



Hunan University

FIN 21: Introduction to Finance

Professor: To be announced

Total contact hours: 54 hours

Credit: 4

Course Description

This course is designed to familiarize students with an overview of the field of finance while highlighting the three major financial areas: institutions & markets, investments, and financial management. The instructors are equipped with maximum flexibility for how the course is taught, and provides students with an integrated perspective of the different foundations of finance. This survey of the basic knowledge, concepts, and terms of finance is appropriate for all students.

Goals for students:

1. Have a framework for analyzing types of financial decisions made by corporations;
2. Understand present value techniques and capital budgeting principles;
3. Have a broad understanding of the risk-return relationship and its implications for finance;
4. Understand a number of techniques for valuing assets;

Textbook

Textbook: Introduction to Finance: Markets, Investments, and Financial Management

Author: Ronald W. Melicher, Edgar A. Norton

Edition: 16th Edition

Publication Date: January 2017

Publisher: Wiley

ISBN: 978-1-119-32111-8

Grading

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| • Participation | 20% |
| • Homework | 20% |
| • Midterm | 30% |
| • Final Exam | 30% |



A+ 96-100	A 90-95	A- 85-89
B+ 82-84	B 78-81	B- 75-77
C+ 71-74	C 66-70	C- 62-65
D 60-61	F < 60	

Course Schedule

The course has 24 class sessions in total. All sessions are 2 hours and 15 minutes in length.
Note: the course outline and required readings are subject to change.

Class 1:

Overall introduction to finance and course expectations for students

Class 2:

Chapter 1: The Financial Environment

Class 3:

Chapter 2: Money and the Monetary System

Class 4:

Chapter 3: Banks and Other Financial Institutions

Class 5:

Chapter 4: Federal Reserve System

Class 6:

Chapter 5: Policy Makers and the Money Supply
Participation

Class 7:

Chapter 6: International Finance and Trade

Class 8:

Chapter 7: Savings and the Investment Process

Class 9:

Chapter 8: Interest Rates

Class 10:

Chapter 9: Time Value of Money

Class 11:



Chapter 10: Bonds and Stocks: Characteristics and Valuations

Class 12:

Chapter 11: Securities and Markets

Class 13:

Overview of Chapter 1 to Chapter 11

Homework

Class 14:

Chapter 12: Financial Returns and Risk Concepts

Class 15:

Chapter 13: Business Organization and Financial Data

Class 16:

Chapter 14: Financial Analysis and Long-Term Financial Planning

Class 17:

Chapter 14: Financial Analysis and Long-Term Financial Planning (Cont.)

Midterm

Class 18:

Chapter 15: Managing Working Capital

Class 19:

Chapter 15: Managing Working Capital (Cont.)

Class 20:

Chapter 16: Short-Term Business Financing

Class 21:

Chapter 16: Short-Term Business Financing (Cont.)

Class 22:

Chapter 17: Capital Budgeting Analysis

Class 23:

Chapter 18: Capital Structure and the Cost of Capital

Class 24:

Final Exam



Attending Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is required. Under ordinary circumstances, you may miss two times without penalty. Each absence over this number will lower your course grade by a third of a letter and missing more than five classes may lead to a failing grade in the course. Arriving late and/or leaving before the end of the class period are equivalent to absences.

Policy on “Late Withdrawals”

In accordance with university policy, appeals for late withdrawal will be approved ONLY in case of medical emergency and similar crises.

Academic Honesty

Hunan University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating, and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

General Expectations:

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all materials covered in class and otherwise assigned;
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class;
- Review the previous day's notes before class and make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading;
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time;
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during the class period;
- While class participation is welcome, even required, you are expected to refrain from private conversations during the class period.

Special Needs or Assistance

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.