

FINANCE (FIN)

FIN 5161 Corporate Finance-Planning (1)

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to MBA program

An introductory financial perspective to (1) why a publicly-traded firm exists and (2) what is the optimal approach for managing a publicly-traded firm. Comparisons are made between how privately-held firms and public sector institutions are managed.

FIN 5162 Corporate Finance-Implementation (1)

Pre-requisite(s): FIN 5161

This one-hour module builds on the principles of optimal project selection introduced in FIN 5161. Usage of the Capital Asset Pricing Model for determining project rates is demonstrated. Both internal financing decisions (dividend decisions) and external financing decisions (debt vs. equity) are introduced.

FIN 5163 Financial Control (1)

Pre-requisite(s): FIN 5162

The concluding module on strategic Corporate Financial Management, exploring optimal strategies for financing the firm's projects. The theoretical linkage between the modern option pricing model, efficient capital markets, agency theory, and the theory of the firm is developed.

FIN 5186 Practicum in Small-Cap Investing II (1)

Pre-requisite(s): Minimum grade of B- in FIN 5285

This course gives students valuable hands-on experience researching, analyzing, and managing a portfolio of small-cap stocks. The level of security research and valuation analysis mirrors that experienced working in industry. Students are required to produce stock research reports and present their recommendations to the other analysts managing the investment fund.

FIN 5203 Business Foundations - Finance (2)

Co-requisite(s): BL 5104

This course is required for MBA and MSIS students who do not have an undergraduate degree in business from an AACSB-accredited institution. It provides students with a foundation in finance which is expected of all business graduate students.

FIN 5220 Private Equity Investing (2)

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to the Executive MBA program

The central focus of the course is to gain an understanding of the financing of entrepreneurial ventures, including ways investors identify and commit the necessary resources to create and finance ventures.

To accomplish these objectives the course addresses specific skills, concepts, and know-how relevant for attracting private equity financing to an entrepreneurial venture.

FIN 5260 Financial Decision Making (2)

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to the Executive MBA program

A study of how firms create value for stockholders through long-term financial decisions, principally asset acquisition/divestiture decisions and debt/equity funding decisions. Specific topics include economic profit and cash flow, the time value of money, risk and return, options, agency, efficient markets, capital budgeting decision criteria, capital structure theory, and dividend policy theory.

FIN 5263 Managing for Value Creation (2)

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to Executive MBA program

In this course we construct simulation models for use in evaluating uncertain project outcomes; utilize the method of comparables and discounted cash flow to estimate the intrinsic worth of a firm; evaluate the real option components of risky investment projects; evaluate firm performance in terms of shareholder value created; analyze the shareholder wealth consequences of corporate restructuring activities including mergers, leveraged buyouts, leveraged recapitalizations and initial public offerings; and discuss the ethical implications of corporate restructuring activities.

FIN 5285 Practicum in Small-Cap Investing I (2)

Pre-requisite(s): A select number of students will be admitted into the class through an application process

FIN 5365 or equivalent coursework/experience is expected before applying. This course gives students valuable hands-on experience researching, analyzing, and managing a portfolio of small capitalization (small-cap) stocks by managing the fund. The level of security research and valuation analysis mirrors the experience working in the industry.

FIN 5329 Entrepreneurial Finance (3)

Examines the intriguing process of financing the pursuit of opportunity and growth without regard to assets controlled currently. The major focus is on start-up or acquisition and the initial stages of growth. There is an emphasis on high-growth firms, and the central objective is to gain an understanding of how entrepreneurs obtain and use financial resources. The course also examines how value is created.

FIN 5330 Seminar in Real Estate Valuation (3)

Valuation concepts and techniques necessary to appraise real estate. Topics include theoretical valuation models, regression-based models, the cost approach, market feasibility studies, and urban-growth models. Case studies require application of statistical techniques.

FIN 5331 Seminar in International Finance (3)

A study of international financial management. Principal topics include issues in international business and finance; basic concepts, types, and issues of international financial markets; the mechanics of foreign exchange (FX) dealings and the effect of exchange rate fluctuations on corporate operations; currency derivatives and the implementation of FX risk hedging techniques; and short- and long-term financing decisions and risk management. With a focus on the enhancement of analytical skills based on the tools and theory of international finance, this course will promote critical thinking skills of the student.

FIN 5332 Seminar in Employee Benefit Planning (3)

The rationale, design, implementation, and evaluation of employee benefit plans. Emphasis on employer-sponsored plans to provide benefits for death, medical and dental expenses, disability, and retirement; insurance and self-insurance funding arrangements; the taxation of employee benefits; legal requirements; integration with public programs and individually purchased insurance; labor union influences; and contemporary problems and issues. Consideration of new types of employee benefits, as well as such traditional benefits as paid vacations, sick leave, educational assistance, and other aspects of total compensation. Case studies are used to illustrate the process of balancing employer objectives, employee needs and desires and cost considerations.

FIN 5333 Foreign Exchange Markets and International Monetary Institutions (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5333

See ECO 5333 for course information.

FIN 5335 Seminar in Integrated Business Risk Management (3)

A study of business risk management, recognizing the relationship between risk management and the overall goals of the firm, through an integrated approach that combines the concepts and tools from both the insurance and the financial risk management disciplines. Emphasis is placed on the identification, evaluation, and management of corporate risks, defined broadly to include both operating and financial risks. Specific topics include traditional hedging strategies as well as techniques such as leveraging, post-loss financing, contingent financing, and diversification.

FIN 5338 Behavioral Finance (3)

This course covers the principles and practices of behavioral finance. Students will examine behavioral biases, frames, and heuristics in financial decision-making and will investigate behavioral finance's implications at the investor, firm, and market levels. In addition, vocational directions for applying knowledge acquired in behavioral finance coursework are explored.

FIN 5360 Seminar in Corporate Finance (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5360

Pre-requisite(s): Admission to the MBA, MACC, or MTAX program, or consent of instructor

A study of how firms create value for stockholders through long-term financial decisions, principally asset acquisition/divestiture decisions and debt/equity funding decisions. Specific topics include economic profit and cash flow, the time value of money, risk and return, options, agency costs, efficient markets, capital budgeting decision criteria, capital structure theory, and dividend policy theory.

FIN 5361 Valuation and Private Equity (3)

This course is designed to equip students with a well-rounded understanding of capital investment decision-making and the role of private equity in facilitating investments. Financial modeling techniques are explored with an emphasis on the Capital Asset Pricing Model. The course applies specific priorities and decision criteria of the Private Equity (PE) industry to the capital investment process, combining theoretical knowledge with practical skills and ethical considerations, making it ideal for entrepreneurs, managers, and individuals aiming to engage with the PE sector.

FIN 5362 Seminar in Corporate Short-term Financial Management (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5362

This course covers the short-term financial management functions and responsibilities typical of a Corporate Treasurer. Areas covered include cash and liquidity positioning, credit extension and collections, payables management, bank relations, short-term investing and borrowing, and management of interest rate and foreign exchange risks, all with a focus on current business practices. Lectures and readings are reinforced with individual and group projects and cases. The class will also provide partial preparation for students wishing to take the Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) exam.

FIN 5363 Seminar in Mergers and Acquisitions (3)

Cross-listed as ENT 5363

The merger and acquisition phenomenon, both domestic and international. The course focuses on the economic rationale for a merger from the perspective of the various "stakeholders," particularly from the view of shareholders. Significant attention is given to valuing a merger prospect as well as to determining how the "deal" is structured financially. Lectures are supplemented with group projects and cases.

FIN 5365 Investment Management (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5365

Theory and practice of portfolio investment with emphasis on stocks, bonds, and portfolio management. Major topics include portfolio theory, performance evaluation, market efficiency, equity and bond management strategies, the use of derivative securities in portfolio management, and mutual funds. Current readings and cases supplement the text.

FIN 5367 Seminar in Financial Planning (3)

Personal financial planning, incorporating material from investments, insurance, retirement benefits, taxation, and estate planning into a coordinated financial planning process. Case analysis is used to demonstrate the complexities involved in solving financial planning situations. Formulation of financial plans and counseling techniques are also examined.

FIN 5368 Seminar in Financial Markets (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5368

U.S. money and capital markets, including international money markets, financial institutions, fixed-income analysis and management, bank funds management, options, futures, options on futures, investment banking, and mergers and acquisitions. Special emphasis is given to the management of interest rate risk in financial institutions.

FIN 5370 Management of Financial Institutions (3)

Cross-listed as ECO 5370

A study of the major issues involved in managing financial institutions. Principal topics include the role of financial institutions as intermediaries between providers and users of investment funds; financial performance of such institutions; loan management, commercial credit analysis, and loan pricing; liquidity and reserve management; investment management; capital structure, liability management, and the cost of funds; and asset/liability management. The regulatory environment for financial institutions is also examined. Lectures and readings are supplemented with group projects and presentations.

FIN 5380 Healthcare Finance (3)

Cross-listed as HPA 5380

Pre-requisite(s): FIN 5360

This course extends financial principles to healthcare markets, including accounting statements for healthcare institutions as sources of information, and analysis of third party payment systems as sources of funds. Decision making tools through spreadsheet analysis is emphasized.

FIN 5381 Practicum in Portfolio Management (3)

Pre-requisite(s): FIN 5365 or equivalent, and consent of instructor

This practicum gives students valuable hands-on experience in securities research, valuation of risky assets, and asset allocation by managing the Philip M. Dorr and Alumni Endowed Investment Fund. Through readings and student-prepared research reports students develop skills in evaluating economic, industry, and firm data; integrating such data into securities analysis; and communicating their research results to others.

FIN 5460 Fundamentals of Applied Business Finance (4)

An introductory course in the theory and principles of finance, which include planning and controlling functions (time value of money, pro forma budgeting, ratio analysis), balance sheet management (working capital budgeting, debt & equity financing), and cost management (cost classification allocation, break even & variance analysis), among other topics. This is an applied course that focuses less on the theoretical (textbook) concepts and more on practical tools that will be useful in the student's professional endeavors.

FIN 5V97 Special Studies in Real Estate (1-6)

This course may be taken for one to six semester hours of credit.

FIN 5V98 Special Studies in Finance (1-6)

Pre-requisite(s): Consent of instructor

This course may be taken for one to six semester hours of credit.

FIN 5V99 Thesis (1-6)

Pre-requisite(s): Consent of instructor