

BUS 290-001 – INTRODUCTION TO FINANCE

2023 Fall (August 30 – Dec 5)

Instructor:	Dr. Helen Huang
Scheduled class time:	MW 2:30-3:45pm
Scheduled venue:	ED 616
Virtual office hours:	MW 1:30pm-2:15pm via zoom or by appointment Extra office hours before mid-terms and final exams will be provided
E-mail:	helen.huang@uregina.ca Communication via URCourses email system is preferred
Prerequisite:	BUS 100 (or ADMN 100), STAT 100, and BUS 285 (or ADMN 285)

Course Objective:

The course objective is to introduce students to basic finance concepts including financial markets, accounting statements and cash flows, the time value of money and net present value, securities valuation, capital budgeting, and risk/return analysis.

Text:

The textbook for this course is

S. A. Ross, R. W. Westerfield, J. F. Jaffe, and H. Driss, **Corporate Finance** (Ninth Canadian Edition), McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited, 2022.

Note that the text is strongly recommended and material in it will be needed to do well on assignments and exams. Used copies should be readily available. You may use a prior edition but the risk of ensuring that content is adequately current falls upon you.

All course materials and communications will take place on URCourses <https://urcourses.uregina.ca/>. It is the students' responsibility to check URCourses regularly for new postings and announcements.

Assessment:

- **Assignments: 20%**. There are two assignments, each worth 10%. The due dates are to be announced. These assignments are meant to prepare students for exams. You want to make sure you can do every question in the assignments.

- **Midterm and final exams: 80%.** There are two methods used to weight the midterm and final exams; I will choose for you at the end of the term whichever method gives you the **higher** grade. Method 1 is designed to reward students who show consistent progress throughout the course, while Method 2 rewards those students who show improvement over the semester. There is no fixed “grading curve”. (I see no reason why anyone is denied of an A if she/he deserves it!)

Method 1:

Mid-term 1 (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs)	20%	Date: September 27, 2023
Mid-term 2 (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs)	20%	Date: November 1, 2023
Final Exam	40%	Date: 7-10pm, December 19, 2023

Method 2:

Mid-term 1 (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs)	10%	Date: September 27, 2023
Mid-term 2 (1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs)	25%	Date: November 1, 2023
Final Exam	45%	Date: 7-10pm, December 19, 2023

The two mid-terms will take place during class time and they are **not** cumulative. The final exam will be **comprehensive**.

Course Content:

Chapter 1	Introduction to Corporate Finance
Chapter 2	Accounting Statements and Cash Flows
Chapter 5	The Time Value of Money
Chapter 6	How to Value Bonds and Stocks
Chapter 10	Risk and Return: Lessons from Market History
Chapter 11	Risk and Return: The CAPM
Chapter 7	Net Present Value and Other Investment Rules
Chapter 8	Net Present Value and Capital Budgeting

The course outline provided is a SUGGESTED outline ONLY. I reserve the right to alter (add, delete, modify) the course material and/or the order and extent of presentation and depth of coverage.

Student Responsibilities

1. COVID-19 STATEMENT:

Any student who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and/or has tested positive for COVID-19 (and must, therefore, not come to campus), should contact me as soon as possible to discuss potential accommodations. A student who is unable to attend an on-campus midterm exam for these reasons should submit a student self-declaration of illness form to me, and we will discuss the potential for a deferred exam. If the exam is a final exam, the student self-declaration of illness form, together with a deferred exam application, should be submitted to Hill.Undergrad@uregina.ca.

2. Every effort should be made by you to ensure you write the *two mid-terms* during their *scheduled* times. The only exceptions are *serious illness of the student or family crisis*. In the case of illness, *within 5 business days of the missed exam, you must provide me with a physician's certificate* clearly stating that the illness prevented you from being able to write the exam (with the exception of COVID).

If you must miss a mid-term due to illness or family crisis, *no make-up exam will be given*. Instead, the 20% weight of the mid-term will be transferred to the final exam (i.e., 60%). However, this weight transfer will not happen automatically. I will only transfer the weight if you provide me with a written request to do so within 5 business days of the missed exam (i.e. if you do not write a mid-term, and do not provide me with a written request to transfer the weight of the missed mid-term to the final within 5 business days, you will automatically receive a grade of zero on the mid-term). This *written request must explain the reason why you are unable to write the mid-term, and must state that you wish to transfer the weight of the mid-term to your final*.

Weight transfer will not be granted for any factors that are within the control of the student – i.e. travel plans, work conflicts, timetabling conflicts with exams in other courses, etc. Please adjust your schedule accordingly.

I will submit your written request and/or medical attestation to the Records Management of the Faculty of Business Administration at the end of the semester.

3. Every effort should be made to ensure you are available to write the Final Exam during its scheduled time. If you are absolutely unable to write the Final during its scheduled time, you must see the general office in the Faculty in which you are enrolled and formally request a deferred exam. *Deferred exams* will only be granted in cases of exceptional circumstances (i.e. serious illness of the student, compassionate family reasons, etc.).

Deferred exams will NOT be granted for any factors that are within the control of the student – i.e. travel plans, work conflicts, timetabling conflicts with exams in other courses, etc. Please adjust your schedule accordingly.

4. Regular attendance for the classes is expected. If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes of class discussions, etc., from a classmate.
5. Every student is expected to adhere rigorously to the Hill and Levene Student Code of Professional & Ethical Conduct, especially the following:
 - Every assignment that a student submits for University of Regina classes will be her/his own work, or in the case of group submissions, the work of her/his group members.
 - Every paper, report, reflection, journal, or other similar work that a student submits will properly acknowledge the source of ideas contained therein.
 - Every exam or quiz that a student writes will be done with honesty and integrity, following all University and instructor requirements.
6. If there is any student in this course who, because of a *disability*, may have a need for accommodations, please email me and discuss it with me, as well as contacting the Special Needs Services at 585-4631.
7. Communicating with me regarding any course-related matters (questions concerning the material, coverage of exams, etc) must be done either:
 - in virtual meetings (i.e. during my scheduled zoom office hours, or by making an appointment),
 - by e-mail. When you contact me by email, please do so in URCourses.Please note that when you ask me questions in emails, only short questions (i.e. questions do not require extensive typing or mathematical formulas) will be answered. Emails within 24 hours before an exam will not be answered.
8. If you want to talk to me outside of class-time, please plan-ahead. Either make use of my scheduled virtual office hours, or make an appointment. Last-minute (ex. within 12 hours before an exam) requests by students to talk to me cannot always be met, so planning-ahead is important.