**BUSFIN 4211: Corporate Finance**

Instructor: Shan Ge  
Office Hours: 4 – 5 pm MW, and by appointment  
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Email: [ge.84@osu.edu](mailto:ge.84@osu.edu) -- the most efficient way to contact me

*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

**Course Overview:** This course continues the development of the principles of finance begun in BusFin 3320. The course reviews capital budgeting, cost of capital, and covers real options, capital structure decisions, corporate governance and mergers & acquisitions. If time permits, additional topics will be covered. **Prereq:** BusFin 3220 (620), BusMgt 2320 (330), and 2321 (331). I will assume you have a working knowledge of discounted cash flow calculations, bond and stock valuation, and simple capital budgeting problems.


**MyFinanceLab:** at [http://www.myfinancelab.com](http://www.myfinancelab.com), course ID is ge49135. If you bought a new book at the bookstore, it might come with an access code to MyFinanceLab. If you wish to buy access to MyFinanceLab separately, you may purchase access with a credit card at [http://www.myfinancelab.com](http://www.myfinancelab.com). If you had an access code for MyFinanceLab for a class in the past, you might be able to use this code again.

**Coursework/Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade:</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three In-class Exams (15 each)</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework (MyFinanceLab)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation at</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest Lecture(s)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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The grading scheme above will determine an initial grade. I adjust the grade based on attendance. If the number of classes you miss is fewer than or equal to three, your final grade will be two levels up, for example, from B to A-. If the number of classes you miss is more than three, and fewer than or equal to six, your final grade will be one level up from your initial grade, for example, from B to B+. The highest grade, A, cannot be exceeded.

<table>
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<tr>
<th># of classes missed ≤ 3</th>
<th>3 &lt; # of classes missed ≤ 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two levels up, e.g. from B to A-</td>
<td>One level up, e.g. from B to B+</td>
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</table>
Exams: There are three in-class exams and one final. The tentative dates for the in-class exams are Sep. 18, Oct. 14, Nov. 13. **There are no make-ups for the exams.** Anything mentioned in class, student presentations, in assignments, or in guest lectures, is “fair game” for exams. All exams are the property of the instructor.

All work should be done individually without any assistance. During exams, turn off cell phones. You may be asked to change seats during exams. You also need to present a photo ID at the exams.

Homework on MFL: You are responsible for keeping track of homework due dates and completing the work on MyFinanceLab. To facilitate timely review, I will assign homework at a high frequency, mostly covering the material in the immediate preceding one or two lecture(s). If not announced otherwise, homework will be available within the two hours after each lecture.

News Presentation: You will present summary and analysis of a news article. The use of PowerPoint slides is encouraged. Limit your presentation to 7 minutes.

Write a half page to one page summary of a news article pertaining to corporate finance. Post your summary, containing a link to the article, on Carmen, two days before your presentation. For example, if you present on Wednesday, the written portion is due on the preceding Monday.

In both the written document and your presentation, state why you think the article is interesting, explain what you learned from it, and describe how it relates to the class. The news article must contain analysis of the subject and cover an important corporate finance topic; **the quality of the news article you choose will affect your grade.** For instance, simple market/exchange rate updates will result in a grade of zero. Articles should be from reputable sources like the WSJ, Financial Times, NY Times, The Economist, Bloomberg news, etc. **If you miss your assigned news presentation date, you can make it up the next class for a maximum grade of 75%; otherwise you will earn a grade of zero.**

Attendance & Participation at Guest Lecture(s): There will be one or more guest lectures. Attendance is required. Participation is highly encouraged. Attendance and participation at guest lecture(s) will account for 5% of your initial grade.

Participation: Attendance and participation are fundamental requirements of this course. It is necessary as you will be learning from your peers as well as the instructor through discussions, lectures and presentations. Please fill out the seat chart before the third class. Attendance will be recorded in the beginning of each class. If you are late or leave early, you may be considered as absent. Attendance will affect the final grade you receive.

As a reminder, **The University and College expectation is that students spend two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class. Since this course meets almost 3 hours per week, you should expect to spend around 6 hours per week outside of class on course-related work.**
Course Policies:

**Professionalism:**
Professionalism includes arriving on time and prepared, asking thoughtful questions, answering questions, and contributing to a positive classroom environment.

**Course website:**
I will maintain a website through Carmen. The URL is [https://carmen.osu.edu](https://carmen.osu.edu) I will use the website to post course slides, and extra material.

**Electronic Devices Policy:**
Because of the negative externalities, use of cell phones, laptops or tablets is not allowed.

**Grade Change Policy:**
Grade appeals must be in writing within one week after the graded work is made generally available. The entire document will be checked for grading errors, and correcting these could either raise or lower the overall score.

**Absences and Make-Ups:**
It is the sole responsibility of absent students to obtain any missed class notes, handouts, etc. If you have a valid family, health or safety emergency, please contact the instructor PRIOR to the assignment deadline. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of zero (0) for any missed assignments.

**Disenrollment:**
Attendance roasters taken the first two weeks of the semester will be submitted to the department. Those who miss the class may be dropped from the class, based on university/department rules.

**Academic Misconduct:**
The University's Code of Academic Integrity is designed to ensure that the principles of academic honesty and integrity are upheld. [http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp). All students are expected to adhere to this Code. In accordance with University Faculty Rule 3333-5-487, all instances of alleged academic misconduct will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct, which recommends appropriate sanctions to the Office of Academic Affairs. There will be no exception to this rule. Case reports must be the own original work of your group. You may not use solutions prepared by current or former students. If you use information from outside sources in your case report, you must properly cite those sources.

**Office of Disability Services (ODS):**
Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.
Topics to be Covered:

Capital Budgeting (BDH Chapter 9).

Calculating the Cost of Capital (BDH Chapter 13).

Debt Financing (BDH Chapter 15).

Capital Structure (BDH Chapter 16).

Equity Financing, IPOs (BDH Chapter 14).

Payout Policy (BDH Chapter 17).

Corporate Governance, M&A (BDH Chapter 22).

Additional Topics, if time permits.