

1612

CAPITAL MARKETS AND INSTITUTIONS

"A lot of content to learn, but the information learnt is interesting and builds a sound foundation about the financial industry"

FINS1612

This is the first major core subject required for a finance major at UNSW. It provides an overview of major financial markets, basics of financial instruments as well as an analysis of the roles and functions of the major financial institutions. Students will learn the theoretical fundamental background knowledge of the financial industry that is instrumental in future finance electives.

Prerequisites: None

Structure of the course:

Semester 1:

5% tutorial participation

2 Quizzes held in lectures during the Semester

45% Final Exam during Exam Period

Semester 2:

5% tutorial participation

2 Quizzes held in lectures during the Semester

45% Final Exam during Exam Period

* Disclaimer: Semester 2 Assessment details may be subject to change

STUDENT REVIEW

"Not many calculations, and more to do with understanding the theory behind the financial world"

"Provides a general understanding of how finance works in the real world"

"Make sure you pick a lecture you will attend as the Quizzes are held in those"

"Older versions of the textbook are available as a PDF from older students"

"Make use of resources from older students such as Notes, Quiz Bank and Past Papers"

WHEN IS IT OFFERED IN S2

1

2

Lecture:
Monday 10-12pm,
Monday 6-8pm
Tutorial:
Monday-Thursday

1613

BUSINESS FINANCE

"Really enjoyed this course. Whilst the final can be difficult, the content is somewhat interesting and can keep you engaged. Preferably do it in S1 instead of S2".

FINS1613

One of the compulsory level 1 courses required for a finance major at UNSW. It forms the foundation of quantitative areas in finance, introducing students to important topics such as financial mathematics, investment valuations, capital budgeting and costs of capital. The fundamentals learnt within this course are expanded upon in higher level courses of the finance major.

Prerequisites: None

Structure of the course:

Semester 1:

Attendance and Participation (weekly): 10%

Homework (weekly): 10%

Tutorial Quizzes: 40%

Final Exam during Exam Period: 40%

Semester 2:

Attendance and Participation (weekly): 10%

Mid semester exam: 40%

Final Exam during Exam Period: 50%

STUDENT REVIEW

"Honestly a little confusing in the sense that it was a chuck into the deep-end of the pool. They didn't really tell you the context behind learning these concepts so you're not sure where in the industry it's most applicable. Was fun though".

"Textbook is a good supplement if you are having trouble understanding some concepts, do the practice problem sets they provide as they are good practice for the quizzes. Try do a lot of problem sets instead of focusing too much on the theory, especially past papers."

WHEN IS IT OFFERED IN S2

1

2

Lectures: Mon 2-4pm, 6-8pm.
Tues 2-4pm
Tutorials: Mon-Thurs

2624

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT

"If you do the weekly problem sets properly without copying the answers floating around you'll do well. Attending and understanding lectures are crucial"

FINS2624

This core finance subject introduces students into investment theories, including application of the Markowitz portfolio theory, SIM and Factor models and CAPM. Accordingly, students will learn to design and manage portfolios, price bonds and stock options and evaluate investment performance. The skills gained from this course are fundamental in the industries of investment management and wealth management.

Pre-requisites: FINS1613

Related knowledge of

ECON 1202 is helpful regarding linear programming and calculus

ECON 1203 is helpful regarding estimation of population parameters and confidence intervals

Structure of the Course

Semester 1:

10% Class Participation and Tutorial Problems (Homework Checks)

20% Online Quiz

30% Mid Semester Exam

40% Final Exam during Exam Period

Semester 2:

20% Class Participation and Tutorial Problems (Homework Checks)

33% Mid Semester Exam

47% Final Exam during Exam Period

* Disclaimer: Semester 2 Assessment details may be subject to change

STUDENT REVIEW

"Lots of resources available for this course; homework questions don't seem to differ between the two semesters."

"It's quite a breeze if you have a mathematical background (very huge focus on calculations)."

"The problem sets which are due each week keeps you up to date on the material. Heavy options section towards the end of the semester."

"Do homework, it is 100% worth the marks and understanding the content is difficult."

"Study hard for this subject as it's a prerequisite for most level 3 finance courses"

WHEN IS IT OFFERED IN S2

1

2

Lecture:
Tuesday 11am-1pm and
6-8pm
Tutorial:
Monday, Tuesday,
Friday

3616

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FINANCE

'A lot of FX calculations are involved so a strong knowledge of FINS1612 is helpful'

FINS3616

Students generally take this course during the second or third year of the BCom programme. The course covers the basic theory and practical knowledge that is required to manage financial functions of firms operating in many countries. There is a strong emphasis on identifying and managing risk, more specifically, exchange rate movements and government policies. The course includes topics such as international diversification, cost of capital for multinational corporations, the role of multinational banks, short-term financing and international equity markets.

Prerequisites: FINS1613 and FINS2624

Semester 1:

- 5% Online Quiz
- 5% Class Participation
- 30% Mid Semester Exam
- 25% Group Project
- 35% Final Exam

Semester 2:

- 5% Online Quiz
- 5% Class Participation
- 30% Mid Semester Exam
- 25% Group Project
- 35% Final Exam

* Disclaimer: Semester 2 Assessment details are subject to change

STUDENT REVIEW

'A lot of FX calculations are involved so a strong knowledge of the 1612 course (is) helpful'

'The group work component can be tough...they expect you to not have palm cards, so you have to memorise everything'

'Requires a lot of work to understand the concepts'

'Textbook summaries are nice'

'If you can get a hold of them, Peter Anderson's slides on this are incredibly thorough'

WHEN IS IT OFFERED IN S2

1

2

Lecture:
Monday 2-4pm, Monday
6-8pm
Tutorial:
Monday, Thursday &
Friday