

FINA3770: Introduction to Finance

Fall 2026

Contact information.

Professor: Dr. Yingchun Liu

Office Location: BLB 365F

Phone Number: (940) 565-4281

Email: yingchun.liu@unt.edu

Office Hours

Professor's Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30pm-1:30pm and by appointment.

Course Description

FINA 3770 (3 credit hours) is an introduction to the basic principles of finance and the application of these principles to financial decision-making. This class will provide an overview of the financial markets; time value of money and interest rates; financial information; capital budgeting and financial decision making; security markets; risk and return trade-offs.

Course Structure

All course materials, including lecture materials, readings, assignments, and supplementary resources, will be provided through Canvas. Students are expected to review the assigned materials and complete any required preparation before each class meeting.

Class lectures will focus on the fundamental concepts and topics that require additional clarification or analysis. Lectures will not simply repeat the assigned readings or online materials; instead, they will provide additional insights through detailed explanations, practical applications, real-world examples, and discussions designed to enhance students' understanding of course concepts.

Students are encouraged to actively participate in class discussions, engage with examples presented during lectures, and ask questions to strengthen their understanding of the material. The course emphasizes both conceptual knowledge and the ability to apply course principles to practical situations.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to:

1. Understand the advantages and disadvantages of each type of firm organization.
2. Calculate present value, future value, interest rate, periodic payments, and the number of payment periods of different types of cash flows.
3. Understand how the changes in interest rate affect the value of your assets or the return of your investments.
4. Calculate the value of different types of financial assets such as stocks and bonds.
5. Conceptualize the risk and return trade-off of your investment from both stand-alone and portfolio perspective.

6. Choose between business projects using different financial criteria (e.g. NPV, IRR, and payback periods)
7. Calculate the cost of capital.

Required Materials

1. Textbook. Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, with WileyPlus, 4th ed by Parrino, Bates, Gillan and Kidwell, Publisher: Wiley, ISBN: 978-1-119-37143-4. UNT has negotiated a special pricing for you. To receive this special pricing, use promo code **UNT13** to purchase ebook + one-semester/ 6-month WileyPlus access for **\$55** from WileyPlus.com through Canvas only. The purchase instructions is downloadable from Canvas- introduction module- Questions about WileyPLUS.
2. Online homework system [New WileyPlus](#). See the instructions for [student registration for New WileyPlus in Canvas](#).
3. A web camera or a laptop with integrated camera is required for all exams. It is your responsibility to obtain a properly functioning camera for exams. Your test score will be invalid without a functioning camera. All exams will be administered through Canvas using Respondus Lockdown Browser with Camera option. Respondus Lockdown browser can be [downloaded](#) through your Canvas account.
4. A Texas Instruments' (TI) BA II Plus financial calculator. I will use the TI BA II Plus financial calculator to demonstrate calculation problems in the lecture notes. You can find the online manual at <http://bit.ly/14A6Fba>

Course Site (Canvas)

PowerPoint slides and other supplementary course materials are available through course website on Canvas at canvas.unt.edu/. You can use Canvas to access New WileyPlus homework. All grades will be available on Canvas so that you can track your progress.

Grades

The course grade will be determined as follows. Detailed explanations for each component are below.

Contribution to Grade	Percentage of Final Grade
Homework (10 assignments, lowest one dropped)	15%
Exams (4 exams)	80%
Guest lecture and report	5%
Total	100%

Your final grade will be determined based on the percentage points of your assignments accumulated over the semester as follows.

A = 90-100	B = 80-89.99
C = 70-79.99	D = 60-69.99
F = below 60	

Course Prerequisites or Other Expectations

Completion of pre-business requirements, including ACCT 2010 and 2020 or equivalent with grades of C or better. FINA 3770 syllabus is designed with the assumptions that the students have a sound understanding of the basic mathematics, algebra, statistics, accounting (especially balance sheet, income statement and the statement of cash flows) and all other prerequisites. It is your responsibility to read and review through these topics thoroughly so that you are comfortable with these concepts.

Class Outline:

Tentative Course Outline/Schedule

Week	Topic/Assigned Reading	Chapter/Exams
1	Module 1: Introduction/Module 2: The Financial Manager and the Firm	Chapter 1
2	Module 3: The Financial System and the Level of Interest Rates	Chapter 2
3	Module 4: Financial Statements, Cash Flow and Taxes	Chapter 3/4
4	Module 4: Financial Statements, Cash Flow and Taxes	Chapter 3/4
	Module 5: Time Value of Money (Introduction)	Chapter 5
5	Module 5: Time Value of Money (Introduction)	Chapter 5
	Review and Study preparing for exam1	
6	exam 1 on 9/22, during class time	exam 1
	guest speaker,9/24	report
7	Module 6: Discounted Cash Flows and Valuation	Chapter 6
8	Module 7: Bond Valuation	Chapter 8
9	Module 8: Stock Valuation	Chapter 9
10	Review and Study preparing for exam2	
	exam 2 on 10/22, during class time	exam 2
11	Module 9: Risk and Return	Chapter 7
12	Module 10: The Fundamentals of Capital Budgeting	Chapter 10
13	Review and Study preparing for exam3	
	exam 3 on 11/12, during class time	exam3
14	Module 11: The Cost of Capital	Chapter 13
15	exam 4 on 12/1 during class time	exam 4

Grade-related Policies.

Homework and Late Submission Policy

There will be 10 graded homework and best 9 homework will be graded. You have one attempt to complete each individual homework, however, you are allowed 3 attempts per question. Your best score will be kept as the question score. You have unlimited time to complete each homework. Each homework

is equally graded. Please watch a short video in Canvas under Module 1- “Questions about WileyPLUS” if you want to know more about how to sit for the homework.

HomeWorks are administered via Wiley Plus. All homework assignments are to be completed by 11:59 pm (Central time) of the due date unless the student has a university-excused absence and provides documentation with 48 hours of the missed deadline. There will be a 10% grade deduction if the homework is submitted one day after the due date. Any unsubmitted homework one day after the due date will receive a grade of zero. Homework dates are posted in Canvas calendar. You will be able to see your grade in the canvas grade book immediately after you complete the homework.

Homework is designed to give you an opportunity to apply the financial concepts you learn in this course in making business and personal finance decisions as well as to prepare you for the exams. You should plan on spending at least 10-12 hours per week working on your class material and assignments. I would suggest everyone starts working on the homework well before the due date so that you have more time to work on your assignments, more opportunities to get help if you need.

Exam Policy

FINA3770 has a total of four exams. Each exam is equally weighted. The exam is partially cumulative because of the nature of class. All exams are mandatory and cannot be dropped. Any missed exam will get a grade of zero.

You may take the exams anywhere with **reliable internet access**, including in our classroom during our class time.

All exams have similar formats and are closed books and closed notes. Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions – both conceptual and numerical. Any material discussed in this course (including but not limited to course notes and supplementary materials posted on canvas, assigned text book chapters, problems assigned as homework) are examinable. I will provide an exam formula sheet ahead of each exam, you may also print one out to use during the exam. You will be able to see your grade in canvas grade book immediately after you complete the exam. Exam dates are posted in Canvas calendar.

You are allowed to bring a Non-programmable financial calculator, scratch paper, formula sheet, pen/pencil, printed/online formula sheet, a form of ID (UNT student card or driver's license). All exams are administered online via Canvas and must use webcam and [Respondus Lockdown Browser](#). If you are using UNT computer to take the test, please ask an administrator to download the Respondus for you and make sure that there is a webcam in the computer. If you have any issues with Respondus software or web camera, you must sort it out well ahead of the exam. Please take the ungraded mock quiz under "Quiz" in your course navigation menu (on the left) to check if Respondus is working properly. If not, then email helpdesk@unt.edu and resolve the issue.

Makeup Exam Policy

Exam dates are fixed. Make sure you arrange other appointments (including work, job interview, doctor's appointment, etc.) well in advance if there is a conflict with the exam date and time. Makeup exams are only allowed in case of extreme circumstances and [university-excused absences](#). **In such cases you must**

obtain a note from the Dean of Students and obtain confirmation from me prior to the exam. If such extreme circumstances are unforeseeable (i.e. accident), you need to contact me as soon as possible and I will determine how to proceed.

Guest Lecture:

Our speaker is a **working professional who is taking time out of their busy schedule to come and talk with us**, so I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn from their experience. I encourage you to ask questions during the presentation and take notes.

You are required to write a short report about the presentation. Your report should be approximately **500-600 words** and include:

- A summary of the presentation
- Your comments and reflections on the presentation

Please submit your report via **Canvas**. **Handwritten reports will not be accepted.**

You will not receive credit if you miss the presentation.

I will take attendance, and **your presence is required**. Please be respectful of our guest speaker's time by arriving on time and actively participating in the presentation.

We may need to adjust the presentation time slightly to accommodate our guest speaker's busy schedule. I will keep you informed of any changes.

Grade Disputes

Grade appeals will be accepted only in writing within three days after grades become available to students. You are required to specify why the grade needs to be re-evaluated in your writing. Please note that grade re-evaluation may result in a lower grade.

There is a SPOT group credit available for the whole class. If 85% of students in this course complete the SPOT evaluation by the deadline, all students in this class will receive 1% extra credit for the course.

I will post announcements or may contact you by e-mail whenever necessary and will send e-mail messages to your EagleConnect (e-mail) account. It is your responsibility to check the announcement and your e-mail account on a regular basis. Note that any information about your homework/exam grades will only be communicated via Canvas grade book. I will not post or discuss FINAL grade via email. You have to wait until the registrar's office publishes the FINAL grade.

Change of Recorded Grades

Components of your grades will be posted on Canvas throughout the semester. You need to check your grade book carefully to make sure that all items of your grade are recorded correctly. If, however, any item is incorrectly recorded, I need to be informed in writing (email with evidence to support your case) within 3 days from when it is posted on Canvas. If no request to adjust grades is made within that time frame, all graded items are finalized, and no further correction will be made.

Incomplete Grade

A grade of incomplete can only be assigned if you follow the University policy regarding incomplete grades. You must check with me to arrange an incomplete before the last exam is administered. Not performing well in class, not being able to complete an assignment in time or being out of town during a test are inadequate reasons for requesting or granting an "I".

Add/Drop Deadlines

If you are currently not enrolled in this course, you need to add it by the appropriate deadline. If you want to drop the course without penalty, you may do so by the appropriate date. For these and other deadlines, including receipt of an automated grade of "W", please consult UNT's [Office of the Registrar](#).

Student Responsibility

Each student is responsible for the information contained in this syllabus and all the announcements made in this course. This includes announcements made on the first day of class. Students are responsible for turning in homework and exams on time. The students are also responsible for withdrawing from the class should they decide to do so.

Instructor Responsibility

As an instructor, my responsibility is to deliver the course knowledge per this syllabus, help you grow and learn, provide clear instructions for the activities and assessments, answer questions about assignments, and identify additional resources as necessary.

Course Contract

This syllabus represents a binding contract between you (the student) and I (the instructor). Please read it carefully. Your enrollment in this course constitutes an agreement to these terms for the length of the course. I look forward to working with you to achieve the goals set forth in this syllabus.

General Course Policies

Communication and Feedback: The best way to contact me is via email. Students must use their official UNT email address to communicate with the Professor. Also, sometimes emails go missing – if it seems that I have not responded to you, please feel free to follow up with me. You may also want to find someone in class to be a "buddy" with. This will give you at least one other person who you can email with questions.

Students are expected to use appropriate and professional etiquette when communicating via email. As business students, you should exhibit a high level of care as to whether your message is communicated clearly and in an appropriate manner, so the recipient can understand. Be mindful of your "tone" and language. Use appropriate greetings, full sentences, and a closure statement. Do not use text message shortcuts or acronyms.

I will post announcements or may contact you by e-mail whenever necessary and will send e-mail messages to your EagleConnect (e-mail) account. It is your responsibility to check your e-mail account on a regular basis. Note that any information about your homework/exam grades will only be communicated via Canvas.

Student Success: FINA 3770 has frequent deliverables and challenging goals. My experience is that students who keep up with the material from the beginning of class typically do very well. Do not procrastinate! Make sure that you can relate the relevant points in the text back to the learning objectives. Based on your review of the class power points, your reading of the text, and your attempt at solving the homework, come to the office hours with a list of questions (areas of confusion, etc.). If you follow this approach, you will turn a passive activity of reading the lecture into an active task of seeking specific knowledge or skills that are consistent with the learning objectives.

Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be referred to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for students apply to all instructional forums.

Academic Integrity: All students are expected to act in an honest and forthright manner in this class and with all class assignments and exams. Students are expected to do their own work individually unless otherwise stated in an assignment. Students caught cheating in any manner will be given a zero for the assignment, exam in question and the issue will go before the Executive Associate Dean of the College for the potential of additional penalties up to and including expulsion from the College and/or University. The University has a very specific honesty policy. You are expected to know and to follow this policy. Examples of academic dishonesty include but not limited to:

Cheating. "Cheating" means the use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

- a. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, or other assessments;
- b. use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
- c. use, without permission, of tests, notes, or other academic materials belonging to instructors, staff members, or other students of the University;
- d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
- e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Plagiarism. "Plagiarism" means use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:

- a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation, or
- b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

Accommodation for Disability: Please inform me during the first week of class if you have any conditions that may limit or affect your ability to participate in this course so that we can make the necessary arrangements. You may also contact [the Office of Disability Access](#) for more information.

Religious Accommodations: It is University policy to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide, without penalty, for rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Students who plan to observe such a holiday are requested to notify the instructor as soon as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements for class work or rescheduling of examinations. Please consult [UNT list of major religious Holidays](#).

Emergency Plan: Every campus building has emergency shelter and evacuation plans. Please familiarize yourself with the plans of each building in which you take classes or attend meetings. Make sure to note the routes to the lowest level of the buildings for shelter during inclement weather, as well as exits from the buildings in the event of fire or other emergencies.

Syllabus Change Policy: The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus, if needed. Announcements will be made in class and Canvas.

Students Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT): Student feedback is important and essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available late in 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. 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](#) or email spot@unt.edu.

Retention of Student Records: Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams and assignments submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via Canvas, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Sexual Assault Prevention: UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination based on sex and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a

room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Use of Student Work: Student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) they create within a class, and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all the following criteria are met:

- ✓ The work is used only once.
- ✓ The work is not used in its entirety.
- ✓ Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- ✓ The student is not identified.
- ✓ The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

Help and Support: If you feel that you are struggling to understand the material, please contact me sooner rather than later. To ensure that I can help you, be specific about what you do not understand – that is, section of the notes, text, or a particular problem that you are struggling with (For example, if it is a numerical problem, email me, or bring to office hours, a copy of the question and your attempt to solve it such as a picture of your handwritten note).

Technical Assistance: Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT Help Desk: UNT Student Help Desk site

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Walk-In Availability: 8am-9pm

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

Academic Support Services:

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

Student Support Services:

Mental Health Services

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)