University of La Verne  
College of Business & Public Management  
BUS 500 D Business Finance Online Study  
Course Syllabus Fall 2014

Course Designation  
BUS 500 D: Business Finance  
Three (3) semester hours, Graduate credit  

Schedule:  
Online  
Monday August 25 – Sunday November 2, 2014  
CRN: 1323

Instructor:  
Richard Hasse

Contact:  
(626) 818-8652 (cell)  
(909) 626-1756 (fax)  
rhasse@laverne.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 3:00 – 5:00 PM via Skype

Internet Resources:  
Blackboard – https://bb.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

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

IV. Texts and Materials


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.com
   www.investopedia.com
4. Optional readings and Internet sources:
   a. Internet resources: CBS Market Watch, CNBC, and Yahoo Finance
   b. The Wall Street Journal
   c. The New York Times and The Los Angeles Times
   d. China Daily and International Herald Tribune
   e. The Economist

V. Course Content

Learning Modalities

- Online Course Review Lectures
- Problems review
- Read and Discuss Relevant Cases and Topics
- Case Study Assignments
- Preparation of Case Analysis Paper

MATERIAL COVERAGE AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

The coverage of material in this class parallels the major functions of a financial manager which are:

- Financing
- Investing
- Planning and Control
- Working Capital Management

Topics to be covered are:

- Role/Objectives of Financial Management.
- Financial Environment.
- Financial Analysis.
- Financial Forecasting, Planning, and Control.
- Relationship between Risk and Return.
- Time Value of Money and Securities Valuation.
- Capital budgeting.
- Cost of Capital and Capital Structure.
- Dividend Policy.
- Credit Management.
- Currency Valuation & Management
- Lease Financing
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Bankruptcy & Reorganization
VI. Course and Program Assessment

GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation/discussion forum posts</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Analysis</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (5)</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grading policy for graduate students is based on the assumption that the grade for acceptable and satisfactory performance in graduate study is a B (3.0). This implies that graduate students must perform at an above-average level, compared to undergraduate standards, in order to progress satisfactorily in graduate programs. It also implies that the C- and D grades are unacceptable in graduate work. Therefore, there are no C- and D grades for graduate students.

A: 94 – 100%  A-: 89 – 93%
B+: 84 – 88%  B: 80 – 83%  B-: 77 – 79%
C+: 73 – 76%  C: 69 – 72%  F: Below 69%

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Students are required to participate in all online Blackboard discussions. Once or twice a term students will be organized into diverse teams for purposes of analyzing problems and participating in class presentations and discussions. Your 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 on Blackboard. 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 case analysis paper for the purpose of expanding your understanding of corporate finance. Instructions will be provided in separate handouts. 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.
ASSIGNMENTS

Five Assignments are scheduled as indicated on the attached weekly course schedule. The Assignments will be structured to include case problems, problem solving, and/or preparation, calculation, and analysis of finance information. You must show all your work. Work must be neat, legible, and well labeled. No make-up work will be given. If a student must miss an assignment due to a University-recognized emergency, the student must notify the instructor prior to the exam and discuss the circumstances. Documentation as to the validity of the emergency will be required.

CLASS LECTURES/DISCUSSIONS

You are encouraged to read the assigned chapters before each online week in order to facilitate your learning process. Your online course week goes from Monday to Sunday. Advance reading will better prepare you for class 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 2013-2014 ULV Catalog.
2. Participate in all online discussions. Each student is to do his/her own work, except when a team discussion is indicated.
3. Successfully complete all Assignments and Case Paper.

INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Be prompt, prepared, and respectful of all points of view.
2. Create an open, stimulating environment for the exchange of ideas and for questioning the underlying assumptions of ideas.
3. Be available to answer questions and provide guidance.
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

VII. Syllabus.

Modification of this syllabus may be made at any time at the instructor’s discretion.

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.
Academic Honesty – Per the ULV 2013-2014 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."

5. All Case work may become part of the SafeAssign database. SafeAssign is a service to check for plagiarism.
Vision

The University of La Verne will be nationally recognized for its enriching and relevant educational experience, which prepares students to achieve more than they ever imagined.

University Mission

The University of La Verne offers a distinctive and relevant educational experience to a diverse population of traditional-age, adult, and graduate learners preparing them for successful careers and a commitment to life-long learning across the liberal arts and professional programs.

Core Values of the University of La Verne

Ethical Reasoning

The University affirms a value system that actively supports peace with justice, respect of individuals and humanity and the health of the planet and its people. Students are reflective about personal, professional, and societal values that support professional and social responsibility.

Diversity and Inclusivity

The University supports a diverse and inclusive environment where students recognize and benefit from the life experiences and viewpoints of other students, faculty and staff.

Lifelong Learning

The University promotes intellectual curiosity and the importance of lifelong learning. It teaches students how to learn, to think critically, to be capable of original research, and to access and integrate information to prepare them for continued personal and professional growth.

Community and Civic Engagement

The University asserts a commitment to improving and enhancing local, regional and global communities.
## Course Study Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Topic</th>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – Aug. 25</td>
<td>CH 1 An Overview of Financial Management CH 2 Financial Statements, Cash Flow, Taxes Discussion Posts (2) due August 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 – Sept. 1</td>
<td>Financial Statements</td>
<td>CH 3 Analysis of Financial Statements Assignment #1 due September 7 Chapters 1-2-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 – Sept. 8</td>
<td>Fixed Income Securities</td>
<td>CH 4 Time Value of Money CH 5 Bond Valuation Discussion Post #3 due September 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – Sept. 15</td>
<td>Stocks &amp; Options</td>
<td>CH 6 Risk &amp; Return CH 7 Stock Valuation CH 8 Financial Options Assignment #2 due September 21 Chapters 4-5-6-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 – Sept. 22</td>
<td>Capital Projects</td>
<td>CH 9 The Cost of Capital CH 10 The Basics of Capital Budgeting Discussion Post #4 due September 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 – Sept. 29</td>
<td>Capital Projects</td>
<td>CH 11 Cash Flow Estimation &amp; Risk Analysis Assignment #3 due October 5 Chapters 9-10-11 Case Study Paper Topics Distributed – Due Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 – Oct. 6</td>
<td>Corporate Valuation &amp; Governance</td>
<td>CH 12 Valuation &amp; Planning CH 13 Corporate Governance Discussion Post #5 due October 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 – Oct. 13</td>
<td>Dividends &amp; Capital Structure</td>
<td>CH 14 Distributions to Shareholders CH 15 Capital Structure Decisions Assignment #4 due October 19 Chapters 12-13-14-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – Oct 27</td>
<td>Public, Private Financing &amp; Lease Financing</td>
<td>CH 18 Public, Private Financing</td>
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<td>CH 19 Lease Financing</td>
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<td>Assignment #5 due November 2</td>
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<td><em>Chapters 16-17-18-19</em></td>
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<td>Case Paper due November 2</td>
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The Instructor may change the Course Plan during the term; students will be notified well in advance of such changes.