

University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

University of Montana Course Syllabi

Open Educational Resources (OER)

Spring 2-1-2004

FIN 439.01: Financial Management II

Tony Crawford

University of Montana - Missoula, tony.crawford@umontana.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Recommended Citation

Crawford, Tony, "FIN 439.01: Financial Management II" (2004). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 9436.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/9436>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Open Educational Resources (OER) at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

The University of Montana
School of Business Administration

Fin 439: Financial Management II

Course Outline
Spring 2004

Professor: Tony Crawford
Course: Fin 439: Financial Management II
Location: Section01: MWF 9:10-10:00 GBB L11
Section02: MWF 10:10-11:00 GBB L11
Office: 304 GBB.
Office Phone: 243-2557
Office Hours: T 1:30-3:00
W 2:00-3:30
E-Mail: tony.crawford@business.umt.edu
Web Page: www.business.umt.edu/faculty/Crawford/

General Information:

This is an advanced course in finance; therefore, much of the responsibility for a successful course rests with you. You are expected to be prepared to contribute to the class every period, and thereby realize the greatest benefit from the course.

Text Book:

Required:

E.F. Brigham, and L.C. Gapenski, Intermediate Financial Management, 8th Edition, Dryden 2004. (Required)

Other:

Business Press: The Wall Street Journal

Course Objective:

This course is one part of a two part senior level course in Financial Management. The course examines both the theory and application of corporate financial management decisions. This half of the two part series examines strategic finance decisions, such as the firm's capital structure decision, and the decision to raise funding. The course concludes with an examination of working capital management and a brief examination of corporate risk management.

The course will utilize several cases and some spreadsheet modeling. Students will be required to develop spreadsheet models and use these spreadsheet models in analyzing cases and homework assignments.

In Finance we concentrate a great deal on the quantitative analysis surrounding business decisions; however the true value of finance comes from how you use this analysis. Lectures and readings emphasize financial theory and problem solving, but even more important is the interpretation, conclusions and recommendations that come from your analysis. By becoming more proficient in analyzing data you will be able to spend more time developing conclusions and recommendations.

Course Homework, Quizzes, and Exams:

Exams (3)	50% Equally Weighted	
Cases (5)	25%	(Group)
Misc. Class Assignments	15%	(Group)
Participation	10%	
Attendance	See Below	

Exams

Exam format will consist of multiple choice, short-answer questions and problems. Exam questions will come from homework, lecture and case discussions. You should be able to complete all assigned homework, and understand lecture examples for exams.

General Homework:

These are questions and problems from the text that I think you should be able to complete for test purposes. Some may be covered in lectures while others will not. Problems will not be collected but answers are posted on my web site.

Cases:

We will complete 5 case studies during the semester. Each case will involve several questions. Students will work in pairs and each pair will be assigned a corresponding letter at the beginning of the semester. Each pair must answer in writing the preliminary questions for each case, as well as more in depth questions corresponding to your group's assigned case letter. The cases will be discussed in class and students will be asked at random to present the answers to their specific questions.

Complete or partial spreadsheet models will be provided on my web-site to facilitate the computational analysis. Groups may work casually with other groups on assigned questions; however, each group must turn in an ***independent*** answer. Groups that turn in ***every*** case will be allowed to drop their lowest case score.

All answers must be typed!!! Handwritten responses will not be accepted. Answers must be well organized. I reserve the right to reject any assignments that are disorganized or sloppy. Staple or bind loose pages (Do not fold or tear corners).

One of the most important skills you can gain is the ability to write accurate and well-organized reports or responses. In business sloppiness will not be tolerated. **I will deduct up to 25% for disorganized and sloppy responses.**

The **double-spaced** original copy of your case solution is due at the **beginning of class** the day the case is assigned. Late papers, if accepted, will be penalized a minimum of 20%. Any cases not submitted will receive a failing grade.

How to Submit Cases: In general the cases are directed and students will respond to the specific questions assigned. There is no minimum length for your solutions but students should try to stay under three pages. Again responses should be well organized. A memo format may prove helpful. Always list the question being answered followed by your response. If you are including tables or other spreadsheet output in your response copy and paste the information in the body of your write-up. **DO NOT** simply paste a spreadsheet after or before your write-up. Spreadsheets contain more information than is necessary for outside readers. Choose the relevant information and present it logically and concisely. **DO NOT** simply reference pages of output at the end of your write-up. You may attach your output to the end of your write up if you want me to have the information for partial credit when your analysis is inaccurate, **but I will not search** through your spreadsheets for answers.

Misc. Class Assignments

From time to time I will assign problems for you to work out in class with your group partners. Some of these assignments may take place in the computer lab (GBB 213). The assignments will be a mixture of "book type" problems and web exercises. These assignments will be completed in class and submitted at the end of class.

Participation:

As mentioned above much of the responsibility for a successful class depends on you. I expect students to be actively involved in the lecture by asking questions, and answering questions. I will from time to time randomly call on students to answer questions form cases, readings etc. (Be prepared!!!)

Attendance:

I will not take attendance in class, but I expect you to be at class. Not all in class assignments will be scheduled in advance. If you miss an assignment you will receive a zero for that assignment. I will also come to class with a list of students I intend to ask questions of. If you are not there when I ask your question, you will receive a zero for that day. When you don't attend class, you miss out and others miss out on your contributions.

Class Rules: (TBA)

Extra Credit:

Students can earn up to 5% extra credit by finding current news articles pertaining to topics in this class. Wall Street Journal articles or other popular business outlets can be used. Students must write a brief (1/2 page synopsis) and present the information in class for discussion. If interested you must arrange this with me prior to the last two weeks of instruction.

Articles can be used only once in class, and must be highly relevant to course topics! Once an article is submitted it cannot be used by any other students.

Web Page:

My web page (or blackboard) contains note outlines that you can print off for lectures. The notes will be published in advance of class and you are strongly encouraged to have them for class. The notes will contain tables and other information that will facilitate note taking. To save money it wouldn't be a bad idea to pair up with students and take turns printing off the files. It is cheaper to copy then to print in the labs.

The web site will also contain homework solutions to assigned questions and problems so that you can check your progress. However, I strongly encourage you to attempt the problems without solutions first. This will prepare you for exams. It is amazing how much easier the problems seem when you have the answer in front of you.

Finally, all case materials will also be available on the web page (or blackboard). Any spreadsheet models along with the assigned questions will be posted well in advance of the cases.

Curves:

I do not write exams with the intension of curving. I believe that exams are straight forward representations of the material covered. However, I am a realist and from time to time I will need to curve scores. My belief is that curves should be used when I write an exam that is too hard. Curves are not used to bounce your grades when you do not adequately prepare. When I do use a curve I will follow the following rule(s):

1. If I do offer a curve on an exam it will not be automatic! If you score below 65% on an exam (before the curve) you must see me in office hours or by appointment so that we can discuss why you struggled on an exam, and what you can do to improve your next score. You will not receive a curve until you meet this requirement. Furthermore, this must be done before the subsequent exam. Failure to meet this criterion will result in lose of curve for you.
2. If attendance becomes an issue in this class, I reserve the right to employ an attendance based curve requirement. If this becomes an issue I will detail this requirement in class, and it will apply to all future tests!