



MISSION: To develop a unique business school identity which is distinctive in the marketplace and provides a clear value proposition for students. This will be achieved by embedding the themes of entrepreneurship and innovation, digitalisation and data within our programs and embracing sustainability, work integrated learning and a commitment to social justice.

OVERVIEW

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	Online: Online workshops and discussion forums as per course requirement for the full trimester.
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	Week 5	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2	Group Report and Presentation	Week 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

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

Assessment Type	In Term Test
Purpose	To assess the students' knowledge and understanding of corporate 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	Week 5
Submission Method	Online
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	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

Assessment 2 - Group Assignment and Presentation

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	Allows students to demonstrate their understanding of advanced theoretical and practical knowledge and skills relevant to corporate 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: Online - Week 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

Online

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 corporate finance theories, concepts, and their applications.

Description

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 corporate finance.

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

This course has an **OPEN BOOK** examination. The exam will be completed **ONLINE** and will be invigilated. Any **hardcopy materials**, including a thesaurus, a dictionary, or a translation dictionary are permitted in the examination.

No devices are permitted to be used in the examination, other than non-programmable calculators (if specifically advised on the examination paper) and the computer on which the student is completing the examination. Students are not permitted to use their computer for accessing any applications other than Zoom, CANVAS and an e-text/class notes. The examination invigilator can direct a student to share their screen at any time during the examination. If a student is found to be using other computer applications or devices, they will be reported for academic misconduct.

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	Lecture 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: Online
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

School Office **Newcastle Business School – Callaghan, Newcastle City & Online**
 NU Space
 409 Hunter Street
 Newcastle
nbs.enquiries@newcastle.edu.au
 +61 2 4921 5511

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).

Communication methods used in this course include:

- 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.

Communication Methods

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 (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) 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 [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). 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 [Student Conduct Rule](#).

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**

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:

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.

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>

**Important Policy
Information**

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

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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