

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE
PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE (FIN 2100) SECTION 01
SPRING 2025

Instructor: Ian Fletcher

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Class Location/Time: College of Business Room 127, MWF 9-9:50 am

Office Hours: M 10 – 11:30am and T 9:15 – 10:45 am, and online by request.

Tech Support:

- Canvas Student Support
<https://www.uwyo.edu/wyocourses/help.html> - 855-778-9971
- UW IT Help Desk
www.uwyo.edu/infotech/ - 307-766-4357

Zoom Link: For online office hours, and virtual lectures, use this zoom link:

<https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/8977279525>

Course Description: This class is designed to introduce the key concepts and principles of finance that are essential for all business majors. This course covers a wide range of foundation topics including the time value of money, risk and return, financial markets and institutions, asset valuation, capital budgeting, and financial statement analysis. Through a blend of theoretical frameworks and practical applications, students will develop the skills needed to make informed financial decisions in personal and professional contexts.

Course Goals: The purpose of this course is to develop a comprehensive understanding of fundamental finance principles and concepts and learn the techniques used in capital budgeting and asset valuation to make informed investment decisions. Students learn how to use the time value of money to value cash flows and how to perform a financial valuation of a firm's assets and liabilities.

Course Learning Objectives:

CO1: Explain the concept of the time value of money and apply it to various financial calculations, including present and future value assessment.

CO2: Analyze and interpret financial statements to evaluate the financial performance and position of an organization.

CO3: Apply different valuation techniques to assess the value of financial assets such as stocks and bonds.

CO4: Use capital budgeting methods, such as net present value (NPV) and internal rate of return (IRR), to evaluate potential investment projects.

CO5: Measure risk and return, understand their relationship, and apply this understanding to investment and portfolio management.

CO6: Describe the structure and function of financial markets and the roles of financial institutions.

CO7: Discuss the ethical implications of financial decisions and the importance of ethical conduct in finance.

CO8: Use financial calculators and software tools to perform financial analyses and decision-making.

Class Materials:

1. Class Website:

The class website (WyoCourses) is where you will find most of the content you will need for this course: lecture slides, example problems, homework assignments, quizzes, practice exams, and answer keys to the above.

2. Financial Calculator (Physical/online) – optional

Links will be provided to online financial calculators, which you are to practice using to complete certain homework and in-class problems. If you wish you use a physical financial calculator, popular ones include Texas Instrument BA II Plus and Hewlett Packard 12C. It might make sense for you to go ahead and buy one since you will use it in future classes. We may make some use of the Texas Instruments BA II Plus.

3. Microsoft Excel

Available free as a student from the University IT Department.

4. Textbook

Ross, Westerfield, Jordan – **Fundamentals of Corporate Finance 13th Ed**, McGraw Hill
There will be weekly assigned reading and assignments from the textbook.

Outcomes and Grade Determination:

Weights:

As a 3-credit hour class, you should expect to spend 3 hours for in-class instruction (weekly lectures) and 6-9 hours for out-of-class work, per University of Wyoming Policy (<https://www.uwyo.edu/accreditation/info/credit-hour.html>). I will arrange assignments,

quizzes, and exams to balance this expectation week to week. In general, each week there will be a homework assignment and either a quiz or an exam.

Midterms: 40% (2 each 20%)

Final: 25%

Homework and Quizzes: 25%

Participation and Attendance: 10%

Total: 100%

1. Midterms and Final: There are two noncomprehensive midterm exams, each conducted in class and a comprehensive final. The midterm exams will tentatively be on Wednesday February 26th and Wednesday April 16th. The final exam will be comprehensive, the date of the final exam will be set by the Office of the Registrar. Any material covered in class is fair game, however, more specific study guides will be provided before each class. The final exam schedule can be found here: <https://www.uwyo.edu/registrar/class-schedules/final-exam-schedule.html>
2. Quizzes: Quizzes are intended to help you gauge your performance on exam-like questions with lower stakes. There will be a weekly quiz on content from the prior week (If we cover chapter 3 this week, the quiz will be on content from chapter 2). These are to help you understand what exam questions will be like, to brush up on difficult topics from the prior week to encourage prolonged studying, and to help me understand where people are struggling.
3. Homework: There are 12 homework assignments (one for each chapter), your grade will be determined by 10 of them. Your two lowest homework scores will be dropped. These assignments will be made available at least a week in advance, and due dates may be found on Canvas. Homeworks will be due at 11:59 pm Friday the week they are assigned.
4. Discussion/participation: Be prepared to answer questions and discuss important concepts during lecture. Our moderate class size gives us an opportunity to have a more interactive introduction to finance principles.

Grading

Course grade will be assigned based on the following scale:

Percentage Grade

90% and above – A
80% to 89.9% – B
70% to 79.9% – C
60% to 69.9% – D
Below 60% – F

Disclaimer

Changes to the syllabus may be warranted during the semester. Students will be notified as soon as possible if any of these changes are required. Because the material in the course follows current events, the outline is subject to change so that the current event will be covered in class along with the corresponding textbook material. The dates will be confirmed at least one week in advance in class.

Communication and Expectations:

Students will be required to check their email and Canvas announcements daily. I will send weekly reminders about upcoming assignments, quizzes, exams, or other class business. If I am forced to miss lecture, unless it is an emergency, I will notify the class no later than 8 am the morning of, and make any necessary material, such as a recorded lecture available within 24 hours.

Attendance is mandatory at the University of Wyoming. I will do my best to accommodate all university recognized excuses ([UW Regulation 2-108 \(Student Attendance Policy\)](#)), the expectation is you are attending lectures and attentive while present.

You are required to check WyoCourses and your email at least once a week for announcements related to the course. All students are responsible for the content of announcements. Check them frequently and enable notifications.

Email is the best method of communication for me. If you email, I will get back to you 24 hours at the latest (more likely much earlier). Include “FIN 2100” somewhere in the subject line (for example “FIN 2100, Homework Question.” Please be respectful and you will be treated the same, discourteous or disrespectful emails will not receive my attention. I will only answer emails from university email addresses (@uwo.edu), this way I know that you are emailing me, and not someone on your behalf.

I will try to grade your material as soon as I receive it, your material will be graded within one week of receiving it at the absolute latest. Occasionally, other things come up that require my

immediate attention, if that is the case I will notify the class ahead of time. If I do not return your graded material as soon as you expect, feel free to ask in class.

Classroom Behavior Policy:

At all times, treat your presence in the classroom and your enrollment in this course as you would a job. Act professionally, arrive on time, pay attention, complete your work in a timely and professional manner, and treat all deadlines seriously. Be respectful towards your classmates and instructor. Spirited debate and disagreement are to be expected in any classroom and all views will be heard fully but always act civilly and with respect towards one another. Personal attacks, offensive language, name-calling, and dismissive gestures are not warranted in a learning atmosphere. As the instructor, I have the right to dismiss you from the classroom, study sessions, electronic forums, and other areas where disruptive behavior occurs.

I seek to foster a compassionate environment in and out of class. Please see below for disability/accommodation resources. Otherwise, if you are experiencing extenuating circumstances or personal factors affecting your learning process, feel free to discuss with me. Timely communication about emergencies and other extenuating circumstances is crucial. Unfortunately, I will not be able to accommodate missed work if the instructor is notified after the assignment or test is due

Instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus. If changes are made the students will be notified via e-mail and Canvas announcements.

Classroom Statement on Diversity:

The University of Wyoming values an educational environment that supports students of all backgrounds and viewpoints. Diversity of viewpoints is considered a resource for learning. Topics may be difficult, not only intellectually but emotionally; however, discussions are essential to meeting the course's student learning outcomes and assisting students in developing problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. During all conversations, respect and civility are of utmost importance.

Disability Support:

The University of Wyoming is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you have a disability, including but not limited to physical, learning, sensory or psychological disabilities, and would like to request accommodation in this course due to your disability, please register with and provide documentation of your disability as soon as possible to Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 128 Knight Hall. You may also contact DSS at (307) 766-3073 or udss@uwyo.edu. It is in the student's best interest

to request accommodation within the first week of classes, understanding that accommodations are not retroactive. Visit the DSS website for more information at: www.uwyo.edu/udss.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this class. Cases of academic dishonesty will be treated in accordance with UW Regulation 2-114. The penalties for academic dishonesty can include, at my discretion, an “F” on an exam, an “F” on the class component exercise, and/or an “F” in the entire course. Academic dishonesty means anything that represents someone else’s ideas as your own without attribution. It is intellectual theft – stealing - and includes (but is not limited to) unapproved assistance on examinations, plagiarism (use of any amount of another person’s writings, blog posts, publications, and other materials without attributing that material to that person with citations), or fabrication of referenced information. Facilitation of another person’s academic dishonesty is also considered academic dishonesty and will be treated identically.

AI Technology:

Students are permitted to use advanced automated artificial intelligence or machine learning tools on assignments in this course if instructor permission is obtained in advance. Unless given permission to use those tools, each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others, including automated tools.

Duty to Report:

UW faculty are committed to supporting students and upholding the University’s non-discrimination policy. Under Title IX, discrimination based upon sex and gender is prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member, understand that as a "Responsible Employee" of the University, the faculty member MUST report information you share about the incident to the university’s Title IX Coordinator (you may choose whether you or anyone involved is identified by name). If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to offer privacy or confidentiality, there are people who can meet with you. Faculty can help direct you or you may find info about UW policy and resources at <http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit>

You do not have to go through the experience alone. Assistance and resources are available, and you are not required to make a formal complaint or participate in an investigation to access them.

Here at The University of Wyoming, we are committed to reducing and preventing power-based

personal violence such as sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. Green Dot is a bystander intervention program to reduce these forms of violence with one thought; If everyone does one thing, no one will have to do everything. A Green Dot is your choice at any moment to make campus safer by promoting safety for everyone and letting others know that you will not tolerate violence. A Green Dot is any behavior, choice, word or attitude that sends a clear message that:

1. Violence is not okay with you, and
2. Everyone is expected to do their part.

Additional information on Green DOT training and resources are available at:

<http://www.uwyo.edu/greendot/>

Student Resources:

- DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: udss@uwyo.edu, 766-3073, 128 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/udss
- COUNSELING CENTER: uccstaff@uwyo.edu, 766-2187, 766-8989 (After hours), 341 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/ucc
- ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: 766-4286, 312 Old Main, www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs
- DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE: dos@uwyo.edu, 766-3296, 128 Knight Hall, www.uwyo.edu/dos
- UW POLICE DEPARTMENT: uwupd@uwyo.edu, 766-5179, 1426 E Flint St, www.uwyo.edu/uwupd
- STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT WEBSITE: www.uwyo.edu/dos/conduct
- UW TUTORING RESOURCES: <https://www.uwyo.edu/step/index.html>

Tentative Schedule

Week	Dates	Content to cover	Note
1	Jan 22-24	Course Introduction, Syllabus, Math Review	No class Monday Jan 20
2	Jan 27 - 31	Chapter 5: Introduction to Valuation: The Time Value of Money	
3	Feb 3 - 7	Chapter 6: Discounted Cash Flow Valuation	
4	Feb 10 - 14	Chapter 7: Interest Rates and Bond Valuation	No Class Monday Feb 17
5	Feb 17 - 21	Chapter 8: Stock Valuation	
6	Feb 24 - 28	MIDTERM 1 WEDNESDAY	
7	Mar 3 - 7	Chapter 9: Net Present Value and Other Investment Criteria	
8	Mar 10 - 14	Chapter 12: Some Lessons from Capital Market History	
9	Mar 17 - 21	SPRING BREAK NO CLASS	
10	Mar 24 - 28	Chapter 13: Return Risk, and the Security Market Line	
11	Mar 31 - Apr 4	Chapter 14: Cost of Capital	
12	Apr 7 - 11	MIDTERM 2 WEDNESDAY	
13	Apr 14 - 18	Chapter 22: Behavioral Finance: Implications for Financial Management	No Class Friday Apr 18
14	Apr 21 - 25	Chapter 24: Options and Corporate Finance	
15	Apr 28 - May 2	Chapter 25: Option Valuation	
16	May 5 - 9	Review for Final Exam	
17	May 12 - 16	FINALS EXAM WEDNESDAY	