FIN 405 – 1001 & 1002 – CASE PROBLEMS IN MANAGERIAL FINANCE  
Fall, 2016

Department of Finance

Class Schedule

Section 1001 – Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 to 2:15 in BEH 102
Section 1002 – Tuesday & Thursday 2:30 to 3:45 in BEH 102

Prerequisite

Completion of both Intermediate Managerial Finance (FIN 303) and Investments (FIN 307) with a minimum grade of C is required. If you have not completed these requirements you will be administratively dropped from the class.

Textbook

- Your textbooks from FIN 301 and FIN 303 should be available to use as reference books.
- Wall Street Journal
- Other miscellaneous materials will be made available on WebCampus throughout the semester.

Equipment

Students need a financial calculator. The Department of Finance approved calculators are the Texas Instruments BA II (various models), HP 10b (various models), and the HP 12-C (various models). The visible presence of any other electronic device during examinations is expressly forbidden and will be considered academic dishonesty.

You also will need access to a computer with Excel. If you do not have your own computer that meets this criterion, the computers in the computer labs at UNLV should suffice.
Course Learning Outcomes:

This course focuses on the application of theory in financial management including the use of Excel spreadsheets to assist with financial decisions. Although there will be a few class lectures, most of your time will be spent on case analysis and the use of Excel for financial decision-making. **You should review your basic financial management textbooks (FIN 301 & 303) whenever a new topic is introduced to the class.** Successful case classes require the active participation of students and participation will be expected of each and every student!

Upon successful completion of this class you should be able to recognize, analyze, and construct feasible solutions to complex financial problems dealing with various financial issues and concepts including:

- Time value of money
- Relationship between risk and return
- How cash flows create value

Case Preparation & Class Participation

Students should read the cases and prepare answers to questions prior to discussion of the case in class. Students are not expected to have perfect answers to all questions assigned prior to class. You are expected to be sufficiently familiar with the case and questions to carry on an intelligent discussion about the case and the assigned questions.

It is imperative for eventual success on the course exams that you thoroughly understand the answers to all case questions and work through the answers yourself in addition to following the discussion of each question in class. Availability and use of FIN 301 & 303 textbooks is crucial to understanding basic financial management practices applied to cases used in this class.

Organization of Topics The dates and topics below are tentative as the class may move somewhat faster or slower than planned.

- **Aug 30** Introduction, Organization of Class and Review of Syllabus
- **Sep 1 & 6** Review of Financial Math & Other Fundamental Finance Concepts
- **Sep 8, 13 & 15** Case 92 Macmillan and Grunski Consulting: Fundamental Concepts, consider all questions.
- **Sep 20 & 22** Case 51 Safe Packaging Company: Financial Analysis and Forecasting consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus
- **Sep 27 & 29** Case 42 West Coast Semiconductor, Inc: Cost of Capital consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus
Oct 4 & 6  **Case 65 Friendly Food Stores, Inc: Leasing** consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus

Oct 11  Exam I on Cases 92, 51, 42 & 65, and Wall Street Journal articles reviewed in class.

Oct 13  **Capital Budgeting Review** covers the 16 page handout available on WebCampus

Oct 18  No Class the day before UNLV’s Hosted Presidential Debate – Read WSJ Articles about Presidential Debate at UNLV

Oct 20, 25 & 27  **Case 95 Chino Material Systems: Capital Budgeting**, consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus.

Nov 1 & 3  **Case 58 Tasty Foods Corporation (A): Capital Budgeting** consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus.

Nov 8, 10 & 15  **Case 59 Tasty Foods Corporation (B): Capital Budgeting** consider all questions provided for this case on WebCampus.

Nov 17  **Case 28 Julian Eastheimer & Company: Special Topics**

Nov 22  Exam II on Cases 95, 58, 59 & 28, and Wall Street Journal articles reviewed in class.

Nov 29  Excel Tutorial – Pivot Tables

Dec 1  **Final Project on Capital Budgeting & Risk Assessment** passed out and discussed.

Dec 6 & 8  Attendance is not required but classroom will be open and instructor available for help with Final Project

Dec 12  Final Project due by 5:00 pm. Hard copy of final project/exam can be turned into instructor’s office (BEH 528) or left with management assistant in BEH 514 for instructor’s mailbox.
Grades – Your final grade for the course will consist of the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation &amp; Professionalism</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Project/Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Your final grade is determined from your performance as outlined above. There is no way to obtain extra credit. If you have a personal problem that will harm your performance in class, such as an accident, poor health or a death in your family let the instructor know before it leads to a bad grade. If a situation such as this is likely to impact your performance on an exam, we can more than likely reschedule your exam to accommodate the situation. Also an incomplete or withdrawal can be given, but once the bad grade has been earned, it is too late to change it. A withdrawal is **not** permitted by university policy after November 4th for any reasons. An incomplete can be given for emergency situations, but are not given because you are unsatisfied with your grade.

Grades can **not** be given over the telephone. Letter grades are assigned as follows:

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\begin{align*}
A & \geq 92 & 90 \leq A- < 92 \\
88 \leq B+ < 90 & 82 \leq B < 88 & 80 \leq B- < 82 \\
78 \leq C+ < 80 & 72 \leq C < 78 & 70 \leq C- < 72 \\
68 \leq D+ < 70 & 62 \leq D < 68 & 60 \leq D- < 62 \\
F & < 60
\end{align*}
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Quizzes

A multiple choice quiz will be given on every day we start a new case. The quiz will be at the beginning of class. If you are more than 5 minutes late for the class you will not be able to take the quiz. These quizzes will be multiple choice and based upon the descriptive information in the day’s case as well as on recent Wall Street Journal articles we discussed. There may be quizzes in addition to these; however they will be announced in class ahead of time.
Class Participation & Professionalism

Students are responsible for answering questions asked by the instructor. You will be graded upon the quantity and quality of your class participation. Participation may take the form of summarizing a case, answering questions, asking questions, or just general discussion relevant to class material.

Professionalism in class is also a part of this grade and is based upon your conduct during class. Examples of conduct that will earn a high grade in this category include:

- Attending class and not interrupting class by arriving late or leaving early
- Showing preparation for the material covered in class each day.
- Showing respect to other students
- Asking good questions during class
- Providing thoughtful answers to instructor’s questions during class

Examples of conduct that will bring your grade lower in this category:

- Missing class, arriving late for class, leaving early from class
- Using electronic devices during class time other than appropriate use of computers and financial calculators
- Private discussions with other students during class time
- Fall asleep during class
- Showing a lack of preparation for class

I understand occasionally a student may miss class, or be late for or leave early from a class for significant unavoidable reasons. If this should happen to you during the semester, then please send me an Email explaining your reasons and giving me the date this will occur. However if you have responsibilities that require you to miss class, be late for class or leave class early on a regular basis then you should not take this class. Having difficulty with parking or traffic on a regular basis is not a significant unavoidable reason!

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.
**Academic Misconduct**—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: [https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct).

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

**Religious Holidays Policy**—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: [http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531](http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531).

**Tutoring and Coaching**—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit [http://www.unlv.edu/asc](http://www.unlv.edu/asc) or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.
Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: [http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright](http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright).

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: [http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/](http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/).

Library—Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is [https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject](https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at [https://www.library.unlv.edu/](https://www.library.unlv.edu/).

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: [http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars](http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars).