

COURSE SYLLABUS

WALSH UNIVERSITY Division of Business & Economics

Financial Management-MBA 614
3 Semester Hours

Semester: FALL Year: 2007

Thursdays: 6:00-10:00 p.m.

Main Campus

Saturdays: 11/17, 12/15, 8:00 a.m.-Noon

Instructor: Mr. Scott R. Schulick, MBA

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Office Hours: By Appointment Only

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*Since I serve as an adjunct professor, the most direct means of communication with me will be through my business office during normal business hours, in cases of emergency or situations requiring immediate response. If I am unavailable, please ask the operator or my assistant to direct you to my voice mail.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the theories, techniques and practices required to manage an organization's financial resources effectively. The topics are treated as integral parts of the overall strategic and operating resource allocation processes of the organization. The course methodology is oriented toward analysis of historical and present performance as well as toward the projection of future outcomes, both short-term and long-term. The course stresses approaches involved in the exploration of a firm's financing strategies, including its access to a variety of capital sources on terms and conditions that assure the organization maintains or improves its competitive position. This includes detailed analysis of sources and uses of capital raised.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

To have students understand the strategic and operational implications for the organization of financial decision processes. This includes exploring the methodologies for framing and analyzing problems addressing the acquisition, allocation and control of financial resources in ways most conducive to promoting organization effectiveness. At the satisfactory completion of this class, students will be able to:

- interpret and use the information in financial statements to assess firm performance and forecast financial needs
- conduct and interpret financial ratio analysis
- understand and apply capital budgeting techniques and understand the role of capital budgeting in a firm's investment strategy
- understand and compute the cost of capital, how it should be used to allocate funds, and its relationship to firm value
- feel comfortable with various dividend policies and understand how dividend policy relates to and impacts on firm value

differentiate between long-term and short-term sources of funds and understand the relationship between a firm's source of funds and its value

- understand capital structure theory, how it is applied in practice, and the relationship between capital structure and firm value

COURSE MATERIALS

Textbooks

Required: Higgins, Robert C., Analysis for Financial Management, Irwin, 8th Edition. **(HIG)** www.mhhe.com/higgins8e

Bruner, Robert F., Case Studies in Finance, Managing for Corporate Value Creation, 5th Edition, McGraw-Hill/Irwin. **(BRU)** **Computer Requirements:** Excel files that contain data and exhibits from the case accompany most cases. The case files are available at the publisher's website: www.mhhe.com/bruner5e

Calculator: Students will need a calculator for use throughout the course. There are good financial calculators manufactured by several different companies. Hewlett-Packard and Texas Instruments have very strong lines of these calculators. Any of these calculators are acceptable. You may find these calculators heavily discounted in retail and office supply stores.

While I prefer the Texas Instruments BAII Plus, the HP calculators are widely used. There are many other financial calculators available that are equally appropriate and may fit your circumstances or preferences more appropriately. ***You need to know how to use the financial functions of whichever calculator you select before the course begins.***

The Wall Street Journal

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Evaluation of each student's performance is based in four areas: case analysis and presentation, applied peer group analysis, prepared class discussion and participation, and assigned cases 13 or 17.

Students are expected to read, analyze, and **BE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL CASES.** Your participation in class will, to a meaningful degree help to determine your grade in this course.

Case Analysis: Students, working in teams of three, will prepare and present to the class an in-depth analysis of one case. A comprehensive and thorough case analysis should be prepared in written form with supporting Excel worksheets as needed and for class presentation. Each team's written analysis will be collected during the class period in which the case is presented to the class. Each case presentation is worth 100 points. Members of each team will receive a common grade for each of the written analysis and the class presentation.

Cases 13, Nike & 17, The Investment Detective: Everyone will prepare and turn in Cases 13 or 17 using Excel spreadsheet analysis (when appropriate) and attendant discussion.

MBA 752 Portfolio Peer Group Analysis: Each student will prepare a peer group analysis for an enterprise of his/her choosing. You are strongly encouraged to prepare the analysis for inclusion in your Strategic Analysis Portfolio. A detailed hand out is provided.

EVALUATION

Point distributions for the assignments and assigning of grades are given below.

Assignment	Points	%	Percentage	Grade
Case Analysis and Presentation	100	30%	94–100	A
Peer Group Analysis	100	30%	90-93	A-
Class Participation, Discussion, Attendance, Stock Market Project	100	20%	87-89	B+
Case 13 and/or 17	100	20%	83-86	B
Total	400	100%	80-83	B-
			77-79	C+
			75-76	C
			Below 75	F

POLICIES

Make-up and Late Work: Students are expected to turn in work at the time indicated on the course outline or as announced in class. Late work is discouraged and make up work is accepted only if appropriate arrangements have been made **in advance**.

Academic Integrity: The Division of Business and Economics subscribes to the Academic Honesty Policy stated in the most recent edition of the Walsh University Undergraduate Catalog.

The policy states:

In graduate courses, students are encouraged and often required to work collaboratively. In this course, collaboration is required only for the in-depth case analysis and presentation. To enhance learning, students are encouraged to work collaboratively on other assignments but must turn in only their own work. Misrepresenting someone else's work as your own is considered academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty in any form is not tolerated in this class and any student engaging in academic dishonesty will receive an "F" on the assignment and an "F" in the course.

Business Office Deadlines: Students are encouraged to pay close attention to important University established deadlines for receiving refunds, dropping, adding or withdrawing from a course. These dates are published on the MBA Program website.