

**MOS 2310A: Corporate Finance**

Sections 004 and 005

Instructor: Louis Bielmann

Office: SSC 4434

Email: [lbielma2@uwo.ca](mailto:lbielma2@uwo.ca)

Course Website: <http://owl.uwo.ca>

Fall 2013

Office Hours: Tu 8:15–9:15am

Tu 12:30–1:00pm

Tu 4:30–5:30pm

DAN Management and Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2111 ext 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. More information about “Accessibility at Western” is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

Course Description:

This course provides an overview of issues in financial management and corporate finance. Students will learn how financial managers make investment, financing and other decisions and the tools they use to make such decisions. Topics covered include time value of money, risk, valuation, capital structure, dividend policy and other selected issues. **3 lecture hours, 0.5 course.**

Antirequisites:

[Actuarial Science 2555A/B](#) and [MOS 3310A/B](#).

Prerequisites:

[MOS 1020A/B](#) or both [MOS 1021A/B](#) and [1023A/B](#) and enrollment in BMOS or Music Administrative Studies (MAS).

Senate regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision cannot be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are removed from the course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

Text:

Gitman, Lawrence J. and Sean Hennessey. “Principles of Corporate Finance,” second Canadian Edition, Pearson Education Canada Inc., 2008.

## Topics Covered:

- I. Introduction (Chapter 1)
- II. Financial Analysis and Planning (Chapters 3-4)
- III. Present Value, Risk and Value and Capital Budgeting (Chapters 5-8)
- IV. Long-term Financing Decisions (Chapters 9-11)
- V. Long-term Investment Decisions (Chapters 12-13)
- VI. Short-term Financing Decisions (Chapters 14-15)
- VII. Special Topics, time permitting (selection from Chapters 16-19)

(Note: this list is tentative and subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.)

## **CLASS POLICY**

### Evaluation:

Midterm Examination 40% (Oct. 26, 10:00am-12:00pm)  
Final Examination 40% (To be scheduled by Registrar's Office)  
Assignments 20% (Four in total, two in each half of the course)

Students are required to complete all components of this course.

Grades are given based on actual performance. In order to be fair to all the students in the course, grade adjustments, extra assignments, and the reweighting of course components are not available.

### Exams:

Each exam will be scheduled for 2 hours and will be closed book examinations. Dictionaries are NOT allowed into the examinations. Only non-programmable calculators will be allowed into the exams.

Requests for make-up exams and other special arrangements will ONLY be considered in extenuating circumstances and ONLY upon recommendation of Academic Counseling or the Dean's Office. Please see Academic Counseling before requesting exam accommodation.

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned material in the text.

Exams will not be returned to students but may be reviewed in the instructor's office.

Exams will be scored using the program Scan Exam which examines the answer sheets for unusual coincidences in the pattern of answers given which may be indicative and used as supporting evidence of cheating.

### Assignments

Assignments and due dates will be posted on the course website. There will be a total of four(4) assignments throughout the semester. Each assignment will count for 5% towards your final grade.

Late assignments will not be accepted. Failure to submit by the due date will result in a grade of zero for that assignment.

### Email:

Students may want to communicate with the instructor via email. It is advised that these questions require only a short answer. Questions that may need an answer longer than three sentences should be addressed during office hours. In some instances, the information in the email may be beneficial to the whole class. In this case, the email may be broadcasted to the class. Students are advised, therefore, not to include private or personal information in any emails.

Unacceptable emails include: questions that may be answered on the course website or on this course outline; asking when grades will be posted; asking where or when an exam is scheduled or the material covered on an exam; requests for grade increases, extra assignments, or reweighting of course components; requests for material missed due to absence.

### Attendance:

It is recommended that students attend class regularly. Material covered in lectures will not always be the same as material covered in the textbook and should be viewed as complementary.

If you miss a lecture, you are responsible for obtaining any material or announcements you missed. Answers and solutions to any questions or practice problems taken up in the lectures will not be posted.

## **DEPARTMENT POLICY**

### Grade Distribution

The Dan Program has a grade policy which states that for courses in the 1000-2000 range, the class average must fall between 65% and 70% for all sections of a course taught by the same instructor. In very exceptional circumstances only, class averages outside this range may be approved by the Assistant Director or the Director. Class averages are not grounds for appeals.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICY**

### Illness

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation supplied (see below for process) indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet his/her academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the appropriate Dean's office (the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration/home Faculty) together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. These documents will be retained in the student's file, and will be held in confidence in accordance with the University's Official Student Record Information Privacy Policy [<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/general/privacy.pdf>].

Once the petition and supporting documents have been received and assessed, appropriate academic accommodation shall be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty.

Academic accommodation shall be granted only where the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete his/her academic responsibilities. (Note: it will not be sufficient to provide documentation indicating simply that the student was seen for a medical reason or was ill.) A form to be completed by off-campus physicians is available at: <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/forms/medicalNote.pdf>

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

In the case of a final examination in the course, the student must arrange for a Special Examination or Incomplete through their Dean's office, for which you will be required to provide acceptable documentation.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Faculty Academic Counselling Office as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered.

#### Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offenses (see section 9.0 below). Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating. Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, examination supervisors (proctors) of the tests may ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront nor as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring. A copy of guidelines about how to avoid cheating can be obtained from the office of the Ombudsperson, Room 251 University Community Centre, (519) 661-3573.

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offenses in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offenses include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

### Procedures For Appealing Academic Evaluations

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation). If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Assistant Program Director or Designate of the BMOS program. If the response of the Assistant Director is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course of program was taken. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean, may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.

### Support Services

- The Registrar's office can be accessed for Student Support Services at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
- Student Support Services (including the services provided by the USC listed here) can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>)
- Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.
- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.”
- For The University of Western Ontario Senate Regulations, please see the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy at: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>