



Syllabus



Syllabus

COURSE SYLLABUS

MGMT 613: Financial Management - 4 Credits

Online

Fall, 2008

September 13 - December 12; *(Thanksgiving Break: November 22-28)*

Last Updated: August 3, 2008



Instructor: Instructor: Zuzana Buzzell

Contact Info: Zuzana.buzzell@snhu.edu *(after the course begins please use Blackboard private Messages)*

Course Description

A successful financial manager focuses on maximizing shareholder wealth, while also considering other stakeholders such as employees and communities. This course utilizes financial formulas, tables and spreadsheets to focus on the financial functions of analysis, planning and decision making, and control. Major topics include financial statement analysis and forecasting, working capital policy, cost of capital, capital budgeting techniques, interaction with financial markets, and time value of money techniques.

Prerequisites

MGMT 511 Financial Accounting and CMPL 511 Software Tools. A minimum acceptable score on the Accuplacer is required.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of the course, learners will be able to:

1. calculate tax liabilities and after-tax returns, and discuss the impact that taxes and marginal tax rates have on financial decision making.
2. construct interest rates using an assumed risk free rate, as well as the risk premiums that may apply.
3. evaluate the pros and cons of the alternative forms of business organization.
4. identify investment risks and compare expected and historical rates of return to calculated required rates of return.
5. analyze financial statements and calculate financial ratios, in order to compare one period to the next, as well as to compare a company to its industry averages and competitors.
6. develop forecasted (pro-forma) financial statements, and determine assets required to meet these forecasts.
7. use cash flow analysis to construct a cash budget and analyze working capital components.
8. analyze capital budgeting projects, including replacement and expansion decisions.
9. formulate stock and bond valuations, using various models.
10. determine a firm's cost of capital, using its actual and/or stated optimal capital structure.
11. identify the ethical issues inherent in the financial management of a business

Course Resources

Textbook(s):

Fundamentals of Financial Management, by Eugene F. Brigham, Joel F. Houston Publisher: South-Western College Pub; 11th edition, 2007 (ISBN: 0324319800)

Textbooks are available via GSC's online bookstore, MBS Direct at:

<http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/gsc.htm> (The course-CRN number for ordering this textbook is: 10161). Textbooks can also be purchased from MBS via phone, mail or fax. For additional information, visit the [Online Bookstore](#) section of the college web site.

Other Class Materials:

- **Calculator:** This course will require quantitative work. A financial calculator or regular calculator is suggested. Inexpensive and easy to use financial calculator: Sharp EL-733 or 733A (appr. \$30.00) or Texas Instruments BA II Plus Business Analyst Calculator (appr. \$30.00)
- **Suggested Readings:** Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Times (Financial Section).

PLEASE NOTE: It is the learner's responsibility to have purchased all required course materials before the start of the course. Learners are expected to meet all course expectations even if the shipment of a required textbook or other learning resource is delayed. Be sure to choose the shipping option that will get your text/resource delivered in a timely manner.

Blackboard Orientations

There are no face-to-face sessions for this course. If you have never taken an Online Interactive Course (OIC) at the college, we highly recommend that you attend one of the [2-hour Blackboard Orientation sessions](#) available throughout the state. If you choose not to attend a face-to-face session, you are encouraged to complete the [Online Orientation with audio](#) at your own convenience.

Course Policies

Late Assignments: Work submitted late will be marked down 5% each week it is late. Work submitted within the second week following the due date will be marked down 10%. Work will NOT be accepted for grading if it is more than two weeks late. Regarding late Discussion Board Postings: students may not post to a specific Module's Discussion Board Forum after the Module has ended

Computer Problems and Saving Work: Computers are known to break down and do other unpredictable things. You are responsible to take all precautions and have contingency plans in place in case of such mishap. Computer problems are NOT valid excuses for late work. It is recommended that you create and save back up files to either a CD, or another electronic storage devise for every piece of work you complete for this class. Saving duplicate copies of your work to an external source will ensure that a computer glitch or a glitch in cyberspace won't erase your efforts.

Feedback Wanted: I am interested in your feedback on how I can make this course better. Students are encouraged to send me a private message with suggestions on how I can make this a better course. Please don't wait until evaluation time because I won't see those comments until the term is over.

Extended Sickness and Personal Tragedy: Success in this course requires regular and consistent

participation. If you find yourself in a situation in which this is a problem, you will be encouraged to withdraw the course and retake it when you are in better health/circumstances. Students are expected to contact the professor if such a situation arises as early as possible.

Purchasing Course Materials: It is the learner's responsibility to have purchased all required course materials before the start of the course. Learners are expected to meet all course expectations even if the shipment of a required textbook or other learning resource is delayed. Be sure to choose the shipping option that will get your text/resource delivered in a timely manner.

Description of Course Activities and Requirements

Homework (30% of the final grade) – There will be homework assignments every week. Homework is due every Sunday by midnight (when applicable).

Class Participation (20% of the final grade) – class participation is based upon your participation within the discussion board. A detailed matrix will be posted in the Introduction folder explaining how grading for class participation is calculated.

Midterm Exam (20% of the final grade) – Exam will comprise of 15% -20% theory-based multiple choice questions and 80%-85% quantitative problems, similar to what we will cover in class and what you will receive for homework. Midterm will be posted in advance, and it will be due Sunday, 10/26/08, by 11:55pm.

Final Exam (30% of the final grade) – Exam will comprise of 15% -20% theory-based multiple choice questions and 80%-85% quantitative problems, similar to what we will cover in class and what you will receive for homework. It is not cumulative. Final will be posted in advance, and it will be due Friday, 12/12/08 by 11:55pm.

Grading Percentages

Activity	% of Final Grade
Homework	30%
Participation	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Grades in this class will follow the scale of Granite State College, where A/4.0 is awarded for Excellent work and F/0.0 is awarded for Failure/ No credit.

Granite State College Standard Grading Scale

Grade	Percent	Grade Points	Level of Achievement
A	95-100	4.0	Excellent
A-	90-94	3.67	
B+	87-89	3.33	

B	84-86	3.0	Good
B ⁻	80-83	2.67	
C ⁺	77-79	2.33	
C	74-76	2.0	*Acceptable
C ⁻	70-73	1.67	†
D ⁺	67-69	1.33	Poor
D	64-66	1.00	
D ⁻	60-63	0.67	
F	≤59	0	Failure, no credit
*A grade of C or better is required to fulfill requirements in the major, minor, or general education core at GSC. Please consult the GSC catalog for details.			
† A grade of C ⁻ or below generally does not transfer to other academic institutions.			

Course Schedule & Topics

Module	Assignments/Activities
Module 1: Time Value of Money September 13 – 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapters 1 and 2 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 2: Financial Statements September 23 – 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapters 3 and 4 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 3: The Financial Environment September 29 – October 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapters 5 and 6 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 4: Risk and Return October 6 – 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapter 8 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 5: Investments Part I October 13 – 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapter 7 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 6: Midterm Exam October 20 – 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - no reading required • Complete Exam • Discussion Board: None required
Module 7: Investments Part II October 27 – November 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapter 9 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 8: The Cost of Capital November 3 – 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapter 10 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 9: Budgeting Estimation and Analysis November 10 – 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapters 11 and 12 • Homework • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Module 10: Structure and Leverage November 17 - 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - Chapter 14 • Homework

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Board: Original Post and Answers
Thanksgiving Break is November 22– 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (No course assignments are due during the break)
Module 11: Final Exam Review and Wrap Up December 1 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review for Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14 • Submit any questions for Final Exam • Discussion Board: Survey, Original Post • Chat - Optional Session
Module 12: Final Exam December 6 – 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text - no reading required • Complete Final Exam • Discussion Board: none required

Note: The schedule above may change at the instructor's discretion.

Library Resources

Granite State College has a Virtual Library (<http://www.granite.edu/current-students/virtual-library/>) available 24/7 with access to the full-text of thousands of journals and professional periodicals, an online Reference Room, selected Internet resources, writer's resources, research and citation help, and a collection of tutorials. The databases are password protected.

See GSC Library tab in MyGranite for username and password. In addition, the **Library Info** link in the course menu provides direct links to research databases, *Research FAQs* and more.

Academic Resources and Information Services

Academic assistance to students is available at GSC Centers at no additional charge in such areas as basic skills preparation in reading, writing and math; study skills and research and citation help. Academic Resources staff members work closely with faculty and students toward academic success. A whole range of tools is available, including study and time management tips, APA and MLA citation assistance, access to learning resources online, and feedback on course writing projects. To contact an Academic Resource and Information Coordinator, see the Academic Resource Link on the Resources page in the course menu or go directly to http://bbresources.granite.edu/course_docs/acad_resources.htm.

Technical Assistance

For assistance with issues related to accessing the MyGranite portal, GSC email, Webrock, online courses or other technical issues related to any of the Blackboard tools, please visit the GSC Technical Assistance Center (<http://bbresources.granite.edu/techassist/help.htm>) for answers to the most frequently asked questions or to submit an online help request form. Or call **1-888-372-4270** (Hours: M-F, 8:30-5:00, messages checked twice daily on weekends. Extended hours for the week before start of the term and first week of the term: M-Th, 8:00-7:00.)

Documented Disabilities / Americans with Disabilities Act

Granite State College will provide qualified individuals with disabilities the same educational opportunities available to persons without disabilities. When an individual's documented disability creates a barrier to educational opportunities, the College will attempt reasonable accommodation to remove the barrier. If you need assistance, we recommend that you make contact early to ensure

that your requests can be reviewed prior to the start of each term. If you wish to apply for accommodations, contact your academic advisor or the Dean of Learner Services in Concord. See the complete Granite State College policy in the current college catalog for further details.

Academic Honesty

An academic community is based on honesty and integrity. Plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty are not acceptable at Granite State College. Faculty and students have a joint responsibility to ensure the integrity of learning.

All work that you submit must be your own except in those instances when your instructor gives specific permission to collaborate. When quoting, summarizing or explaining ideas that are based on another's work, whether in print or online, make sure to cite references appropriately. Plagiarism is using another's words or even paraphrasing another's work without giving proper credit through the use of citations.

For Granite State College's complete [academic honesty policy](#), see the current college catalog.

Conduct in the Online Classroom

Membership in society implies minimal norms for civil behavior towards one another. It is Granite State College's expectation that all members of our college community treat faculty, staff, and fellow learners with respect. Learners need to be knowledgeable of and comply with college policies. Each individual is accountable for his/her actions and for the consequences of any behavior that is inconsistent with these values and expectations.

Institutional Assessment

Assessment is an ongoing process that enables the College to improve its programs, courses, and teaching methods. Institutional evaluation may be embedded in tests, exams, and other measurements of student learning. As members of a learning community, students, faculty, and staff will be expected to participate in the important process of assessment on occasion. Confidentiality of any data that identify participants is maintained.
