quiz 6 (Ch 19, 21)**                                        |
| 04/13/17   | R   | 27     | Models: Portfolio optimization exercise  
EXCEL practice                                                          | Ch2-3  
In-class Excel: portfolio model                                      |
| 04/18/17   | T   | 28     | Review – Session                                                         | Review quizzes  
**In-class practice Q’s**                                           |
| 04/20/17   | R   |        | Reading week                                                             |                                            |
| 30         |     |        | FINAL EXAM  
Sec 2109: 26A exam  
Wed 4/26, Time of Class                                                 | CUMULATIVE  
Sec 2111: 25E exam  
Tue 4/25, Time of Class                                                 |
| 30         |     |        | **DOUBLE CHECK**  
TIME on REGISTRAR**                                                       |                                            |