Course Outline

Code: ACC211
Title: Business Finance

School: Business
Teaching Session: Semester 1
Year: 2020
Course Coordinator: Dr Gabrielle Parle | gparle@usc.edu.au
Course Moderator: Professor Sajid Anwar

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description
This course is designed to introduce and provide a basic knowledge of financial management decision making. It is structured to provide you with varying backgrounds with some insight for the necessity to consider the financial implications of management decisions. As such, it steers a middle course between a rigorous, formal discussion and derivation of major results from finance theory and a purely intuitive and descriptive treatment. Sound financial management is crucial to a firm's solvency and long-term profitability. Therefore, coverage of the course includes financial decisions, the concept of risk, asset pricing models (CAPM and APT), investment evaluation techniques, options and other derivatives, capital markets, dividend policy, taxation, acquisitions and treasury risk management.

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation
N/A

2. What level is this course?
200 level Developing – Applying broad and/or deep knowledge and skills to new contexts. May require pre-requisites and introductory level knowledge/skills. Normally undertaken in the 2nd or 3rd year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?
12 units
4. **How does this course contribute to my learning?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment tasks</th>
<th>Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:</td>
<td>You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:</td>
<td>Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use critical thinking to identify, analyse and solve problems in diverse areas of business finance.</td>
<td>1, 2 and 3</td>
<td>Creative and critical thinkers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand and interpret commerce-related knowledge and information.</td>
<td>1 and 3</td>
<td>Knowledgeable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply Business Finance theory and tools to regional, national and/or global business situations and decision making.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Empowered.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Am I eligible to enrol in this course?**

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 **Enrolment restrictions**

Nil

5.2 **Pre-requisites**

BUS102

5.3 **Co-requisites**

Nil

5.4 **Anti-requisites**

Nil

5.5 **Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)**

N/A

6. **How am I going to be assessed?**

6.1 **Grading scale**

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 **Details of early feedback on progress**

You will be given two Formative Feedback quizzes within the first 4 weeks of the course, to enable you to gauge your grasp of the fundamental concepts. These quizzes are intended to be entirely diagnostic and the results of which will not impact your final mark.
### 6.3 Assessment tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task No.</th>
<th>Assessment Product</th>
<th>Individual or Group</th>
<th>Weighting %</th>
<th>What is the duration / length?</th>
<th>When should I submit?</th>
<th>Where should I submit it?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Quiz/zes</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30 questions</td>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>In Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Week 10, Friday, 5pm (AEST)</td>
<td>Online Assignment Submission with Plagiarism check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>Central examination period</td>
<td>Exam Venue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Assessment 1: Multiple Choice Test**

**Goal:** Show an understanding of the fundamental ideas of business finance relevant to Weeks 1-3.  
**Product:** Quiz/zes  
**Format:** This is an individual assessment.  
A multiple-choice test comprising thirty (30) questions that cover topics from Weeks 1-3 inclusive. Will be conducted in the lecture in Week 5.  
**Criteria:** Comprehension and knowledge of requisite course material.

**Assessment Task 2: Project Evaluation**

**Goal:** This task requires you to problem-solve, analyse and synthesise relevant finance theory and method through an investigation of a business case study. The details of the requirements for this task will be handed out in a document in the first lecture.  
**Product:** Report  
**Format:** This is an individual assessment.  
See Blackboard for more details.  
**Criteria:**  
- Demonstrate knowledge and application of the Efficient Market Hypothesis.  
- Demonstrate knowledge and application of discounted cash flow method of asset valuation.  
- Assessment of the information exchange effect of a corporation and the market.  
- Appraisal and comparison of investment projects using investment evaluation techniques.

**Assessment Task 3: Final examination**

**Goal:** This task requires you to problem-solve, analyse and synthesise finance theory and method by answering specific finance problems within a time-limit.  
**Product:** Examination  
**Format:** This is an individual assessment.  
The final exam will cover major aspects of lectures, tutorials and readings completed throughout the semester. You will have two (2) hours for the exam, which will be scheduled during the central examination period.  
**Criteria:**  
- Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental concepts of business finance that include risk and return, time value of money, the CAPM and the efficient market hypothesis.  
- Demonstrate knowledge of alternate pricing methods for stocks and bonds.  
- Demonstrate knowledge of capital budgeting theory and practice.  
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of financing issues and relationship with capital structures and dividend policy.
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7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Directed study hours for location:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Campus</td>
<td>Lecture (2 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tutorial (1 hour)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below as they are required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

8.2 Specific requirements

Calculator

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University’s general health and safety principles by reviewing the online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.
In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment
Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent on the following conditions applying:

a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:
- 5% (of the assessment task’s identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task’s identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.
To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to Student Hub.
Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing Support Staff are available to assist on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your success. Student Wellbeing is comprised of professionally qualified staff in counselling, health and disability Services.

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, mental health issue, learning disorder, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability, AccessAbility Services can provide assistance, advocacy and reasonable academic adjustments.

To book an appointment with either service go to Student Hub, email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or accessability@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226

10.6 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:
- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
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- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:
http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.7 General Enquiries

In person:
- USC Sunshine Coast - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- USC Moreton Bay – Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- USC SouthBank - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- USC Gympie - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- USC Fraser Coast - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- USC Caboolture - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890
Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au

Appendix 1   Course content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week # / Module #</th>
<th>What key concepts/content will I learn?</th>
<th>Directed Study Activities: teaching components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1                 | Preliminary Concepts & Introduction to Valuation; The Time Value of Money  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 4 | Lecture                                        |
| 2                 | Discounted Cash Flow Valuation  
                   RTVBWJ Ch.5 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 3                 | Interest Rates, Bills and Bonds Valuation  
                   RTVBWJ Ch.6 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 4                 | Equity Markets and Share Valuation  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 7 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 5                 | Multiple Choice Test | “In Class” in Lecture |
| 6                 | Capital Budgeting: NPV and Other Criteria  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 8 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 7                 | Capital Budgeting: Making Capital Investment Decisions  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 9 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 8                 | Risk and Return: Some Lessons from Capital Market History  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 10 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 9                 | Risk and Return Trade–off  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 11 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 10                | Cost of Capital  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 12 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 11                | Dividend Policy  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 14 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 12                | Leverage and Capital Structure Policy  
                   RTVBWJ Ch. 13 | Lecture  
                   Tutorial                                     |
| 13                | Revision | Lecture |

Please note that the course activities may be subject to variation.

Mid Semester Break: 13th April 2020-19th April 2020 (Between Week 7 and Week 8)
Public Holidays:
- Good Friday- Friday 10th April 2020 (Week 7)
- Labour Day - Monday 4th May 2020 (Week 10)