

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO
BRYAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

MBA 707: Financial Management
Section 03 Online
Fall 2023

Instructor:	Dr. Hunter An
Email:	Canvas Inbox
Virtual Office Hours	Thursday: 1-2 pm. and by appointments

PREREQUISITES: MBA 701 (Quantitative Analysis for Decision Making); MBA 702 (Financial and Managerial Accounting); MBA 703 (Economic Environment of the Firm)

OVERALL COURSE OBJECTIVES: Financial decision-making; topics include time value of money, risk and return, valuation of securities, financial options, cost of capital, capital budgeting, working capital policy, financing decisions.

LEARNING OUTCOME:

1. To state the major stakeholders in the modern corporation, describe how the interests of the stockholders in a firm may be in conflict with other stakeholders, and the role of ethics;
2. To understand the economic context and environment where decisions are made by business leadership and management;
3. To further students' understand and the interpretation of financial statements;
4. To solve time value of money problems (TVM) and be ready to apply TVM techniques in the work environment including to bond and stock valuation;
5. To identify the risk and return characteristics of financial securities, compare these characteristics and perform data analysis and interpretation;
6. To recognize financial options and apply option principles to other firm settings;
7. To apply risk and return estimation methodologies, including to the valuation of equity and debt claims and the firm's cost of capital;
8. To identify relevant incremental cash flows, and apply capital budgeting techniques to these cash flows;
9. To contrast working capital policies in terms of risk and profitability;
10. To evaluate financing alternatives and the financial structure of the firm.

COURSE MATERIALS:



1. **Corporate Finance: The Core** by Berk and DeMarzo, published by Pearson, 5th edition, 2019.

For textbook options, the publisher's website has all the information and corresponding ISBNs:

<https://www.pearson.com/store/p/corporate-finance-the-core/P100002593446/9780135183793>

Note: among the 3 options on this website, MyLab option includes eText; however, neither the eText nor the Print option includes MyLab, which is required.

2. **MyLab Finance** (*required* for graded homework assignments).
Each student must have access to Pearson's MyLab Finance product which you will be required to use to submit graded homework assignments. You will obtain MyLab Finance access when you register for MyLab Finance as described below. Student must register for this course in MyLab Finance **within 2 weeks** after the semester starts. **Your first and last names must be exactly the same in both Canvas and MyLab Finance.** (Work completed with the temporary access may be lost once the temporary access expires).

To register for MyLab Finance:

- i. MyLab Finance is embedded in Canvas. Log in to Canvas first, and then go to this course **MBA 707**: click “Access Pearson” in the menu (on the left), and then click “MyLab Finance Course Home” to begin the registration process. If you follow the steps above, you will NOT need Course ID.
- ii. Sign in with your Pearson account:
 - a. If this is your first time to take a Pearson MyLab or Mastering course linked to Canvas, you will be prompted to login with your Pearson account. Enter the username and password if you have a Pearson account. If you don't have a Pearson account, create a new Pearson account. Make sure both your first and last names are exactly the same as in Canvas. Then go directly to step iii.
 - b. If you have previously taken a Pearson MyLab or Mastering course linked to Canvas, you will not be prompted to login and you will be asked to enter your access code (see step iii)
- iii. When prompted for access,
 - a. click the **Access Code** button if you have already purchased an access code
OR
 - b. **purchase the access code** using a credit card or PayPal.
- iv. You are now registered! Click “Go to your course” to access your MyLab Finance.

To access MyLab Finance later: click “Access Pearson” in the Canvas menu.

3. **Wall Street Journal:** you will need discuss WSJ articles (see below). To get the student rate (\$1 per week), please use the link below.

<https://r.wsj.com/PROF6px3>

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOG:

1. **Lecture video:** web streamed lectures, covering the most critical information, (e.g., concepts, definitions, formulas) for every chapter are posted within Canvas.
2. **Problem video:** students find these videos help them the most. The videos show how to solve homework problems step by step.
3. **Zoom:** I will use Zoom (in Canvas) to answer questions during office hours.

TIME EXPECTATIONS: Some online students may find it easy to procrastinate with their studies because this is not a face-to-face course. To avoid this please be sure to log into the course at least two or three times per week and keep up with the slides, videos, discussions, and assignments. It is expected that each student would spend a minimum of 10-12 hours per week on this course.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

1. **Homework:** Homework accounts for 25% of your total grade. You need complete the homework assigned on MyLab Finance before the due date, and it will be graded. You can try unlimited times for each homework (before the due date), and only the highest grade will be taken. **There will be no extension of deadlines or make-up on graded homework.** Every chapter has a homework assignment, which is due by the midnight before the first date of the exam covering that chapter.

Doing homework consistently is an absolute must for success in this course. You will find the course much easier if you keep up with the homework as it is assigned rather than leaving it all until a night or two before the test. I am a firm believer that you “learn by doing”. Therefore, the course has been designed with assignments throughout the semester so that you are motivated to keep.

2. **Case:** case report is due on **November** 12th. Details about the case report will be provided within Canvas.
3. **Discussion:** Every chapter has a discussion forum that is worth 10 points each. You need do the following two things to earn the full discussion points.

- a) Choose a Wall Street Journal article that is related to any topic covered in the chapter. Post the link of the article. Summarize what this article is about. Explain why you find it interesting or informative and how it is related to this class.
- b) Reply at least one post by other students. You need make thoughtful comments. For example, you can critique the article by offering different perspective and evidence. Or you can concur with the article by offering additional evidence. Of course, you can be neutral by offering new information and pointing to related articles. You can even raise thoughtful questions about the article and whoever answers will also get the points.

Substantive posts are rich in content and relevant to this course. On the other hand, simply saying “hello” or “I agree” is not considered a substantive contribution. You should maintain a positive and collegial tone. Posts must be clearly and logically written with proper grammar, punctuation and spelling.

How to post a discussion: follow the steps below; otherwise you will lose 2 points per post for not following the correct format.

- **To start a new discussion,**
 - a) Type in the Reply field **above all the existing posts.**
 - b) The first line is the **title** of your post: type your tile first, and then select “**Heading 2**” in **Paragraph** drop-down menu.
 - c) Hit Enter on your keyboard to move to the second line to type your content...
 - d) Finally, click post reply. You are done!
- **To reply to an existing post,** such as answering a posted question or commenting on another post:
 - a) Click the Reply link **below the post.**
 - b) The first line should be “**Hi, John** (the first name of the student you are replying to)”.
 - c) Hit Enter on your keyboard to move to the second line to type your reply...
 - d) Finally, click post reply. You are done!

Discussion forum for each chapter is due by the midnight *before* the first date of the exam covering that chapter, the same due date as the homework.

As part of your discussion grade, I am asking that each of you introduce yourself to the class under “Intro” forum. You need do all the three to earn 10 points (**during the first week** of the semester).

- Please include information about yourself: your name, where are you from, your current job, your past experience, your future plans, how much you know about finance, and anything else you would like to share. (up to 5 points)
- Come up with two truthful statements and one falsehood about yourself. (up to 3 points)
- Reply to one other participant, trying to distinguish the truths form the lie. (up to 2 points)

Overall, discussion board is an excellent tool for students to communicate with each other. There are lots of opportunities to learn from your classmates. Therefore, while I will monitor the discussion, I would like each of you to take an active part in posting. I will plan to check the discussion forums once a week to monitor postings and provide occasional assistance.

4. **Exams:** The exams will be based on homework questions, lectures and the textbook, and will mostly consist of computational problems.

	Exam coverage	Time
Exam 1	Chapter 3. Financial Decision Making and the Law of One Price	September 22-23
	Chapter 4. Time Value of Money	
	Chapter 5. Interest Rates	
Exam 2	Chapter 6. Valuating Bond	October 27-28
	Chapter 7. Investment Decision Rules	
	Chapter 9. Valuing Stocks	
Exam 3	Chapter 10. Capital Markets and the Pricing of Risk	December 1-2
	Chapter 11. Capital Asset Pricing Mode	
	Chapter 12. Estimating the Cost of Capital	

Each exam is available 48 hours from 12 am of the first exam date until 11:59 pm of the following date. You have 90 minutes to complete the exam. Once you start the exam, the clock won't stop. It is the online students' responsibilities to have reliable computers (with power backup) and internet access to take the online exam. Don't wait until the last minute. I will only check emails between 9 am -5 pm during the exam dates. Exam questions will not be released to students.

Since a reasonable amount of flexibility regarding the time that exams are taken is provided in this course, all exams must be completed by the midnight of the exam date. Failure to do so will result in a zero grade. There are no makeup exams. In the event you miss an exam for medical circumstances, you must notify me prior the scheduled exam and provide me with a note from a physician. I will determine whether to consider the absence excused or unexcused and follow University policy.

GRADING:

All grade appeals must be in writing and submitted to me within one week of the time the grade is posted. No late appeals will be considered. Adherence to the Academic Integrity Policy is expected and required of all students for all exams and assignments. Failure to abide by this policy will result in disciplinary action. Details of the Academic Integrity Policy are available at <http://saf.dept.uncg.edu/studiscp/Manual.html>.

Your grade will be determined based on the following:

Homework	25%
Case	15%
Discussion	20%
Exam	40%

The grading scale is as follows:

A	92% and above
A-	90 – 91.99%
B+	88 – 89.99%
B	82 - 87.99%
B-	80 – 81.99%
C+	78 – 79.99%
C	70 – 77.99%
F	< 70%

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

a. Student Conduct: for an overview of specific University and Bryan School policies, please see the following links:

<http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/policy/code/>
www.uncg.edu/bae/faculty_student_guidelines.pdf

b. Student Disabilities: All students with a disability requesting special services must go through the Office of Disabilities Services. If you are requesting special accommodations, please bring your paper work from Disability Services directly to me the first week of class. All such information will be held in confidence. The web link to this office is <http://ods.dept.uncg.edu/services/> .

c. No credit can be given for a dishonest assignment. At the discretion of the instructor, a student caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty may be:

- Given a zero for that assignment.
- Dropped from the course.
- Failed in the course.
- Dropped from the school.