Syllabus for FIN-7100

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course reviews the basic concepts and tools of finance for the purpose of decision making. Topics analyzed include investment decisions, capital budgeting, cost of capital, working capital management, valuation of securities, interest rates, corporate liabilities, and risk and return. The course addresses the formation of capital structure, the optimal capital structure, and its choice on the value of the firm.

COURSE TOPICS

1. The role of financial managers
2. Criteria for investing in bond market and stock market
3. Investment decisions
4. Financial analysis
5. Stock analysis
6. Risk and return analysis
7. Capital structure and capital structure decisions

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, you should be able to:

CO1 Analyze financial statements including income statement, balance sheet cash flow statement, and statement of shareholders' equity.

CO2 Evaluate the time value of money, the opportunity cost of capital, and apply investment decision rules for selecting the best projects.

CO3 Utilize capital budgeting analysis to determine revenue enhancement investments, cost reduction investments, and mandatory investments required by the government.

CO4 Calculate the expected rate of return and volatility for a portfolio and the effect of diversification on the portfolio.

CO5 Analyze the impact of financial distress, managerial incentives, debt and taxes, and dividend policy on shareholders' wealth maximization.

CO6 Evaluate risk, return, and capital structure for valuation purpose under the market imperfections.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need the following materials to complete your coursework. Some course materials may be free, open source, or available from other providers. You can access free or open-source materials by clicking the links provided below or in the module details documents. To purchase course materials, please visit the University's textbook supplier.

Required Textbook

- Berk, J., & DeMarzo, P. (2020). *Corporate finance, the Core* (5th ed.). Boston, Massachusetts: Pearson Learning Solution.
  ISBN-13: 978-0135183793

COURSE STRUCTURE

Financial Management is a three-credit online course, consisting of **six** modules. Modules include an overview, topics, learning objectives, study materials, and activities. Module titles are listed below.

- **Module 1: Introduction to Financial Management and Time Value of Money**
- **Module 2: Techniques for Investment Decision and Security Analysis**
- **Module 3: Risk and Return Analysis for Investment Opportunities**
- **Module 4: Capital Structure for Raising Capital in a Corporate Setting**
- **Module 5: Integration of Risk, Return, and Capital Structure Choice under the Market Imperfections**

ASSESSMENT METHODS

For your formal work in the course, you are required to participate in online discussion forums, complete three written assignments, participate in two synchronous events, and complete a final project. See below for details.

Consult the Course Calendar for assignment due dates.

Promoting Originality

One or more of your course activities may utilize a tool designed to promote original work and evaluate your submissions for plagiarism. More information about this tool is available in this document.

Discussion Forums

Financial Management requires you to participate in **five** graded discussion forums, collectively worth 15 percent of your grade for the course.

Communication among fellow students and with the mentor is a critical component of online learning. Participation in online discussions involves two distinct activities: an initial response to a posted question (discussion thread) and subsequent comments on classmates' responses. Meaningful participation is relevant to the content, adds value, and advances the discussion. Comments such as "I agree" and "ditto" are not considered value-adding participation. Therefore, when you agree or disagree with a classmate, the reading, or your mentor, state ***and support*** your agreement or disagreement. You will be evaluated on the quality and quantity of your participation. Responses and comments should be properly proofread and edited, professional, and respectful.

Deadlines for posting discussion threads on the class Discussion Board are given in the Course Calendar.

Written Assignments

You are required to complete **three** written assignments, collectively worth 25 percent of your grade. The written assignments are on a variety of topics associated with the course modules.

Synchronous Events

Two synchronous events, worth a combined 10 percent of your grade, will be held in Edison Live!, our virtual meeting space during Modules 3 and 4 (See the Course Calendar). To access the event, click the Collaboration Space link in the Edison Live! section of the course site a few minutes before the designated time. Use the following link for directions and helpful videos about how to use the Edison Live! tool in Moodle. Your mentor will work with the class to propose a time that works best and accommodates the majority.

Final Project

You are required at the end of the semester to submit a final project. For the purposes of this project you will assume the role of a hedge fund manager or investment manager and, after researching publicly traded companies, will make a specific investment recommendation to your clients.

Your final project will be produced incrementally during the semester and will include the production of an interim report detailing your progress. The three parts of the final project combined are worth 50 percent of your grade.

For specific details about your final project, see the Final Project details. For due dates associated with its production, consult the Course Calendar.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **Online discussions (5)**—15%
- **Written assignments (3)**—25%
- **Synchronous Events (2)**—10%
- **Final Project**—50%
    - Stage 1: Proposal—(5%—graded as approved/needs revision)
    - Stage 2: Interim Report—(15%)
    - Stage 3: Final Paper—(30%)

All activities will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

A	=	93–100	B	=	83–87
A–	=	90–92	C	=	73–82
B+	=	88–89	F	=	Below 73

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of C or higher on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., assignments, discussion postings, projects, etc.). Graduate students must maintain a B average overall to remain in good academic standing.

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read carefully the entire Syllabus, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and that you have all the materials required for the course.

- Take time to read the entire Online Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State University.

- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.

- If you are not familiar with Web-based learning be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the Course Calendar. The Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments and posting discussions.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students

TESU's Academic Code of Conduct permits student AI use in support of their writing and research process--not as a replacement for original writing. Document AI use with an acknowledgment statement at the end of each assignment, noting the tools and prompts used. Cite any AI-generated content on the References page. Please review Using AI Ethically: A Guide for TESU Students for more detailed information.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Thomas Edison State University recognizes, values, and relies upon the diversity of our community. We strive to provide equitable, inclusive learning experiences that embrace our students' backgrounds, identities, experiences, abilities, and expertise.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Thomas Edison State University adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, 1990; ADAAA, 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) oversees requests for academic accommodations related to disabilities; a student who is pregnant, postpartum, or a student parenting a newborn who is not the birth parent [as covered under NJSA18A]; and students requesting academic accommodation for a short-term/temporary illness and/or injury. Information can be found on the Office of Student Accessibility Services webpage and questions can be sent to ADA@tesu.edu.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

To ensure success in all your academic endeavors and coursework at Thomas Edison State University, familiarize yourself with all administrative and academic policies including those related to academic integrity, course late submissions, course extensions, and grading policies.

For more, see:

- University-wide policies
- Undergraduate academic policies
- Undergraduate course policies
- Graduate academic policies
- Graduate course policies
- Nursing student policies
- Nursing graduate student policies
- International student policies
- Academic code of conduct