

Course Syllabus
FINA 5170 – 001

Course Information

<i>Course Number / Section</i>	FINA 5170 001
<i>Course Title</i>	Financial Management
<i>Term</i>	Spring 2021
<i>Days & Times</i>	UNT Internet course

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Tomas Mantecon Prieto
<i>Office</i>	312L
<i>Office Phone</i>	940-891-6905
<i>Office hours</i>	Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For any questions about problem sets, preparation for exams, etc please use the e-mail fina5170spring2021@gmail.com. My TA will check this account several times a day. You can also contact me directly at tomas.mantecon@unt.edu.

Prerequisites

Students must complete ACCT 5020, FINA 5040, ECON 5000, BCIS 5090, DSCI 5010 before enrolling in this course.
Students who are non-degree or degree seeking undecided may not register for certain courses without departmental approval.

Course Description

The course objectives are to develop the knowledge and understanding of a broad set of corporate financial principals and fundamentals. This course will teach you the tools and techniques used and proposed in corporate financial management. Analysis of the investment and financing decisions and the environment in which such decisions are made are covered in readings, problems and class discussions.

Course Objectives

The “tools” you will acquire in this course will be the foundation for other business courses you take, as well as the knowledge you acquire as a professional. Upon successful completion of this course, you will have developed an understanding of the main concepts in finance, and you should be able to provide an answer to the following questions:

- ✚ What are be the main decisions taken by financial managers? What are agency problems?
- ✚ How to compute loan and mortgage payments with fix and adjustable rate mortgages?
- ✚ How much money do you need to save to afford a certain life style after retirement?
- ✚ How do you price bonds using the current term structure of interest rates? What happens to the price of a bond if the interest rates change by 1% ?
- ✚ How do you price stocks using multiples and discounted cash flows?
- ✚ Why is the concept of efficient markets relevant for investment decisions?
- ✚ What available projects should you accept or reject?
- ✚ Where would you invest a certain sum of money, using Markowitz’s portfolio theory?
- ✚ Why should investors diversify?
- ✚ What is the CAPM and why is it useful for investment and capital budgeting decisions?
- ✚ How would you value a firm using discounted cash flows and multiples?

Required text and equipment

- ✚ **Canvas:** The **Canvas** website is your primary interface of the course. All portions of the course will be online. You can access the course material in Canvas at <https://unt.instructure.com/login/canvas>. After you log in using your EUID and password, click on FINA 5170 from the list of courses. If you run into technical problems while using Canvas then please call 940 565 2324 or email vista@unt.edu.
McGraw Hill Connect Finance is integrated into Canvas so you will have seamless access to the McGraw Hill materials through Canvas. I will post announcements at least once a week to inform you about what I expect for the upcoming week.
- ✚ **Connect** Access Code for **Principles of Corporate Finance**, by Brealey, Myers, and Allen, 13th edition, published by McGraw Hill. This comes with the e-book. Access codes are available for purchase at the UNT Bookstore and on the McGraw Hill Connect website.
- ✚ **A web camera** or a laptop with integrated **camera** is required for all remote exams. Unfortunately, your test score will be invalid without a functioning camera. All remote exams will be administered through Canvas using **Respondus** Lockdown Browser with Camera option. Respondus Lockdown browser can be downloaded through your Canvas account.
- ✚ You should know how to use the basic functions of **Excel**. A **financial calculator** such as The Texas Instruments BA-II Plus is highly recommended, but any similar calculator will do.

Recommended Readings

- ✚ The Wall Street Journal. Every student in a COB Masters' program in finance gets electronic access to the WSJ. You can request your subscription at this website: <https://cob.unt.edu/masters/wall-street-journal-online-subscription>
- ✚ The Financial Times
- ✚ The Economist
- ✚ News websites:
 - <https://www.bloomberg.com/>
 - <https://www.wsj.com/>

Online Course Structure

All materials are grouped into modules in Canvas. A new study unit will be made available each Sunday. Each Module will have video lectures, the presentations that I use in the videos, the list of problems from the chapters that you should study every week, as well as the solutions to some problems that I use to explain the content.

I will open a discussion forum for posting questions and comments. My TA and I will participate in the discussion forums to provide guidance and to answer specific questions. The discussion forum will stay open until the end of the semester.

For communications not directly related to discussion topics, you may either send an e-mail at fina5170spring2021@gmail.com (you will receive the quickest reply in this way), or send an e-mail through Canvas.

Performance Evaluation

Examinations (700 points)

There will be 2 exams during the semester, a midterm and a final exam. This is a large class, with about 140 students. It is unfeasible to accommodate the different working schedules and preferences of all of you. To offer some flexibility, I will have 2 different exams for the midterm. You can take the midterm either on Friday April 9th from 6: p.m. to 10:00 p.m., or on Saturday, April 10th, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

I do not have too much freedom to set the date of the final exam. Final exams are scheduled by the office of the registrar. The date of final exams for 8W classes is May 1st. However, I was given authorization to offer the exam also on April 30th. Thus, I will have two different final exams. You can take the final exam either on Friday April 30th from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., or on Saturday May 1st, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Note that the exams for short semesters (8W and 5W classes) have to be at the end of the week.

Please make sure that you do not have other commitments on these days, as exams are allowed on only the scheduled exam dates and there are no makeup exams.

Regarding the content of the exams, you will find study guides for the exams in Canvas. The final exam will be cumulative.

As mentioned above, the exams will be available on Canvas from 6 pm until 10 pm (on Fridays) and from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (on Saturdays). However, once you begin the exam, you have 3 hours within the four-hour period to complete it in one sitting. You can pause the exam, but the elapsed time clock will continue to tick.

If you experience technical problems with launching or completing the online exams, you should immediately call the student Canvas **help desk at 940-565-2324** to report the problem and get assistance, and obtain a ticket number. If the student help desk cannot resolve the problem in a timely manner, you should then immediately email me to document the situation.

Problem sets (Total 300 points)

You will have 6 problem sets (PS) created in McGraw Hill Connect. The PS will be due before Sunday midnight. However, try to submit the PS several hours before they are due. If you do not submit the PS before midnight of the due day, it will not be graded. I will drop the lowest grade to account for events beyond your control (sicknesses, technology problems, etc.) The best 5 grades will count for 300 points.

Following the markets (Total 100 extra-points)

You can earn 100 extra points if you upload a daily summary of the evaluation of the financial markets. Every day, starting **March 15th, until April 29th**, you will upload a one-page report in Canvas with the following information (You have one example in Canvas from a prior semester):

1. Select a company listed in the NYSE or in NASDAQ (any company you want to follow). Follow the daily stock price and press releases about your company. A good source of information is: <https://www.bloomberg.com>. Copy the news in the daily report. If there is no news, just write: *There is no news about my firm today.*

2. You should also follow the equity (S&P 500), debt (fix income US 6 Months and US 30 years), commodities (WTI crude and gold) and currency (EUR-USD) markets every trading day of the semester.
In the report, you will include the price changes from the prior day in a table with 7 rows, one for each security: (S&P 500, US 6 Months and US 30 years treasuries, WTI crude, Gold (COMEX), EUR-USD exchange, and the change in price of your company).
3. Underneath the table, include a paragraph with an explanation of the news of the day. You should listen to one of the 1-minute podcasts that you can find at <http://www.wsj.com/podcasts/browse/wsj-minute-briefing>.
You can select the episode of your liking.
4. You should also add a second paragraph with the news regarding your selected company.
5. You should also listen to WSJ What's News --- Top stories for <the day>.
<http://www.wsj.com/podcasts/browse/wsj-whats-news>

In the third paragraph of your report, you should summarize the content of this podcast. Thus, the one-page report should consist of 1 table and 3 paragraphs. The reports will be due before midnight of the closing trading day. There are about 35 trading days in the period March 15th - April 30th. You need to upload a minimum of 30 daily reports, in the section *Assignments* of Canvas. If you do not complete at least 30, you will not receive extra credit. For instance, if you submit 30 reports you will earn 100 points but if you do 29 reports you will earn 0 points. You have an example in Canvas, in the document **“Example of Following the markets.pdf”**

Grade distribution

Grades will be computed based on the following maximum number of points:

Midterm	300
Final Exam	400
Problem Sets	300
Following the Markets (extra points)	100
Total	1100 points

Students are responsible for taking the scheduled exams except with accepted excuses. Viable excuses include documented sickness, death in the immediate family, or participation in university sanctioned activities.

Grade Distribution

900 – 1100 = A
800 – 899 = B
700 – 799 = C
600 – 699 = D
Below 600 = F

Students should be aware that no extra credit, other than the ones mentioned in this syllabus, will be granted. Unfortunately, a few students inquire at the end of each semester: “What can I do to get an A, a B or a C... ?” Unfortunately, the answer is, *“nothing”*; each student has the same opportunity to earn a grade. I will not treat any student differently by allowing the student to obtain extra credit that other students did not have the opportunity to earn.

Tentative Schedule

This is a tentative schedule and minor changes may be made during the semester. These are unusual times, and we need to be as flexible as possible. Important deadlines to drop or to withdraw can be found at: <http://catalog.unt.edu/index.php>

	Topic	Assignments
Week 1 (March 8 – March 14)	Introduction to corporate finance Agency problems Time Value of Money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch video Lecture 1 ✚ Read Chapter 1, pp 1-15 ✚ Watch Lecture 2 ✚ Read Chapter 2, pp 20-39 ✚ Study the end-of-chapter problems (ECP) for Chapter 2, pp. 39-45. You do not have to do all of them, only the problems listed in Canvas in each module. <i>Important:</i> You have the solutions to the ECP in Canvas. ✚ Start working on Problems Set 1 (PS1). It is due on March 21, but PS2 is due on the same day, so do not wait to start, or you may be overwhelmed with work. Try to submit the PS several hours before the due time. If you do not submit the PS before midnight, it will not be graded. I will drop the lowest grade to account for events beyond your control.
Week 2 (March 15 – March 21)	Valuing bonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch Lecture 3 ✚ Read Chapter 3, pp 46-70 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 3, pp. 3-75. ✚ Problem Set 1 (PS1) and PS2 are due before Sunday, March 21, at 12 midnight. ✚ Start working on <i>Following the markets</i> on March 15. The document in Canvas “Example of Following the markets.pdf” has an example. These reports are for <i>extra-credit</i>. You have to do at least 30 reports to receive 100 extra points. If you do less than 30 reports (for instance, 28), you will not receive any credit.
Week 3 (March 22 – March 28)	Valuing common stocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch Lecture 4 ✚ Read Chapter 4, pp 77-100 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 4, pp. 3-75. ✚ PS3 is due before 12 midnight of Sunday, March 28. ✚ Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i>.
Week 4 (March 29 – April 4)	NPV and Other Investment Decision Rules Making Investment Decisions with the NPV rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch Lecture 5 ✚ Read Chapter 5, pp 108-121 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 5, pp. 127-132 ✚ Watch Lecture 6 ✚ Read Chapter 6, pp 135-156 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 6, pp. 157-64 ✚ PS4 is due before 12 midnight of Sunday, April 4 ✚ Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i>.
Week 5 (April 5 – April 11)	Friday April 9 or April 10 Exam 1 (Chapters 1 – 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ See document Study guide for Exam 1, in Canvas ✚ Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i>.

	Topic	Assignments
Week 6 (April 12 – April 18)	Introduction to Risk and Return Portfolio Theory and the CAPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch Lecture 7 & 8 ✚ Read Chapter 7, pp 167-190 ✚ Work on ECP for Chapter 7 pp. 191-197 in the list. ✚ Read Chapter 8, pp 198-217 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 8, pp. 218-225 ✚ PS5 is due before 12 midnight of Sunday, April 18 ✚ Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i>.
Week 7 (April 19 – April 25)	Risk and The Cost of Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Watch Lecture 9 ✚ Read Chapter 9, pp 228-246 ✚ Study the ECP in the list for Chapter 9, pp. 249-254 ✚ PS6 is due before 12 midnight of Sunday, April 25. ✚ Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i>.
Week 8 (April 26 – May 1)	April 30th or May 1st Final Exam (comprehensive)	<p>See document Study guide for Final Exam, in Canvas</p> <p>Continue working on <i>Following the markets</i> until you complete at least 30 daily reports. The last day to do a report is April 30.</p>

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk site](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

Telephone Availability:

- Sunday: noon-midnight
- Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight
- Friday: 8am-8pm
- Saturday: 9am-5pm

Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
- Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) (<https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips>) for more information.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND CONSEQUENCES

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURES FOR BUSINESS LEADERSHIP BUILDING

- **Severe Weather** In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 070, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level or in rooms 170, 155, and restrooms 122, 182 or 183 on the first floor.
- **Bomb Threat/Fire** In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available at the end of the semester to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. You will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.



DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

The University of North Texas is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at <http://www.unt.edu/oda/apply/index.html>. Also, you may visit the Office of Disability Accommodation in the University Union (room 321) or call them at (940) 565-4323.

If you need an accommodation, please contact me as soon as possible but at the latest by the second week of class.

COVID-19 Important issues

Statement on Face Covering

Face coverings are required in all UNT facilities. Students are expected to wear face coverings during this class. If you are unable to wear a face covering due to a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Access to request an accommodation. UNT face covering requirements are subject to change due to community health guidelines. Any changes will be communicated via the instructor.

COVID-19 Impact on Attendance

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

Class Materials for Remote Instruction

The UNT fall schedule requires this course to have fully remote instruction beginning November 28th. Additional remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a [webcam and microphone – faculty member to include what other basic equipment is needed] to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Additional required classroom materials for remote learning include: [list specific software, supplies, equipment or system requirements needed for the course]. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>.