

AFM 121

GLOBAL FINACIAL MARKETS

PROFESSOR G. BLAIR • WINTER 2014 • UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

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# 1 Introduction

Money can't buy happiness but it sure can rent it for a long time.

**Definition 1.1. Finance** is a branch of economics concerned with resource allocation, management acquisition, and investment. Art of managing assets.

**Quote.** There's nothing better to do than making money by doing absolutely jack

Unlikely for cumulative final.

Banks attract deposits (safe, interest), and issue loans (diversity risk, interest).

**Definition 1.2. Spread** is the difference between deposit interest and loan interest for banks.

Investment banking offer transaction and advisory services for a commission.

**Definition 1.3. A market** is for lenders and investors to provide capital to borrowers and businesses.

**Definition 1.4. Organic cash flow** is what a company generates on its own.

**Quote.** Financial markets allow buyers and sellers to come together.

**Note.** Financial facilitate price formation, and increase competition amongst buyers and sellers. Too much power can lead to decreased competition.

- Physical mechanism for money and ownership to transfer from buyer to seller.
- Aims to increase economic efficiency.
  - Reduce search costs
  - Reduce transaction costs
  - Diversification of risk

**Definition 1.5. Financial intermediaries** provide services to buyers and sellers. They also provide liquidity by buying or selling as needed to bridge the time difference between buyer and seller arrival.

- Banks, Trust companies, Investment Banks, Asset Management Firms
- Individuals may not have the time to perform adequate due diligence. Financial intermediaries analyze the investments for a fee.

**Definition 1.6. Moral hazard:** Buyers and sellers may have different incentives and financial intermediaries.

**Definition 1.7. Financial regulation:** OSFI oversees Canadian banks. Focus on proficiency, assets, and activities.

**Definition 1.8. Central banks** are responsible for the entire financial system. Controls money supply through open market operations and overnight interest rates. Lender of last resort.

**Quote.** Central banks have direct impact on unemployment and the economy.

**Definition 1.9. Sole proprietorship** is a business owned and run by one person.

Advantages: Easy to create

Disadvantages

- Unlimited liability
- Same entity
- Limited life
- Difficult to transfer ownership

**Definition 1.10. Partnership** is similar to a sole proprietorship but with more than one owner.

- Income is taxed at personal level
- All partners have unlimited personal liability
- Partnership ends with death or withdrawal of any single partner.

**Quote.** A partnership consists of both general partners and limited partners.

**Definition 1.11. General partners** have the same rights and liability as partners in a regular partnership.

**Definition 1.12. Limited partners** have limited liability.

- Death or withdrawal does not dissolve partnership
- Interest in business is transferable
- Have no management authority and cannot be legally involved in managerial decisions.

**Definition 1.13. A corporation** is a legal entity separate from its owners. The corporation is solely responsible for its own obligations, and owners are not liable. Corporations must be legally formed.

- Ownership of a corporation is represented by shares of stock
- Sum of all ownership value is called equity
- No limit to number of shareholders
- Owners are able to receive dividends.
- Dividends are taxed twice (Corporate and personal tax)

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And a green note

**Definition 1.14. Income trusts** are flow through entities where all income produced by the business flows to the investors, and no earnings are retained in the business. They are not taxed. In 2006, government changed taxation of businesses and income trusts are taxable. Real Estate Income Trusts continue to have no tax at the business level.

The board of directors directly control the corporation, not owners.

Shareholder wealth maximization is the goal that generally unites shareholders.

### Principle-Agent Problem

- Separation of ownership and control
- Managers may act in their own interest
- Solution is to tie management's compensation to firm performance.

**Definition 1.15. Hostile takeover:** Low stock prices may entice a corporate raider to buy enough stock so that they have enough control to replace the current management.

**Definition 1.16. Stakeholders** are those who have an interest in the corporation, and includes shareholders and debt holders.

- Employees
- Customers
- Suppliers
- Community

**Definition 1.17. Corporate Bankruptcy Process:**

- Reorganization
- Liquidation
- Debt holders
- Equity holders

**Definition 1.18. Primary market** is the initial transaction between corporation and investors.

**Definition 1.19. Secondary market** is the trades of existing stock between investors.

**Definition 1.20. Angel investors** are individual investors who buy equity in small private firms.

**Definition 1.21. Venture capital firm** is a limited partnership that specializes in raising money to invest in the private equity of young firms. usually charge a substantial fee (usually 20%).

**Definition 1.22. Venture capitalist** is a general partner in the venture capital firm. U

**Definition 1.23. Private equity firms** are similar to venture capital firm but invest in more established firms.

**Definition 1.24. Institutional investors** (eg: Pension funds) are active investors in private companies.

**Definition 1.25. Sovereign Wealth Funds** are pools of money controlled by a government, and play an active role in the private equity market. Largest limited partners in global private equity markets. Usually raised from royalty, or taxes.

**Definition 1.26.** An **underwriter** is an investment banking firm that manages a security issuance and designs its structure. Eg: IPO.

**Definition 1.27. Exit strategy** is how investors will realize the return from their investments.

- Acquisition
- IPO

**Definition 1.28.** An IPO is the first time a company sells shares.

- **Primary offering:** new shares
- **Existing shares:** existing shares

## Types of Offerings

**Definition 1.29. Best-Efforts:** Underwriter does not guarantee stock is sold, but tries to sell the stock for the best price. Typically all or nothing.

**Definition 1.30. Firm Commitment:** Agreement between underwriter and an issuing firm in which the underwriter guarantees that all shares are sold.

**Definition 1.31. Auction IPO:** Takes bids from investors and then sets price that clears the market.

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## Types of Brokers

- Full-service brokers
- Discount brokers
- Deep-discount brokers

- Online brokers - Provide investment information, and allow customers to place buy and sell orders over the internet.

**Definition 1.32.** Dealing with brokers: Advice is not expected. Legal duty to act in customer's best interest. Any disputes will be settled by arbitration.

**Definition 1.33. Canadian Investor Protection Fund:** Is an insurance fund covering investors' brokerage accounts when member firms experience financial difficulties