

CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Management of Financial Institutions
FIN 375
Fall 2015

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Brigida

Office: Still Hall 318

Office Hours: In Still Hall Office: Monday 2pm–5pm | Tuesday and Thursday
3:15pm–4:15pm

Email: mbrigida@clarion.edu

Class Location: Still Hall 111

Class Day & Time: Tuesday & Thursday 2:00–3:15pm

Text: *Financial Markets and Institutions* by Jeff Madura, 10th Edition.

DESCRIPTION

An introductory survey of financial institutions and their respective roles. The learning outcomes for this course are summarized below:

1. Understanding the role of financial markets and institutions in promoting economic growth.
2. Introduce the Federal reserve and the U.S. monetary system as well as the reasoning, method, and effect of open market operations on money and capital markets.
3. Compare and contrast the roles of money, capital (debt and equity), and derivative markets.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. Cheating on quizzes, examinations, and other forms of dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of data) will be dealt with in a serious and formal manner. The penalty for academic dishonesty in this class will be course failure. That is, any student who is found to be cheating or engaged in other academically dishonest behavior will be failed for this course for this semester. Course withdrawals to avoid such a failure will not be permitted. As a student, you have a responsibility to become familiar with the Academic Honesty Policy found in the *Student Rights, Regulations, and Procedures Handbook*.

BSBA Learning Goals and Objectives	
Goal or Objective	Assessed by:
Goal 1.0: Demonstrate Business Disciplinary Competence	The exams and homeworks will evaluate a core area of finance: Understanding and operating within financial markets with financial institutions.
Goal 3.0 (Objectives 3.1 and 3.2): Communicate Effectively Orally and in Written Form	The class homework will evaluate students' written communication.
Goal 4.0 (Objectives 4.1 and 4.3): Demonstrate Analytical Thinking Skills	Students will evaluate differing risk/ return characteristics among asset classes, and decide when it is appropriate to use a particular security.
Goal 5.0: Understand Global Issues in the Functional Areas of Business	Understanding contemporary international financial markets and institutions and their purposes. This understanding is evaluated through the exams and homeworks.
Goal 6.0 (Objectives 6.1 and 6.3): Demonstrate Effective Use of Technology and Data Analysis	In the homeworks, students will analyze data and communicate conclusions using Excel.

EXAMS

There will be three exams (two during the semester and a final exam). Normally no make-up exams will be given. Failure to take an exam will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam. Make-up exams will only be allowed for *extraordinary* and *verifiable* reasons.

HOMEWORK

There will be three homework assignments during the semester. The three homework assignments will be due the week before each exam. Each homework will be worth 3 and 1/3 final grade points. Late homework will not be accepted.

PROJECT

Students will create a Shiny interactive web application. To do so you'll first need to sign up for a free [shinyapps](#) account.

You are free to create the account under a pseudonym, so no one can publicly identify you as the owner of the account. However, the web application is a useful tool to show off your work, and is something that can go on your resume (with a link to the application). So you may prefer to use your real name. My user name is 'mattbrigida'.

Your application should have something to do with currency markets, and should be at least somewhat original. See a gallery of applications here: [shiny.rstudio](#). Possible applications may be:

- Plot a time series of interest rates.

- Plot the relationship of mortgage to inflation or interest rates.
- A mortgage payment calculator.
- Duration calculator.
- Create a histogram or probability density plot for bond or stock returns.

To get started you will want to use the RStudio development environment for R. This is available in the Still hall computer lab, or you can install it for free on your own computer from here: [download](#). If you install it on your own computer you'll need to install R first. You can get R here: [download](#)

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Course Communication: All important/official announcements will either be posted on Desire2Learn or emailed to each student's Clarion University email account. I will post helpful information to: [Complete Markets](#). To see information relating to your course type "FIN 375" in the search bar on the web page. Some examples of helpful information are spreadsheets which assist in studying for exams or completing homeworks, answers to questions other students have asked (of course I will not include who asked the question), and useful [R](#) code.

GRADING:

Exam 1	.....	20
Exam 2	.....	20
Final Exam	.....	30
Homework	.....	10
Project	.....	20
Total Points	.....	100

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

90 - 100	A
80 - 89.9	B
70 - 79.9	C
60 - 69.9	D
< 60	F

An Important Note on Grading

There is no special consideration if you need a certain grade in this course to graduate. **If you require a certain grade in this class to graduate it is your responsibility to earn that grade.** Specifically if you receive a 'D' in this course I will not allow you to do extra assignments after the course is complete in exchange for a higher grade.

Adding and dropping this course

The instructor is not involved in any way with your adding and dropping the course. It is the student's responsibility to abide by all proper procedures and dates.

GENERAL NOTES:

1. Attending class, and reading the text is required.
2. All exams will be closed book.
3. If you are late for an exam, no extra time will be allotted to you.
4. There will be no make up exams or extra points assignments.
5. You will be responsible for any material covered in class that is not in your text.
6. You should bring your text to class.
7. You are expected to be on time for class. This is especially important for exam dates.
8. Disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.
9. You may not use tobacco products in class.

TENTATIVE OUTLINE

- 8/24: Chapter 1
- 8/31: Chapter 2
- 9/7: Chapter 3
- 9/14: Chapter 4
- 9/21: Chapter 5
- 9/28: Chapter 6
- 10/6: Exam Review & 10/8 Exam 1
- 10/12: Chapter 7
- 10/19: Chapter 8
- 10/26: Chapter 9
- 11/2: Chapter 10

- 11/10: Exam Review & 11/12 Exam 2
- 11/16: Chapter 11
- 11/30: Exam Review, **and the last day to submit your project.**
- 12/7: Finals Week

Statement Required by PASSHE

Clarion University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator.

The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project.

Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred to the person designated in the University protection of minors policy.