

MISSION: Our mission is to advance responsible and impactful business knowledge. To achieve our mission, we develop life ready graduates and build global and local partnerships through ethical and innovative practices.

OVERVIEW

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| Course Description | This course provides an introduction to corporate finance theories and how these theories can be applied to problems relevant to managers. Topics covered will include: corporate objectives, operations of capital markets, alternative sources of finance, dividend decision, financing decision, cost of capital, time value of money, evaluation of investment projects, and risk and return. |
| Contact Hours | Lecture: Face to Face on Campus 3 hour(s) per week for 12 weeks |
| Unit Weighting | 10 units |
| Requisites | This course is only available to students enrolled in the Master of Professional Accounting, M Prof Acct (Adv), M Prof Acct/M Bus, M Prof Acct/M Bus Admin, Grad Cert Prof Acct, Master of Applied Finance, and Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance. |
| Workload | Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course. |
| Please refer to the course CANVAS site for details of teaching staff for ALL course offerings. The primary contact for courses is the Course Coordinator, whose details are listed on the course CANVAS site. | |
| Student Consultation | A minimum of one (1) hour of consultation per week. Please see course CANVAS site for details of time and location. |
| Course Learning Outcomes | On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Explain the importance of finance and risk in personal/business decisions;2. Demonstrate an understanding of the investment and financing decision processes of the firm;3. Illustrate an understanding of the role cash flow estimates and analysis have in the decision processes;4. Use basic financial mathematics;5. Exhibit an understanding of how risky assets are priced; and6. Explain the concept of risk management and its importance to management. |

COURSE OUTLINE

ASSESSMENTS

This course has **3** assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below:

| | Assessment Name | Due Date | Involvement | Weighting | Learning Outcomes |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1 | Mid-Trimester Test | Workshops 5 | Individual | 20% | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 2 | Group Report and Presentation | Workshop 11 | Group | 30% | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| 3 | Final Examination | Formal Exam Period | Individual | 50% | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

Please note: students are advised that **ALL** assessments must be submitted in English. Assessments not submitted in English will receive a mark of zero.

Results of individual assessment items and final results, including those provided via the Learning Management System (LMS) are 'unofficial results' until they are confirmed as finalised by the School Assessment Body and the Head of School or delegate. Finalised results are released directly to students on the Fully Graded Date of the relevant Semester/Trimester.

Time referenced is time in Newcastle NSW

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| Late Submissions | The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days. |
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Assessment 1 – Mid-Trimester Test

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| Assessment Type | In Term Test |
| Purpose | To assess the students' knowledge and understanding of business finance theories or concepts. |
| Description | This is a 1 hour test comprising multiple choice, problems and short answer questions similar to those encountered in the seminars. Check CANVAS for further instructions. |
| Weighting | 20% |
| Length | 1 hour |
| Due Date | Workshop 5 |
| Submission Method | In class |
| Assessment Criteria | The following criteria will be assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Relevance to the questions – Accuracy of information/argument – Clarity of expression |
| Return Method | In class |
| Feedback Provided | In class |

Assessment 2 - Group Assignment and Presentation

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| Assessment Type | Written Assignment |
| Purpose | Allows students to demonstrate their understanding of advanced theoretical and practical knowledge and skills relevant to business finance. |
| Description | The assignment determines the students' ability to assess the importance of finance and risk. Students analyse and evaluate a hypothetical entity or real-life entity's financial position and the sources of finance available to the entity to produce a professional advisory report. |
| Weighting | 30% |
| Length | 3000 Words |
| Due Date | Report: Friday, Week 11 by 11:59 pm Presentation: In class - Workshop 11 |
| Submission Method | Online – via Turnitin |
| Assessment Criteria | The following criteria will be assessed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Relevance to the question – Accuracy of information/argument – Clarity of expression – Demonstrated links to corresponding readings |

- Reasoned interaction with points made by other students

Please note: Self and Peer Assessment: A single mark is given for the group assignment. This mark will then be moderated by "self and peer assessment" using the SPARKPlus software so that individual group members may receive different marks. Any moderated individual mark received by each group member is based on contribution to the assignment and, more importantly the ability to work with others. Individually group members are required to submit a self and peer assessment through SPARK within 24 hours of the due date. Failure to complete SPARK will result in a mark of zero. The criteria for the self and peer assessment are found along with the instructions on how to use SPARK on CANVAS. Please note: **NO SPARK NO MARK.**

Return Method

In class

Feedback Provided

Online - Feedback will be provided in writing and/or verbally by the teaching staff.

Assessment 3 - Final Examination

Assessment Type

Formal Examination

Purpose

To assess the students' knowledge and understanding of business theories or concepts. The examination also determines the students' ability to assess the importance of finance and risk, and allows the students to demonstrate their understanding of advance theoretical and practical knowledge relevant to business finance.

Description

Students demonstrate their comprehension of business finance theories/concepts through the critical analysis of hypothetical business finance scenario problems and the use of basic financial mathematics to solve both qualitative and quantitative questions and deliver accurate outcomes.

This course has a **RESTRICTED OPEN BOOK** examination. A memory aid is permitted. The memory aid is a single double sided A4 sheet of handwritten or typed notes for use during the examination. Note: memory aids must be left on the examination table and cannot be removed from the examination venue.

Weighting

50%

Length

120 minutes

Due Date

Formal Examination Period

Submission Method

Formal Examination

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria will be assessed:

- Relevance to the questions
- Accuracy of information/argument
- Clarity of expression

Return Method

Not Return

Feedback Provided

No Feedback. Examination scripts will not be returned to students. Final examination scripts will be made available for review by students, upon request, in a controlled and monitored setting. Students are required to make requests, directly to the relevant course coordinator. Completed examination scripts are kept by the Newcastle Business School for a period of six (6) months only, from the relevant fully graded date. Requests made after the six (6) month period **cannot** be considered.

SYLLABUS

Course Content

Topics in the course include but are not limited to the following:

1. Identifying corporate objectives
2. Introduction to the capital market as sources of finance and investment
3. Alternatives sources of finance
4. Dividend payout decisions
5. Capital structures
6. Cost of capital
7. Time value of money and financial mathematics
8. Evaluation of investment projects
9. Concept of risk
10. Risk management and pricing of risky assets.

Course Materials

Required Text:

Ross, A.R, Traylor, R., Hambusch, G., Koh, C., Westerfield, R. W. & Jordan B.D. (2020). *Essentials of Corporate Finance*, 5th ed. Australia: McGraw-Hill.

ISBN: 9781760423629 (book) or 9781760423612 (eBook)

Please refer to the course CANVAS site for details of additional recommended texts.

SCHEDULE

| Week | Topic | Class Preparation | Workshop Activities |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Introduction to financial management | Read required text: Chapter 1 | List of weekly questions from required text available on CANVAS |
| 2 | Financial statements, taxes and cash flow Working with financial statements | Read: Chapters 2 & 3 | |
| 3 | Introduction to valuation: the time value of money Discounted cash flow valuation | Read: Chapters 4 & 5 | |
| 4 | Interest rates, bill and bond valuation | Read: Chapter 6 | |
| 5 | Equity markets and share valuation | Read: Chapter 7 | Assessment 1 due: In class |
| 6 | Net present value and other investment criteria | Read: Chapter 8 | |
| 7 | Making capital investment decisions | Read: Chapter 9 | |
| 8 | Some lessons from capital market history Risk and return | Read: Chapters 10 & 11 | |
| 9 | Cost of capital Leverage and Capital Structure | Read: Chapters 12 & 13 | |
| 10 | Dividends and dividend policy Raising capital | Read: Chapters 14 & 15 | |
| 11 | Short-term financial planning Working capital management | Read: Chapters 16 & 17 | Assessment 2 due: (see course CANVAS site for details) |
| 12 | Course Revision | | |

If a lecture/class is scheduled on a public holiday, a make-up lecture may be announced by the course coordinator on the course CANVAS site.

CONTACTS

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

| Range of Marks | Grade | Description |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 85-100 | High Distinction (HD) | Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives. |
| 75-84 | Distinction (D) | Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives. |
| 65-74 | Credit (C) | Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes. |
| 50-64 | Pass (P) | Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes. |
| 0-49 | Fail (FF) | Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action. |

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

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| Communication Methods | <p>Communication methods used in this course include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CANVAS Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the CANVAS course site. - Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account. - Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision. |
| Course Evaluation | Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement. |
| Oral Interviews | As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the <u>Oral Examination Guidelines</u> . In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the <u>Student Conduct Rule</u> . |
| Academic Misconduct | All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 . |
| Adverse Circumstances | <p>The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or 2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system; 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. <p>Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236</p> |
| Important Policy Information | The 'HELP for Students' tab in UoNline contains important information that all students should be familiar with, including various systems, policies and procedures. |

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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