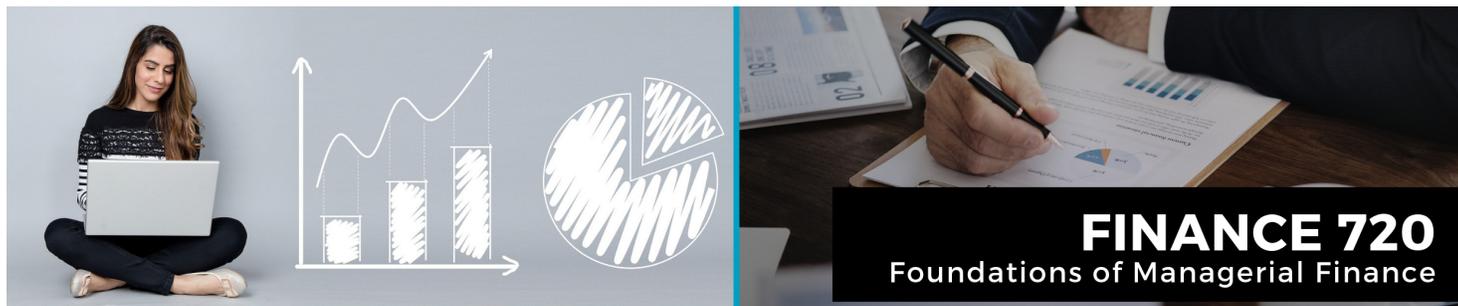


Course Syllabus

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"A syllabus is a contract for learning between the instructor and the student wherein both agree to provide products and services, resulting in certain high quality end results."

Course Information

This course is offered collaboratively through the UW MBA Consortium. Campus specific course information is listed below:

UW-Eau Claire: FIN 720 - Foundations of Managerial Finance

UW-Oshkosh: FIN 730 - Finance Foundations

UW-La Crosse: FIN 701- Foundations of Managerial Finance

Semester: Fall 2019
Course Section 841—On-Line
Meets:
Credit 2 (Not for MBA credit)
Hours:

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Nilakshi Borah
Home Campus: UW - La Crosse
Phone: 608.785.6651
Email: nborah@uwlax.edu

I have posted my [online biography](#) in the "Course Information" module, to give you more information about me.

Course Description

Fundamentals of Managerial Finance is an introductory course in managerial finance. This foundation course provides insights to the role of the financial manager, whose primary responsibility consists of acquiring funds (cash) needed by the firm and directing these funds into projects that will maximize the value of the firm for its owners. In reaching this objective, financial managers perform such varied roles/tasks as budgeting, financial forecasting, cash management, credit administration, and funds procurement. You will study the quantitative tools used in the decision-making process. Not for MBA credit.

Learning Outcomes

Corporate managers rely upon financial information to assist not only in the development of strategic goals and objectives, but also in the day-to-day operating decisions of the firm. Financial managers play a key role in

analyzing all sorts of financial data to help formulate key corporate decisions. As this is a "fundamentals" course it is not intended to cover the plethora of financial data and decision-making processes used by experienced financial managers within the firm. The basic outcomes of this course will, however, help the student organize and interpret financial data by employing certain problem solving techniques. The objectives of this course, therefore, are to help the student:

- Understand the development of a firm's financial objectives and how financial statements are used to assess the firm's ability to meet these objectives.
- Apply time value of money concepts within the financial environment and learn the fundamental trade-off between risk and return as part of the decision-making process.
- Understand how securities are priced using several pricing models.
- Apply financial tools and techniques when making decisions related to capital budgeting, capital structure, and the cost of capital.
- Understand the implications and ramifications of financial decision making in an international context.
- Identify issues relating to ethical corporate activities particularly as they apply to the use of financial data in decision making.

Required Course Materials

Text: *Fundamentals of Financial Management*; Brigham & Houston, 15th Edition, Cengage Learning with MindTap. Students have two options and may purchase MindTap access with either an electronic text or a loose leaf text.

ISBN Mindtap and eBook: 9781337710268

ISBN Mindtap, eBook and Loose leaf book: 9781337817455

Financial Calculator: I recommend an HP b10II+ (or HP b10II) and a TI BAII+— I will be using the HP in instructional videos. The calculator is available as follows (prices are approximate):

- Calculator \$30 ~ \$50
- For iPhone from the App Store: 10bii Financial Calculator \$5.99
- For Android from Google Play: 10bii Financial Calculator \$5.99

Recommended Reading: *The Financial Times* and *The Economist* are excellent resources for not only financial/business news but also national and world events. Reasonable student subscription rates are available. *Forbes*, *Fortune*, *Business Week* and the like are also helpful.

Course Topical Outline

- Week 1
 - Chapter 1, Introduction to Corporate Finance
 - Chapter 3, Financial Statements, Taxes, and Cash Flow
- Week 2
 - Chapter 5, The Time Value of Money
- Week 3
 - Chapter 4, Analysis of Financial Statements
 - Chapter 6, Interest Rates
- Week 4
 - Exam 1
- Week 5
 - Chapter 8, Risk and Rates of Return
 - Chapter 7, Bonds and Their Valuation
- Week 6
 - Chapter 9, Stocks and Their Valuation
 - Chapter 10, The Cost of Capital
- Week 7
 - Chapter 11, Basics of Capital Budgeting
 - Exam 2

Course Perspective

This course will attempt to introduce fundamental concepts and techniques involved in the field of finance. As the course title implies, it is designed for the general business student, not just the accounting/finance major. Since it is a

basic course, we will examine a variety of subject matter within the framework of a graduate course. The ideas presented will be both

- Descriptive—what financial concepts, instruments, and techniques are used in financial decision making, and
- Analytic—how various accounting, economic, and quantitative techniques are used in achieving the objectives sought by managers and stockholders.

The ideas presented will be real world in nature and will simulate issues involved in the financial environment. I want this course to integrate with and help synthesize your future MBA courses.

As an online course, the conventions of bricks and mortar classroom are out the window. You will work at a time and place most convenient for you. You don't risk the adverse effects of being absent or tardy. But, at the end of the day, our objectives remain the same as ever – to learn the fundamentals of business finance. So, while the means to the end is radically different, the end itself remains unchanged.

Course Expectations

This is a graduate level course and we will move along quickly. However, appropriate discussions and readings will be assigned to stimulate your mind and demonstrate the role of financial management in the corporate decision-making process. Finance can be conceptually challenging for some students. While conventional wisdom may admonish that e-learning this material will be tough, I believe the self-pacing of e-learning is most suitable for finance. You meet the material on your own terms. Your classmates and I are there to help, support and encourage. This being said, I will endeavor to use the best of the classroom and "marry" it to the best of online learning. I am here to help and coach you, so it is up to you to contact me if help is needed.

For all chapters, you are expected to read the following materials: textbook, related online commentaries, and power-point slides.

Assignments and Activities

Exams

There will be two exams consisting of short answer questions and problems. The exams will have material from the chapters covered prior to the exam. While exams are not comprehensive, the nature of a finance course dictates that you will be applying concepts and problem solving techniques learned earlier in the course to the material presented later in the course. Exams should be taken as scheduled and exceptions will only be considered in extraordinary cases—documented in an acceptable manner. Exams are scheduled for 120 minutes.

Quizzes

During this course, seven quizzes will be given. Quizzes will be similar to the exam questions and MindTap chapter assignment questions. Each quiz is worth 20 points and includes five questions. Quizzes will have a possible total of 140-points. As with exams, quizzes need to be taken as scheduled and are timed at 60 minutes. Quizzes not taken will result in a score of "zero." QUIZZES MUST BE TAKEN BY THE DEADLINE IN THE COURSE CALENDAR.

I NEED TO SEE YOUR WORK!!!

For the problems found in the **quizzes and exams**, a simple answer is not acceptable **and will receive a score of "0"**.

Part of the learning process is to learn from your errors and I can't help you if I can't see your methods or the process you used to calculate an answer. I also find it very difficult to grade just an answer--if incorrect. So, we need to see your work. You should show enough work to illustrate how you solved the question.

Here is an example from Chapter 5 "Time Value of Money". (Problem 1, page 173) This is a simple problem asking you to calculate the future value of a sum. "If you deposit \$10,000 in a bank account that pays 10% interest annually, how much will be in your account after 5 years"

By formula, you would type as your answer:

$$\begin{aligned}FV_5 &= \$10,000(1.10)^5 \\ &= \$10,000(1.61051) = \$16,105.10.\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, with a **financial calculator** type the following: $N = 5$, $I/YR = 10$, $PV = -10,000$, and $PMT = 0$. Solve for $FV = \$16,105.10$.

Showing your work will allow me to provide better feedback in the unlikely event you make an error.

MindTap Activities

There will be twenty graded MindTap activities during the semester--practically speaking, about two graded activities for each chapter. MindTap activities can be divided into two categories: "Why is this important to me," and assignments for each chapter. MindTap activities will have a possible total of 254 points. These activities are intended to reinforce important concepts introduced during the week, and help students prepare for quizzes and tests. The purpose of chapter assignments is to improve your skill set with the expectation of a better understanding of the material. Completing these MindTap activities will enable you to apply different applications as the instruction progresses during the week. Students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor for any assistance required. Other than verified University activities, or extenuating circumstances approved by the instructor, make-ups are not allowed. You are allowed three attempts on each MindTap activities.

The MindTap graded activities are open from the first day of class, but must be completed by the due date noted in the course calendar. After completing these activities, you will receive standard feedback. If you wish for more specific feedback, please post a question in the "Ask the class/Raise Your Hand" discussion area or email me at nborah@uwlax.edu. **MindTap GRADED ACTIVITIES CANNOT BE ATTEMPTED/SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINES NOTED IN THE COURSE CALENDAR.**

Discussion/Discussion Summary Assignments

Two articles relating to the Chapter topics will be posted in Content. You will be asked to discuss a question/topic presented within the Content Section of the course. This activity will require graduate level discussion which is to be posted in the Discussion Tab on the Homepage by the date indicated in the course calendar. Discussion consists of a major post of your own on the respective question under consideration and at least one good 'response' post to another student's comments. To receive the full points, a minimum of two high quality posts is necessary, prior to the deadline. As this is a "Live" part of the class, it is very difficult to make-up missed discussion posts. The week 1 article on SOX and the week 4 article on price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio will include a group discussion as well as an individual discussion summary. Each discussion is worth 20 points, 10 for the discussion and 10 points for the discussion summary.

Consortium's Excused Absence Policy

An absence will be considered excused or authorized according to the following institutional policies:

1. The student's home campus policy on excused absences will apply
 - o **UW – La Crosse**
 - o **UW – Oshkosh**
 - o **UW – Parkside**
2. UW MBA Consortium students will follow the **UW – Eau Claire Authorized Absence Policy**.

If your absence falls into the excused absence category, please contact me as soon as possible. I may request that you provide documentation, and I may need time to make alternative assessments available to you.

Late Work Policy

We understand that from time-to-time unexpected or emergency situations arise that may not allow a student to complete an assignment by the time it is scheduled in the course calendar. In any type of social environment, things happen. The key is to let us know as soon as possible so that proper arrangements can be made. Without such notification it is very difficult for us to accommodate late work. With proper notification, however, every reasonable effort will be made to allow the student to make up the work within a reasonable time-frame. It is the student's responsibility to alert the instructor to such unforeseen events. The late work policy in this course is as follows:

MindTap Activities: MindTap activities are due by 11:59 PM on the date scheduled--they can, of course, be completed ahead of time. After that a zero score will be recorded. Please let me know in advance if you have problems with stated deadlines.

Quizzes: Quizzes are due (usually) by 11:59 PM on the date scheduled. After that time a score of 0 will be recorded. Make-up quizzes will be given for valid reasons and these are arranged with the instructor.

Exams: All exams must be taken at the time indicated in the course calendar. Failure to do so will result in a score of 0 being recorded. Students should always review the schedule one or two weeks forward. This is very important to meet deadlines, many of which are rigid. It is also important to maximize the benefits of course flexibility; in most cases, you may work in advance at your convenience. Students hoping/needing an exam schedule change should discuss the situation with the instructor a week or more in advance of the scheduled exam. Students who encounter an emergency or other unforeseen event will be allowed to make-up the exam and arrangements will be made with the instructor. Students who do not take the exam and do not notify the instructor will receive a score of zero.

Grading

The following points will be assigned to each of the above:

Item	Points
Exam 1	150 points
Exam 2	150 points
Quizzes	140 points
MindTap Activities	254 points
Discussions/Summary	40 points
Introduction Discussion	5 points
TOTAL	739 points

Final grades are determined by the point totals for the course.

Final Letter Grades

Percentage	UWEC/Consortium/ UW-Parkside	UW-Oshkosh	UW-La Crosse
93-100%	A	A	A
90-92.9%	A-	A-	AB
87-89.9%	B+	B+	AB
83-86.9%	B	B	B
80-82.9%	B-	B-	BC
77-79.9%	C+	C+	BC
73-76.9%	C	C	C
70-72.9%	C-	C	C
67-69.9%	D+	F	D
63-66.9%	D	F	D
60-62.9%	D-	F	D
0-59.9%	F	F	F

Where to Go to Class - Canvas and MindTap

If you have not used Canvas before, take the time to understand how it works. There are tutorials and helpful instructions within the course site. For help with Canvas and other technical issues, contact [**Online Course Support**](#).

Modules — This is the main access for the class where you can find information and assignments on the individual topics for the class in outline form. Under "Course Information" you will find the Syllabus.

Overview(s) — This is a summary of the subject-matter, activities and outcomes for each Unit. It will connect you with the "Course Calendar" to tell you when assignments, problem exercises, and quizzes are due.

Commentaries — Each Unit or has a Commentary pertaining to assigned chapters and material. Commentaries are not substitutes for chapter readings but help "walk you through the material in a chapter much the way we would in the classroom. Much time and effort was spent preparing the Commentaries and you are encouraged to use them as a form of "study guide."

Chapter PowerPoints (PPTs) — Power points are available to help you understand the material better and are another manner of duplicating classroom learning. They are available to help you better understand the material.

MindTap Activities — These activities are integrated within the various units and are related to the lessons covered. These activities may be completed at any time as long as they are posted by the due date indicated in the course calendar. They are "interactive" and will provide an immediate score upon completion.

Quizzes — Quizzes are posted under the "Assignments" tab on the Homepage and timed--you will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz. All quizzes are due by 11:59 PM on the due date.

Exams — Exams are posted under the "Assignments" tab on the Homepage and like the quizzes you will have a period of time during which you can take the exam. Exams are timed at 120 minutes. There will be two exams consisting of short answer questions and problems. As mentioned earlier, exams are not specifically comprehensive. However, you may be required to apply concepts previously learned. Exams should be taken as scheduled and exceptions will only be considered in extra-ordinary cases—documented in an acceptable manner. Exams not taken will result in a score of "zero." You may take the exam at any time during the period specified in the course calendar.

Discussion Assignment —There are two group discussion assignments.

Discussion Summary Assignment — There are two individual discussion summary assignments.

Ask the class / Raise your hand —This is a read-and-write style-learning center. It is designed as a place to post responses to the lecture material and have discussions of issues regarding the course. You can ask me, the instructor or other classmates' questions and have the answers benefit all in the class.

Grades — Here is where you can check your grade for all course activity. You are encouraged to check your grades frequently and resolve any errors prior to the end of the semester.

Attendance

The success of online learning depends in part on your ability to communicate, use the required technology and complete the assignments on time. Therefore, attendance is gauged by the quality of your work and the interactions between you, your classmates and me, your instructor. It is expected you will communicate in a manner suitable for a graduate student.

Academic Integrity

"If you have integrity, nothing else matters. If you don't have integrity, nothing else matters."
Former Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson

Integrity is an important component of students' academic experience. The academic evaluation a student receives for a course becomes a permanent University student record and it is critical such records be accurate and consistent. In addition, the integrity students learn and exhibit at the University will be the model for the professional integrity they practice when they complete their academic work. The University believes unquestionable character and integrity are essential for successful careers. Whatever role you may play in an organization, be it publicly or privately owned, you will occupy a position of trust. High ethical standards, therefore, are not only necessary, but are fundamentally part of all the University represents when it grants a degree.

There are too many recent examples of public greed on the part of corporate managers. Because of their actions, many lives were adversely affected. This being said, high integrity and honesty is expected in this course and cheating of ANY kind will not be tolerated. The maximum penalties allowed will be sought for those caught cheating.

Academic dishonesty in an online learning environment could involve:

- Having a friend or tutor complete a portion of your assignment.
- Having a reviewer make extensive revisions to an assignment.
- Copying work without citing it as a source.
- Using company or other proprietary information.

Open book/open notes does not equate to asking others for help. Working together on ANY graded assignment/exam IS cheating unless the professor has specifically stated otherwise.

Netiquette/Email Policy

I enjoy the opportunity to communicate with you and an on-line course enhances this opportunity. This is an opportunity to practice written communication skills in a professional environment. Therefore, when you send me an email, please remember to keep your communication positive, constructive, and relevant to the course. Please also remember to be professional: use standard capitalization, punctuation, and appropriate language; and spell check your emails before sending them. At the end of your message, also include your full name, the course name, and your section.

Professionalism also includes respecting the opinions of others, though at times you may disagree with your classmates. I expect you to approach the class with an open mind as to the opinion of others, while feeling free to express your own.

Students with Disabilities

In order to ensure that all of our students have equitable access to our online course materials, we strive to meet the guidelines set by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, which requires the public to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities when posting web-based materials. Canvas is **compliant with W3C's Web Accessibility Initiative** and with **Section 508** guidelines. Additionally, Canvas was certified as a **substantially conformant LMS** by WebAIM, a third party authority in web accessibility. If you find that course materials are not posted in a format that meets your needs, or you need testing accommodations, please contact Online Course Support at 1-715-836-6020 or email BIZHelp@uwec.edu and we will work with you to find a reasonable accommodation.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Mon Oct 28, 2019	<u>Complete the Code of Conduct</u>	12am
	<u>Week 1 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Thu Oct 31, 2019	<u>Introduction Discussion</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Week 1 Discussion</u>	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 3, 2019	<u>Quiz 1 (Chapters 1 and 3)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Reminder: Respond to the Week 1 Discussion</u>	to do: 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 01: Assignment - An Overview of Financial Management</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 01: Why Is This Important to Me? - An Overview of Financial Management</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 03: Assignment - Financial Statements, Cash Flow, and Taxes</u>	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 4, 2019	<u>Ch 03: Why Is This Important to Me? - Financial Statements, Cash Flow, and Taxes</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Quiz 1 (Chapters 1 and 3)</u> (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Week 2 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Wed Nov 6, 2019	<u>Week 1 SOX Discussion Summary</u>	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 10, 2019	<u>Quiz 2 (Ch 5)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 05: Assignment - Time Value of Money</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 05: Why Is This Important to Me? - Time Value of Money</u>	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 11, 2019	<u>Week 3 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm
	<u>Quiz 3 (Chap 4 and 6)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 04: Assignment - Analysis of Financial Statements</u>	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 17, 2019	<u>Ch 04: Why Is This Important to Me? - Analysis of Financial Statements</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 06: Assignment - Interest Rates</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 06: Why Is This Important to Me? - Interest Rates</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 04: Why Is This Important to Me? - Analysis of Financial Statements</u> (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Nov 18, 2019	<u>Ch 04: Assignment - Analysis of Financial Statements</u> (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 06: Assignment - Interest Rates</u> (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 06: Why Is This Important to Me? - Interest Rates</u> (1 student)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Nov 21, 2019	<u>Week 4 Discussion</u>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 22, 2019	<u>Midterm Course Evaluation</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Nov 24, 2019	<u>Exam 1</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Reminder: Respond to the Week 4 Discussion</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Mon Nov 25, 2019	<u>Week 5 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Wed Nov 27, 2019	<u>Week 4 Discussion Summary</u>	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Sun Dec 1, 2019	<u>Quiz 4 (Ch 8)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Quiz 5 (Ch 7)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 07: Assignment - Bonds and Their Valuation</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 07: Why Is This Important to Me? - Bonds and Their Valuation</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 08: Assignment - Risk and Rates of Return</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 08: Why Is This Important to Me? - Risk and Rates of Return</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Week 6 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Dec 8, 2019	<u>Quiz 6 (Ch 9)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Quiz 7 (Ch 10)</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 09: Assignment - Stocks and Their Valuation</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 09: Why Is This Important to Me? - Stocks and Their Valuation</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 10: Assignment - The Cost of Capital</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 10: Why Is This Important to Me? - The Cost of Capital</u>	due by 11:59pm
Mon Dec 9, 2019	<u>Week 7 Overview and Required Readings</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Fri Dec 13, 2019	<u>Final Course Evaluation</u>	to do: 11:59pm
Sun Dec 15, 2019	<u>Exam 2</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 11: Assignment - The Basics of Capital Budgeting</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Ch 11: Why Is This Important to Me? - The Basics of Capital Budgeting</u>	due by 11:59pm
	<u>Final Grade</u>	