

Corporate Finance (Honors)
Finance 100
Sections 301, 302 and 303
The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Fall 2011

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce techniques of financial analysis, with applications to corporate finance. The concepts developed in Finance 100 form the foundation for all elective finance courses. The main topics covered include (1) the time value of money and the net present value rule; (2) valuation of bonds and stocks; (3) capital budgeting decisions; (4) uncertainty and the tradeoff between risk and return; (5) corporate financing decisions; and (6) options. The honors sections will take a more analytical and quantitative approach compared to other sections, and will cover some topics in more depth.

Professor

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Teaching Assistants

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Office hours for teaching assistants will be announced by the second week of class.

Course Material

- (Highly recommended but not mandatory) S. A. Ross, R. W. Westerfield and J. F. Jaffe, Corporate Finance, 9th Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2010. (Referred to as RWJ in the course outline.)

It is also recommended (but not required) that you also purchase the solutions manual.

- Course pack of readings, links to relevant articles and past exams available on the website: <https://webcafe.wharton.upenn.edu/eRoom/fnce/100-fa11-2>.

Wharton students have automatic access. Non-Wharton students should see <http://supportcenteronline.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=658> for information on obtaining a Wharton computing account.

Readings from the course pack are prefaced with CP on the course outline. Supplementary readings are prefaced with S on the outline.

- A scientific or business calculator. It will be necessary for your calculator to have a x^y function.

Problem Sets

There will be approximately eight problem sets. Problem sets are due in class on the day given in the online syllabus. You will be rewarded full credit on the problem set if you have made a good-faith effort to answer all of the questions, and if you hand in the problem set on time. Late problem sets will not be accepted.

Grading

Grades will be based on the midterm exam (30%), the final exam (45%), problem sets (20%), the computer assignment (5%). The final exam is cumulative. You will be allowed one double-sided page of notes for the midterm and two double-sided pages of notes for the final. Class participation can help determine the grade if the student is on the margin between grades.

Exam Schedule:

- Midterm Exam: Wednesday, October 19, in class.
- Final Exam: Wednesday, December 14, 6:00–8:00 PM.

All regrade requests must be made in writing within one week of the day the exams are returned. Any exam submitted for regrading of a question can be subjected to a complete regrading.

Study Groups

You are encouraged to work in groups on the problem sets, but you must hand in your own answers. It is also highly recommended that you regularly review the readings and class notes with your study group. The computer assignment may be completed and handed in by groups of up to three students.

Tentative Course Schedule

Readings in brackets are optional

Additional handouts may be distributed in class

Dates are approximate: The class Webpage will have the most up to date information

Wed. 09/07	Introduction and NPV rule RWJ: [1–3], 4.1,	
Mon. 09/12	Present Value RWJ: 4.2 - 4.4 [4.5, 4.6] CP: 1 S: [1]	
Wed. 09/14	Present Value (cont.)	
Mon. 09/19	Applications to Fixed Income Valuation RWJ: [8] CP: 2	
Wed. 09/21	Applications to Fixed Income Valuation (cont.) CP: 3, 4	PS 1 due
Mon. 09/26	Applications to Equity Valuation RWJ: 9.1, 9.2 CP: 5, 6 S: [2]	
Wed. 9/28	Applications to Equity Valuation (cont.) RWJ: 9.3, [9.4, 9.5]	PS 2 due
Mon. 10/03	NPV vs. Internal Rate of Return RWJ 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, [5.7]	
Wed. 10/05	Capital Budgeting in Practice RWJ: 6.1–6.5 CP: 7	PS 3 due
Mon. 10/10	No class (Fall break)	
Wed. 10/12	Capital Budgeting in Practice (cont.)	PS 4 due
Mon. 10/17	Catch-up and review	
Wed. 10/19	Midterm	

Tentative Course Schedule (Continued)

Readings in brackets are optional

Additional handouts may be distributed in class

Dates are approximate: The class Webpage will have the most up to date information

Mon. 10/24	Expected Returns and Risk RWJ: 10.1–10.6, [10.7, 10.8] CP: 8, 9, 10	
Wed. 10/26	Portfolio Analysis RWJ: 11.3–11.5 CP: 11, 12 S: [3]	
Mon. 10/31	Portfolio Analysis (cont.) RWJ: 11.6, 11.7 CP: 13, 14	
Wed. 11/02	Capital Asset Pricing Model RWJ: 11.8, 11.9 CP: 15, [16], 17 S: [4,5]	PS 5 due
Mon. 11/07	Capital Asset Pricing Model (cont.) RWJ: 13.1–13.4 CP: 18	
Wed. 11/09	Market Efficiency RWJ: 14.1–14.4, [14.5], 14.6, [14.7–14.8] CP: 19 S: [6,7]	PS 6 due
Mon. 11/14	Capital Structure RWJ: 16.1, [16.2], 16.3, 16.4 CP: 20	
Wed. 11/16	Capital Structure (cont.) RWJ: 16.5, 17.1, 17.2, 17.4, [17.5–17.10] CP: 21 S: [8]	
Mon. 11/21	Valuation and Capital Budgeting with Leverage RWJ: 18.1, [18.2], 18.3, 18.4 CP: 22, [23]	Computer assignment due
Wed. 11/23	No class (Thanksgiving)	
Mon. 11/28	Valuation and Capital Budgeting with Leverage (cont.) RWJ: 18.5–18.7	
Wed. 11/30	Option Definitions and Strategies RWJ: 22.1–22.4, [22.5], 22.6 CP: 24 S: [9]	PS 7 due
Mon. 12/05	Option Valuation RWJ: 22.7, 22.8, [22.9–22.10] CP: 25, 26	
Wed. 12/07	Catch-up and review	PS 8 due
Wed. 12/14	Final (from 6:00-8:00 pm, location TBA)	

Detailed Outline

1. Introduction and Net Present Value (NPV) Rule
 - (a) Present value concepts
 - (b) NPV rule
 - (c) Separation theorem
2. Present Value
 - (a) Simple vs. compound interest
 - (b) Annuities and perpetuities
 - (c) Growing annuities and perpetuities; delayed annuities and perpetuities
 - (d) Compounding within the year and the effective annual interest rate
3. Applications to Fixed Income Valuation
 - (a) Bond definitions
 - (b) Valuation of pure discount bonds
 - (c) Yield to maturity vs. holding period return
 - (d) Prices and returns on coupon bonds
 - (e) Semi-annual bonds
 - (f) The yield curve
 - (g) Forward rates
4. Applications to Equity Valuation
 - (a) Using present value methods to value equity
 - (b) Applying infinite horizon formulas
 - (c) Determining dividend growth
 - (d) Net present value of growth opportunities
5. NPV vs. Internal Rate of Return
 - (a) Definition of Internal rate of return (IRR)
 - (b) Comparing NPV and IRR: Accept or reject decision
 - (c) Comparing NPV and IRR: Mutually exclusive projects
6. Capital Budgeting in Practice
 - (a) Overview of capital budgeting
 - (b) Depreciation
 - (c) Inflation and capital budgeting
 - (d) Investments of different lives: EAC method
 - (e) Working capital

7. Expected Returns and Risk
 - (a) Return definitions
 - (b) Overview of portfolio theory
 - (c) Mean, standard deviation, and correlation
8. Portfolio Analysis
 - (a) Two risky assets
 - (b) One riskless and one risky asset
 - (c) One riskless and two risky assets
 - (d) The general case: one riskless and multiple risky assets
9. Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)
 - (a) Statement of the CAPM
 - (b) Proof of the CAPM
 - (c) Capital market line vs. Security market line
 - (d) Evidence for and against the CAPM
 - (e) Application to capital budgeting
10. Market Efficiency
 - (a) Efficient markets hypothesis
 - (b) Evidence for and against market efficiency
 - (c) Joint hypothesis problem
11. Capital Structure
 - (a) Preliminaries
 - (b) Modigliani and Miller propositions in a frictionless market
 - (c) Corporate taxes
 - (d) Costs of financial distress
12. Valuation and Capital Budgeting with Leverage
 - (a) Adjusted present value (APV)
 - (b) Unlevering and levering beta
 - (c) Weighted average cost of capital (WACC)
 - (d) APV vs. WACC
13. Option Definitions and Strategies
 - (a) The options contract
 - (b) Payoffs and profits at expiration
 - (c) Option strategies
14. Option Valuation
 - (a) Bounds on option prices prior to expiration
 - (b) Factors affecting option prices
 - (c) Put-call parity
 - (d) The Black-Scholes formula

Course Pack Readings

1. Computing Effective Annual Rates
2. Holding Period Return and Yield to Maturity for Zero-Coupon Bonds
3. Calculating the Holding Period Return on a Coupon Bond
4. Forward Rates
5. Equity Valuation Formulas
6. NPVGO and the Constant Growth Model
7. Practical Aspects of the NPV Rule
8. Geometric Average Versus Arithmetic Average
9. Reinvesting Dividends
10. Numerical Examples of Mean, Standard Deviation, and Correlation
11. Proof of Mean and Variance Formulas
12. Gains from Diversification: 2 Risky Assets
13. Portfolio Variance with Many Risky Assets
14. Optimal Portfolios when there is a Riskfree Asset
15. Understanding the CAPM
16. Optional Proof of the Security Market Line
17. Calculating Beta
18. Applying the CAPM to Capital Budgeting
19. Understanding Market Efficiency
20. MM Propositions I and II
21. MM with Corporate Taxes
22. Valuation and Capital Budgeting with Leverage
23. Proofs for Capital Budgeting with Leverage
24. Definition and Payoffs at Expiration of Calls and Puts
25. Numerical Examples of Put-Call Parity and Minimum Value
26. Arbitrage Proofs of Put-call Parity and Minimum Value

Supplementary readings

1. Interest Rate Readings
2. Equity Valuation Readings
3. Diversification Readings
4. Equity Premium Reading
5. CAPM Readings
6. Efficiency Readings Part A
7. Efficiency Readings Part B
8. Bankruptcy Cost Readings
9. Options Readings