



FIN 3100.X02 Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring

Course Prefix: FIN

Course Title: Principles of Finance

Year: 2025

Course and Section #: 3100-X02

Credits: 3

Course Description

Examines financial management in the business environment; time value of money; fundamentals of security valuation; the capital asset pricing model and capital budgeting. Introduces finance terminology and quantitative techniques used in financial analysis. Covers financial ratios and financial statement analysis, cost of capital, working capital policies, dividend policy, and a brief overview of international finance.

Lab access fee of \$13 for computers applies.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Prof. Benjamin Cummings

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion, students should be able to . . .

- 1 Apply the basic terminology of finance;
 - 2 Evaluate financial performance, and compare performance to appropriate benchmarks;
 - 3 Evaluate financial decisions using time value of money;
 - 4 Describe characteristics of debt and equity securities;
 - 5 Analyze debt and equity securities using time value of money principles;
 - 6 Compute the required return appropriate for an investment using the capital asset pricing model;
 - 7 Analyze the basics of capital budgeting;
 - 8 Calculate the weighted average cost of capital for a firm or proposed project.
-

Course Materials and Texts

Fee Statement: A printed textbook is not required for this course. This class will use an electronic text and electronic course content that can be accessed through the Canvas website for the course. This electronic content will be available throughout the semester, beginning the first week of class for all enrolled students. A fee, determined by the university and the publisher (about \$80), will be assessed for all students in the course who are enrolled after the second week of class. This charge will be listed as a “Bookstore Charge” and will be paid through a process similar to that used for tuition and fees.

Textbook: Brigham, E.F., & Houston, J.F. (2022). *Fundamentals of Financial Management: Concise* (11th edition). Published by Cengage Learning. An electronic version of the text is available in Canvas (see the Fee Statement above). Student can decide if they want to purchase a physical copy.

Other Readings: Students are encouraged to read widely from a variety of business media sources. Additional readings may be shared with the class on Canvas.

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

The methods for assessing student achievement of the learning outcomes involves online homework assignments, quizzes, case studies, and exams.

Homework Assignments: These assignments are completed online. There is typically one homework assignment each week (other than exam weeks). The lowest Homework Assignment score will be dropped.

Quizzes: Quizzes are also completed online and have a time limit. There is typically one quiz each week (other than exam weeks). The lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Case Studies: Students will work in groups to complete the case studies.

Exams: Three exams are given, two midterms and a final exam. The final exam is cumulative.

Final course grades will be determined using the following weighting of assessments.

Category	Weight
Homework Assignments	10%
Quizzes	15%
Case Studies (3)	15%
Exams (3)	60%
Total	100%

The following grading scale is used as a guide when determining final grades.

Percent	Grade
95 – 100%	A
90 – 94.9%	A-
87 – 89.9%	B+
83 – 86.9%	B
80 – 82.9%	B-
77 – 79.9%	C+
73 – 76.9%	C
70 – 72.9%	C-
67 – 69.9%	D+
63 – 66.9%	D
60 – 62.9%	D-
< 60%	E

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All required or readings use chapters from the course text that align with the lectures below.

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Chapter 1: Overview of Financial Management

- Role of finance, forms of business organization, agency conflicts, business ethics
- Links between stock price, intrinsic value, and executive compensation

Chapter 2: Financial Markets & Institutions

- Financial markets and institutions, capital allocation
- Stock market operations and performance, market efficiency, behavioral finance

Chapter 3: Financial Statements, Cash Flows, & Taxes

- Financial statements and their use
- Free cash flow and impact on firm value, features of federal income tax system

Chapter 4: Analysis of Financial Statements

- Ratio analysis, interpreting ratios, relationship to financial statements
- Return on Equity (ROE), DuPont equation

Chapter 5: Time Value of Money

- Present and future values of lump sums, annuities, uneven cash flows
- Nominal, periodic, effective interest rates, loan amortization

Chapter 7: Bonds & Their Valuation

- Corporate and government bonds
- Bond prices and relationship with interest rates, yield to maturity

Chapter 8: Risk & Rates of Return

- Investment risk, risk aversion, required rate of return
- Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), changes in required rates of return

Chapter 9: Stocks & Their Valuation

- Rights of stockholders, distinction between stock's price and intrinsic value
- Discounted dividend model, corporate valuation model, valuing preferred stock

Chapter 11: Capital Budgeting

- Capital budgeting, Net Present Value (NPV), Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
- Modified IRR, using NPV as decision criterion

Chapter 12: Cash Flow Estimation & Risk Analysis

- Capital budgeting analysis, relevant cash flows
- Measuring risk, NPV of mutually exclusive projects

Chapter 10: Cost of Capital

- Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)
 - Costs of capital components
-

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Except on exams, you are free to use AI platforms (such as ChatGPT) for this course to enhance and refine your work. If you choose to use AI platforms for this course, you must abide by the following guidelines:

- Do not enter any confidential data (including client data) into publicly accessible generative AI platforms. Information relayed to generative AI platforms under standard configurations lacks confidentiality and may reveal crucial or protected information to unintended recipients.
 - Be aware that content produced by AI can be imprecise, deceptive, wholly fabricated, or might encompass copyrighted material. You are responsible for any content that you disseminate that incorporates material generated by AI, including any violations of copyright law or UVU's [Student Rights and Accountabilities](#).
 - If you use AI-generated content in your work, proper citation is required, similar to how you would reference a textbook or research paper. If you have questions about how to cite your work, please talk to the instructor.
 - Written communication in this class should be accurate, succinct, and your own composition. In other words, although your submissions can contain elements of AI-generated content, your own original thoughts and ideas should be the primary focus, and your submissions must be thoroughly edited by you. Your unique perspective and voice should always dominate your submissions. Plagiarism, even if done unintentionally such as when using Artificial Intelligence, is a serious offense that can have unintended consequences.
-

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as

participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.