1. Course Information
   Course Title: Corporate Finance
   Course Number: FINA 3339
   Course Section: N
   Credit Hours: 3
   Semester: Fall 2016
   Prerequisites: ECON 1332, ACCT 1341, MATH 3332
   Room and Time: Malloy Hall 013, MoWe 12:10PM- 1:25PM

2. Instructor Information
   Name: Chih-Huei (Debby) Su, Ph.D.
   Office Location: Welder Hall Room 205
   Office Phone: 713-525-3807
   Office Hours: Monday/ Wednesday 3:30PM- 6:00PM; Thursday 1:00PM- 3:00PM
   Email: csu@stthom.edu

3. Course Catalog Description
   Analysis of corporate use of financial markets and decision-making, with emphasis on stock
   and bond valuations and returns. The course further demonstrates corporate decision making
   in the areas of capital budgeting, corporate financial structure and dividend policy.

4. BBA Learning Goals and Objectives
   The Bachelors of Business Administration program has five goals. When students complete
   the BBA degree at the University of St. Thomas:

   **Goal 1.** They will be able to communicate effectively.
   - **Objective 1** Graduates will deliver a compelling oral presentation.
   - **Objective 2** Graduates will demonstrate mastery of communication technology.
   - **Objective 3** Graduates will write professional quality documents.

   **Goal 2.** They will be adept at critical thinking.
   - **Objective 1** Graduates will analyze problems in-depth.
   - **Objective 2** Graduates will evaluate data thoroughly.
   - **Objective 3** Graduates will present feasible solutions for problems.

   **Goal 3.** They will be able to work effectively in teams.
   - **Objective 1** Graduates will work collectively towards team objectives.
   - **Objective 2** Graduates will demonstrate professional interpersonal relations with other
     team members.

   **Goal 4.** They will be ethical decision makers.
   - **Objective 1** Graduates will recognize the ethical issues implicit in a business situation.
   - **Objective 2** Graduates will describe and use ethical frameworks applicable to business
     situations.

   **Goal 5.** They will be knowledgeable about fundamental business issues and processes.
5. Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to:

- Understand the structure and the operations of the financial market. (BBA Goal 5: Knowledge)
- Utilize relevant information and all types of computation tools to conduct the fundamental analyses of stock valuation. (BBA Goal 2: Critical Thinking)
- Cooperate with other colleagues to work on group projects. (BBA Goal 3: Team Work)
- Present the evidences to support their stock valuation and forecasts in an effective and logical manner. (BBA Goal 1: Communication)
- Understand the harmful consequences of unethical decisions in all business situations and recognize ways to improve corporate governance. (BBA Goal 4: Ethical Decision Makers)

6. Texts, Readings, Materials

By Eugene F. Brigham and Joel F. Houston
* Please buy the textbook, the loose-leaf version bundled with the access code to MindTap (online homework system), from UST bookstore (ISBN-13: 978-1-305-13580-2).

Financial Calculator: Texas Instruments BA II Plus (This is the suggested brand/model.)

Supplementary Readings: The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, Business Week, and Fortune magazines. I would like to encourage you to read business press outside the class. It will help you to relate topics covered in class to the real business world and enhance your class performance.

7. Instructional Methods

Class time will be devoted to lecture, discussion, and analysis of assigned problems. Finance is a subject highly problem oriented. Therefore, problems will constitute the largest number of points for each exam. Assigned problems will be given on a weekly basis. Active participation in class is encouraged and required. You will also be assigned a team project throughout the semester.

8. Technology

Students are expected to be able to perform the following:

(a) Online data retrieval and/or research on the World Wide Web
(b) Online communication or collaboration with each other
(c) Use of Microsoft Office programs to complete assignments
(d) Use of a financial calculator to perform the analyses
(e) Use of BlackBoard learning platform

---

1 I will be using BA II Plus for classroom demonstrations. If you use a different calculator, please make sure you have the manual, so that you may learn how to use it on your own or you can “google” instructions on how to use it.
9. Course Policies

- Readings
  Students should prepare for ALL regular scheduled classes prior to class meetings and are responsible for all of the material discussed in class, assigned in the readings, and problems assigned for homework regardless of your attendance status.

- Quizzes
  Quizzes will be given throughout the semester RANDOMLY without prior notifications. Quizzes may be given at the beginning, middle, or end of the class and cover the materials from the same date or from the previous class. Make-up quizzes will not be permitted unless I am notified of your absence or lateness on a specific class date in advance.

- Assignments
  Homework will be assigned online on each chapter and will be due before the next Monday class meeting (12:00 PM at the specified due date) after I finish the corresponding chapter. Students need to purchase the textbook bundled with the access code to MindTap (online homework system) to access your assignments and to receive your assignment grades at the end of the semester. Late submission will not be accepted.

- Group Project
  Students need to form the group of 3 people and are expected to submit multiple partial formal written term paper throughout the semester, a combined final version term paper at the end of the semester AND make 15-20 minute group presentation at the end of the semester. Since it is a group project, the performance will be evaluated at the group level, rather than at the individual level, unless special situations are reported at the early stage of the project.
  The length of the term paper (final version) should be around 15-20 double-spaced pages, including bibliographies, charts, and references. The final version term paper is due by the presentation date. The group project grade will be based on both the presentation and the quality of the paper. Details will be announced later in the semester.

- Exams
  Make-up exams will not be permitted unless I am notified of your absence on an exam before the exam date. Make-up exams from excused absences will be scheduled at a time mutually agreeable to the instructor and the student.

- Attendance Policy
  Attendance is mandatory and expected. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay in class until the class period ends. If you missed four or more class meetings, your course grade, at the instructor’s discretion, will be reduced by one letter grade. If you missed more than six classes (including exam dates), at the instructor’s discretion, the grade will automatically become an F. If you are late for more than 20 minutes in a class meeting, then it will be counted as “Late”. 2 “Late” will be counted as 1 absence.

- Class Communication
  Major class announcements will be made through BlackBoard with email notifications. Online discussions can also be established on Blackboard. So please check the email on your BlackBoard account is correct.

- Academic Honesty
  Academic integrity is very highly regarded at the University of St. Thomas. Using someone else’s work as your own is a grave violation of this principle. Ethical conduct
is essential to a community of scholars and students searching for truth. Anything less than total commitment to honesty and honorable conduct undermines the efforts of the entire community. In the Cameron School of Business, students and faculty are expected to commit to a code that exemplifies each individual’s honor and integrity. Any conduct that violates this standard and betrays the respect of others is a matter of grave concern and, accordingly, is deemed unacceptable.

- Accommodation

The University of St. Thomas abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education “solely by reason of a handicap.” If you have a documented disability that may impact your performance in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to Counseling and Disability Services which is located on the second floor of Crooker Center. Contact the Center at 713-525-6953 or 713-525-3162.

10. Class Participation

The following criteria will be used to judge and grade your participation performance:

(a) Content Mastery:
The student makes evident by classroom comments and/or responses to questions, an understanding of the facts, concepts, and theories presented in the assigned readings.

(b) Communication Skills:
The student informs other students in a clear and constructive manner what he/she knows. Communication skills include listening to others and understanding what they have said, responding appropriately, asking clear, constructive questions, building on the ideas of others, etc.

(c) Synthesis/Integration:
The student shows the connections between this material and other material. For example, the student could take several ideas from the readings or class discussions and combine them to produce a new perspective on an issue, or the student could take outside materials (personal experience, work experience, other classes etc.) and combine them to create insights.

(d) Creativity:
The student shows further implications of the material by finding new ways of articulating or setting the materials, which produce significant insights, etc.

(e) Valuing:
The student identifies values inherent to the material and offer rationales based on some value system.

11. Mission Statement: Cameron School of Business

The Cameron School of Business will serve students of diverse backgrounds, providing them the necessary professional skills for a changing global economy, and instilling in them a deep appreciation for ethical behavior as the hallmark of a successful and fulfilling business career. The Cameron School will provide its students a timely and comprehensive business curriculum, with opportunities for specialized study in major business fields. The faculty will provide quality teaching, as this is the core of our mission. As an extension of our teaching mission, the faculty will engage in scholarly activity and service to the University, the profession, and the community.
12. Grading

- Grade Distribution:
  - Assignments 15%
  - Quizzes 10%
  - Group Project 20%
  - Midterm 1 and 2 30% (10% for lower grade midterm and 20% for higher grade midterm)
  - Final Exam 20%
  - Class Participation 5%

- Letter Grade Distribution:
  >= 93.00  A  77.00 - 79.99  C+
  90.00 - 92.99  A-  74.00 - 76.99  C
  87.00 - 89.99  B+  70.00 - 73.99  C-
  84.00 - 86.99  B  60.00 - 69.99  D
  80.00 - 83.99  B-  <= 59.99  F
13. **Course Tentative Schedule**

The weekly coverage might change as it depends on the progress of the class. However, you must keep up with the reading assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>• August 22: Introduction to the class + Chapter 1&lt;br&gt;• August 24: Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>• August 29: Chapter 2; Chapter 1 assignment due&lt;br&gt;• August 31: Chapter 2; Submit your group member list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>• September 5: No Class- Labor Day;&lt;br&gt;• September 7: Chapter 3; Chapter 2 assignment due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>• September 12: Chapter 3&lt;br&gt;• September 14: Chapter 4; Confirm the company for the group project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>• September 19: Midterm 1 review; Chapter 3 and 4 assignments due&lt;br&gt;• September 21: Midterm 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>• September 26: Chapter 5&lt;br&gt;• September 28: Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>• October 3: Chapter 5; Chapter 5 assignment Part 1&lt;br&gt;&amp; Group Project Part 1 due&lt;br&gt;• October 5: Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>• October 10: No Class- Fall Break&lt;br&gt;• October 12: Chapter 8; Chapter 5 assignment Part 2 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>• October 17: Midterm 2 review; Chapter 8 Part 1 assignment due&lt;br&gt;• October 19: Midterm 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>• October 24: Chapter 8&lt;br&gt;• October 26: Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>• October 31: Chapter 9; Chapter 8 Part 2 assignment due&lt;br&gt;• November 2: Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>• November 7: Chapter 6; Chapter 9 assignment &amp; Group Project Part II due&lt;br&gt;• November 9: Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>• November 14: Chapter 7; Chapter 6 assignment due&lt;br&gt;• November 16: Chapter 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>• November 21: Chapter 10; Chapter 7 assignment due&lt;br&gt;• November 23: No Class- Thanksgiving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>• November 28: Chapter 10; Group Project Part III due&lt;br&gt;• November 30: Final Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>• December 5: Group Presentations; Chapter 10 assignment due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>• Final Exam: TBA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

2The above schedule and procedures in this course are tentative and subject to change.