



FINC 301: Introductory Business Finance Syllabus

John Felice Rome Center

Spring 2025

Mondays & Wednesdays | 5:15-6:30pm

Professor David Pollon

Email: dpollon@luc.edu

Office Hours: Immediately after class or by appointment

Course Description

The objective of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the general principles of business finance: capital investment, financing, capital structure and related areas including the basics of valuation.

*** FINC 301 is a terminal course. If you have any desire to major or minor in FINC you must take FINC 334 in Chicago.***

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- Apply time value of money and risk-return concepts to make financial decisions
- Value financial and physical assets
- Analyze appropriate capital budgets
- Evaluate dividend policies

Required Text / Materials

Essentials of Corporate Finance, Ross, Westerfield and Jordan – 9th Edition

Assigned readings posted on Sakai

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

- For all classes meeting twice a week, students cannot incur more than **two** absences.

The final course grade will drop by 1% for each absence beyond the allowance specified.

The collective health of the JFRC is everyone's responsibility. Do not attend class if you are ill.



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Assessment Components

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|-----------------|-----|
| • Exam #1 | 30% |
| • Exam #2 | 30% |
| • Exam #3 | 30% |
| • Participation | 10% |

Please note that the Participation component of the grade is separate from Attendance and is based on a student's contribution by asking and answering questions in class.

Grading

94-100: A
90-93: A-
87-89: B+
84-86: B
80-83: B-
77-79: C+
74-76: C
70-73: C-
67-69: D+
60-66: D
59 or lower: F

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago's guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola's standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor. ***As per the JFRC academic policies, students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reason; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.***

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center the first week of classes.

Title IX Information

<https://www.luc.edu/equity/otherresources/resourcesforfacultystaff/syllabuslanguage/>



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**ROME
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Friday, February 7 and Friday, March 21

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Text/ Assignment</u> |
|--|--|-------------------------|
| M 1/20 | An Overview of Financial Management | Chapter 1 |
| W 1/22 | Financial Markets and Institutions | Chapter 1 |
| M 1/27 | Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow | Chapter 2 |
| W 1/29 | Financial Ratio Analysis | Chapter 3 |
| M 2/3 | Time Value of Money | Chapter 4 |
| W 2/5 | <i>Papal Audience – No Classes Held</i> | |
| *F 2/7* | *Makeup Friday* Annuities | Chapter 4 – 5 |
| M 2/10 | Interest Rates | Chapter 4, 5, 6 |
| W 2/12 | Bonds and their Valuation | Chapter 6 |
| M 2/17 | Review | Chapters 1 - 6 |
| W 2/19 | Exam #1 | Chapters 1 - 6 |
| M 2/24 | Stocks and their Valuation | Chapter 7 |
| W 2/26 | Risk and Rates of Return | Chapter 11 |
| M 3/3 | Capital Budgeting | Chapter 8 |
| W 3/5 | Cost of Capital | Chapter 12 |
| <i>No JFRC classes held week of March 10</i> | | |
| M 3/17 | Capital Structure and Leverage | Chapter 13 |
| W 3/19 | Review | Chapters 7-8, 11-13 |
| *F 3/21* | *Makeup Friday* Special Topics | |
| M 3/24 | Special Topics | |
| W 3/26 | Special Topics | |
| M 3/31 | Review | Chapters 7-8, 11-13 |
| W 4/2 | Exam #2 | Chapters 7-8, 11-13 |
| M 4/7 | Dividend Policy | Chapter 14 |
| W 4/9 | Cash Conversion Cycle | Chapter 16/17 |
| M 4/14 | Working Capital Management (Assets) | Chapter 16/17 |
| W 4/16 | Working Capital Management (Liabilities) | Chapter 17 |
| M 4/21 | <i>Easter Monday – No Classes Held</i> | |
| M 4/23 | Review | Chapters 14, 16-17 |
| TBA | Exam #3 | Chapters 14, 16-17 |