INSTRUCTOR
Richard Hasse, M.B.A.
Telephone: 626-818-8652
Fax: 909-626-1756
E-mail: rhasse@laverne.edu

Skype: rick.hasse
You Tube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/user/rhasse727
Twitter: http://twitter.com/LaVerneFinance
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/financeULV

LOCATION
Online / Blackboard
CRN: 2517
Date: Monday August 29 – Sunday November 6, 2011
Course Week: Monday – Sunday (midnight)

I. BUS 500D Business Finance

The objective of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the theory and applications of corporate finance. The course will concentrate on the use of financial theory to solve problems. Specifically, the course will concentrate on tools used in decision making; the time value of money, financial statements, bond valuation, risk analysis, and stock valuation.

II. Relationship to the Specific Program

This foundation course is required of all students seeking an M.B.A. through the School of Business and Public Management.

III. Learning Objectives and Outcomes Assessment

A. The goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the theory and application of corporate finance. The course will concentrate on the use of financial theory and practice to make financial decisions. At the end of the course, the student should be able to:
   1. Forecast financing requirements using the percent of sales method
   2. Assess financial position of a company using financial statement analysis
   3. Maximize firm value by efficiently allocating financial resources in an environment of uncertainty
   4. Evaluate financing alternatives using the weighted average cost of capital
   5. Evaluate whether a company should go public
   6. Use spot and forward foreign exchange rates to hedge exposure in international trade
Objectives 3 and 4 in the previous list will be used to assess the outcomes of the program. The assessment of the learning objective will be achieved by utilizing a comprehensive capital budgeting case. Please note that the submitted reports will be kept by the college for the purposes of assessment reporting. You are advised to make copies of the report before submitting it.

IV. Texts and Materials


2. Selected articles specified in section V of this outline. These articles are available online through the University of La Verne Wilson Library. The following are the instructions on how to retrieve the articles:

   Go to ulv.edu.
   Select Libraries from the list.
   Select Wilson Library.
   Under Research Tools, select Databases
   Under Databases by Subject, select Business.
   Select ABI/INFORM Global (Proquest).
   Enter your name and ID number.
   Click on Connect to Database.
   Select ABI/INFORM Global.
   Select Advanced Search.
   Enter title, author, and journal information.
   Click on Search.
   The complete article will be available for reading or printing.

3. Software and Web resources. There is no specific software needed for this course but students will extensively use spreadsheets in their assignments. A tutorial on the use of Excel is available on: www.ulv.edu/ctl. The following sites have a wealth of information for students:

   http://finance.yahoo.com
   www.nyse.com
   www.nasdaq.com
   www.cbo.t.com
   www.investopedia.com
4. **INSTRUCTOR LECTURE NOTES:**

Instructor lecture notes with power point slides have been prepared to clarify and supplement your reading of the textbook and other course materials. To access the lecture notes, click on Course Content for the appropriate chapter and week. You will need to download the power point slides to your computer in order to view the lecture notes that accompany each slide.

5. **OPTIONAL READINGS & INTERNET SOURCES**

1. Internet resources: CBS Market Watch, CNBC, and Yahoo Finance
2. The Wall Street Journal
3. The New York Times and The Los Angeles Times
4. China Daily and International Herald Tribune
5. The Economist

V. **Course Content**

Lectures, case analysis, and articles reviews which integrates the concepts and application of the theory of financial decision.

Topics to be covered are:

- **Review of basic financial concepts such as:** time value of money, security valuation, capital budgeting techniques,
  
  Required Material: textbook

- **Risk and Return:** The topic covers portfolio theory and asset pricing models with heavy emphasizes on the CAPM and its application in managerial finance.
  
  Required Material: Textbook and the following articles:

  “Some experts contend that options-pricing models give a better view of cost of capital than CAPM.” Ronald Fink. CFO. Boston: May 12, 2003. p. 1


- **Financial Statement Analysis:** The topic covers ratio analysis, horizontal and vertical analysis, Dupont System of Analysis and the Altman’s Z score.
  
  Required Material: Textbook and the following articles:


- Financial Planning: The topic covers the development of ex-ante financial statements using the percent of sales methods and the interaction between financial planning and strategic planning.
  Required Material: Textbook

- The Investment Decision: The topic consolidates issues concerning the firm’s investment decision. It covers cash flow analysis, special capital budgeting situations, capital budgeting under uncertainly, and the complications associated with overseas investments.
  Required Material: Textbook

- Capital Raising: The topic introduces the process of going public and investment banking. It emphasizes the process of issuing financial instruments both domestically and internationally.
  Required Material: Textbook

- The Financing Decision: The topic covers the impact of leverage on expected return, how to deal with financial distress, the fundamentals of the bankruptcy process and the economics of reorganization and liquidation, dividend policy, and leasing.
  Required Material: Textbook

- The Market for Corporate Control: This topic introduces students to the impact of the market for corporate control on the governance of the firm. The procedural aspects of acquisitions and takeovers whether friendly or not, the medium of payments and antitakeover measures are discussed.
  Required Material: Textbook

- International Finance:
  Required Material: Textbook and the following articles:

  “Why the Buck Is on the Edge” Robert J. Samuelson Newsweek Dec. 11, 2006

  “Greece in Crisis: Déjà vu All Over Again” by John Roscoe, July 2011
  Roosevelt Investments – article in Blackboard

  “What does the U.S. really want from China?” By John W. Schoen, Senior Producer, MSNBC, December 15, 2006
VI. Course and Program Assessment

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blackboard Participation (9 Weeks)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (8)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road King Trucks Case Analysis</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points Available:</strong></td>
<td><strong>250</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades will be assigned according to the following percentages:

- A: 95 – 100%
- A-: 90 – 94%
- B+: 87 – 89%
- B: 84 – 86%
- B-: 80 – 83%
- C+: 77 – 79%
- C: 74 – 76%
- F: Below 74%

**ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Students are required to participate in all online discussions. It is the student’s responsibility to post their work within the due dates.

Students may be organized into diverse teams for purposes of analyzing problems and participating in class presentations and discussions. You’re learning experience is likely to be enriched by working in a group because:

- a) There is a sharing of experiences and insights among team members and
- b) the cooperation and communication skills required to be an effective team are very similar to many business settings in which groups of people work together towards a common goal.

**HOMEWORK**

Selected homework problems will be reviewed and explained in the Discussion Board. Homework problems will be posted in Blackboard. Homework assignments are not graded but prepare you for discussions and graded assignments.

**CASE ANALYSIS**

You will have one graded case assignment for the purpose of expanding your understanding of corporate finance. Instructions will be provided in a separate handout. They will provide detail assignment requirements including the specific learning objectives, the required use of authoritative resources, grading criteria, deadlines, writing standards, and presentation/sharing requirements.

**CLASS LECTURES/DISCUSSIONS**

You are encouraged to read the assigned chapters before each Discussion Board posting in order to facilitate your learning process. Advance reading will better prepare you for discussion participation and will enable you to use the lectures/discussions as a reinforcement of the material you read. PowerPoint presentations for each chapter will be posted on Blackboard, plus additional research materials for group and case discussions.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Comply with Academic Honesty and Behavior rules as described in the 2010-2011 ULV Catalog.
2. Participate in all online discussions and observe start/end dates.
3. Have access to the internet, Word, Excel and a financial calculator.
4. Participate in class discussions of cases and problem-solving exercises.
5. Successfully complete all discussions/assignments/paper.

YOUR CONTINUED ENROLLMENT IN THIS COURSE DENOTES UNDERSTANDING OF AND COMPLIANCE WITH ALL ELEMENTS OF THIS SYLLABUS.

Academic Honesty – Per the ULV 2010-2011 Catalog

Each student is responsible for performing academic tasks in such a way that honesty is not in question. Unless an exception is specifically defined by an instructor, students are expected to maintain the following standards of integrity:

a. All tests, term papers, oral and written assignments, recitations, and all other academic efforts are to be the work of the student presenting the material.

b. Any use of wording, ideas, or findings of other persons, writers, or researchers requires the explicit citation of the source; use of the exact wording requires a "quotation" format.

c. Deliberately supplying material to a student for purposes of plagiarism is also culpable. When academic honesty is in question, the following may occur:

1. A faculty member who has clear evidence that academic honesty has been violated may take appropriate disciplinary action. Appropriate disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the student to rewrite a paper or retake a test, giving the student an F on the assignment and/or in the course, and/or recommending expulsion. If the action includes giving a course grade of NCR or F and/or a recommendation for expulsion because of academic dishonesty, the faculty member must report the action to the Department Chair and/or Academic Dean (or to the Campus/Program Director for off-campus situations).

2. If a faculty member has reason to suspect academic dishonesty (even after having seen requested additional or revised work when appropriate) and the student denies the allegation, the faculty member may refer the matter to the Provost (through the Campus/Program Director for off-campus situations). Following due process an Academic Judicial Board may be formed to investigate the matter and make a recommendation to the Provost about whether academic honesty has been violated. The Vice President will then take appropriate action which may include, but is not limited to, academic probation, suspension, or expulsion. In this process students may be asked to produce earlier drafts of their work and/or original notes and resources, other samples of writing, or documents deemed appropriate or necessary by the Board.
3. Grades of F or NCR received in courses due to academic dishonesty will be filed with appropriate documentation for future reference in the office of the Provost by the Department Chair, Academic Dean, or Campus/Program Director. Students receiving an F or NCR as a result of academic dishonesty will be sent a letter from the Provost noting that a second offense will result in expulsion.

4. Expulsion for academic dishonesty will be noted on the student's transcript by the words "Expelled for Academic Dishonesty."

ULV TECHNICAL RESOURCES
Office of Information Technology
http://laverne.edu/technology/technology-for-students/

Blackboard HelpDesk
Phone: 909.593.3511 x4089
Email: bbhelp@laverne.edu

ULV WRITING RESOURCES
Learning Enhancement Center (they are available virtually on any and all APA support)
Learning Enhancement Center/Graduate Success Center, Room 111
Phone: 909.593.3511 x4342
http://www.laverne.edu/academics/learning-enhancement-center/links

Note: On a separate page please view the course schedule.

At the instructor’s discretion, course content and assignments may be expanded, changed, or deleted.

Please read “e-policies” in a separate document.