



**Western**

DAN Department of Management  
& Organizational Studies

**Faculty of  
Social Science**

## Summer 2024 Course Syllabus

### **MOS 2310A Sections 650, 651 and 652 Finance**

Course Mode: Online

**Instructor: Imran Abdool**

Office: SSC 4424

Office Hours: by appointment (via Zoom) Email: [iabdool2@uwo.ca](mailto:iabdool2@uwo.ca)

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#### **1. Course Information:**

##### **1.1 Class Location and Time:**

**ONLINE:** there will be asynchronous (pre-recorded lectures) with **synchronous online assessments**.

##### **1.2 Course Description:**

This course provides an overview of issues in financial management and corporate finance. Students will learn how financial managers make investment, financing and other decisions and the tools they use to make such decisions. Topics covered include time value of money, risk, valuation, capital structure, dividend policy and other selected issues.

Antirequisite(s) at Main campus: Financial Modelling 2555A/B, and MOS 3310A/B. Antirequisite(s) at Brescia campus: MOS 3310A/B. Extra Information: 3 lecture hours. Note: Students interested in pursuing an HBA Degree at the Richard Ivey School of Business should not take this course in second year as Ivey does not recognize this course as part of the HBA degree.

Prerequisite(s): Enrolment in BMOS, Music Administrative Studies (MAS), or Honors Specialization in Urban Development.

##### **1.3 Accessibility:**

DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Contact Academic Support & Engagement at <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/> for information about Western's Accessible Education.

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

## 1.4 Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum.

With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting misinformation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

<https://indigenous.uwo.ca/initiatives/docs/indigenous-land-acknowledgment.pdf>

## 1.5 Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

This regulation is in regard to the PREREQUISITE COURSES required.

**Students not in BMOS are permitted to enroll in up to 1.0 MOS courses**, per the Academic Timetable. The requirement that states you must be in BMOS is lifted during registration on the priority lift dates as noted in the [Timetable](#).

## 2. Course Materials

Ross, S.A., Westerfield, R.W., Jordan, B.D., Pandes, J.A., Holloway, T.A., 2012. *Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, Eleventh Canadian Edition*. McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 9781260305869

**Access to McGraw Hill's Connect is required for course assessments.** The Western Bookstore has both the e-book and Connect bundles available. Direct URLs for the bookstore and this course are below:

Section 650: [https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=N2024&courses%5B0%5D=650\\_UW/MOS2310A](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=N2024&courses%5B0%5D=650_UW/MOS2310A)

Section 651: [https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=N2024&courses%5B0%5D=651\\_UW/MOS2310A](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=N2024&courses%5B0%5D=651_UW/MOS2310A)

### Technical Requirements:

- Laptop or computer
- Stable internet connection
- Microphone
- Webcam

It is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure you have a **functional computer and reliable internet connection**. No accommodation will be made on these grounds.

## 3. Course Objectives and Format

The DAN Department of Management and Organizational Studies draws upon an evidence-based management approach. Evidence-based management is the systematic process of gathering evidence from multiple sources, critically appraising the evidence, and using that evidence in making and evaluating management decisions to improve organizational performance.

### 3.1 Course objectives

- The objective of this course is to introduce the participant to the fundamentals of corporate finance. Every decision that a corporation makes has financial implications, and any decision which affects the finances of a corporation is a corporate finance decision. The participant will learn how these business decisions are tied together by one powerful concept, the Valuation Principle.
- Whether you plan to major in finance or simply take this one course, you will find the fundamental financial knowledge gained to be essential in your personal and business lives.

### 3.2 Course format

The course is scheduled as “distance education”. In our context this means **asynchronous content delivery** (i.e., pre-recorded lectures) with **synchronous assessments**.

At the beginning of each week of the course, the applicable lecture will be uploaded to our Brightspace site. A list of suggested HW questions and their solutions will also be posted.

#### **Communication:**

- Students should check the course BRIGHTSPACE site every 24-48 hours
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response within 48 hours (*excluding weekends*).
- **Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions**
- The discussion forums will be monitored regularly by instructors or teaching assistants

**Any remote learning sessions for this course MAY be recorded from time to time.** The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals under special circumstances. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

#### **Professionalism, Privacy and Copyright:**

- Students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct.
- All lectures and course materials, including slides, presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes only.
- **Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, assessments, or any other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent of the instructor.**
- Recordings (audio or video) are not permitted without explicit, written permission of the instructor. Permitted recordings may not be distributed or shared.
- Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on BRIGHTSPACE (if applicable; otherwise delete this bullet point)

#### **How to Be Successful in this Class:**

**Students in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.**

- Make it a daily habit to log onto BRIGHTSPACE to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.

- Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or notes in a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching.
- Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and meet on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
- Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you have questions or are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor.

## 4. Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of financial markets and institutions and explain how firms obtain funds in the markets and at what cost.
- Calculate the time value of money and apply the concepts to the valuation of financial securities such as bonds and stocks.
- Distinguish among various types of risks and apply the Capital Asset Pricing Model to calculate returns, given appropriate risk measures.
- Calculate the cost of capital and solve capital budgeting problems.
- Explain how a firm might set its dividend policies.
- Analyze a firm's performance to determine its strengths and weaknesses and be able to use financial analysis to improve performance.
- Explain various strategies for managing a firm's short-term assets and liabilities.

## 5. Evaluation

Midterm 1 = 25% [June 7<sup>th</sup>; 12pm-2pm]

Midterm 2 = 25% [July 5<sup>th</sup>; 12pm-2pm]

Final Exam = 50% [Cumulative, Scheduled by Registrar]

**IMPORTANT 1: Students must achieve a minimum grade of 50% on the final exam to achieve an overall passing grade in the course. Students must also achieve a grade of at least 55% on at least one of the midterms to pass this course.**

**IMPORTANT 2: Use of Proctor Track or similar assessment proctoring software may be utilized. Specific details will be provided in our course Brightspace site prior to assessments.**

The midterm exams are scheduled for **2 hours** and will be written through **McGraw Hill Connect**. **Midterms may also include supplementary questions such as short answers and problem-solving which are completed through Brightspace.**

The final exam is expected to be scheduled for **2 hours** and can consist of **multiple-choice questions, essay, and problem-solving questions**. **The final exam is scheduled by the Registrar's Office and cannot be changed.**

All assessments are open-book. However, students cannot communicate with anyone else, and the work submitted must be solely your own. **Academic integrity will be strictly enforced including the use of computer-based software detecting plagiarism and/or unusual answer patterns among submissions.**

While exams are open-book, students will, in all likelihood, face a binding time constraint on these assessments. Therefore, it is advisable to prepare as if the exams were closed books. Do not use the exams as a time to "learn the material". The open book aspect is primarily to avoid memorization of terms and formulas and is best used only as such.

cheating. Suspected cheating on any exam will result in a grade of 0 and will initiate an investigation of academic offence.

This course has other exam guidelines and expectations which are clearly outlined in a document on the course website. Students are expected to understand and adhere to these guidelines in order to avoid grade penalties.

Students are responsible for all material covered during lectures or tutorials, as well as any assigned readings from the text or elsewhere on the course website.

Students are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ALL COMPONENTS** of this course. There are no exceptions to this. Extra assignments to improve grades **will NOT** be allowed. **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS.** If a midterm exam is missed for an approved reason, its weight will be moved to the final exam. If the final exam is missed for an approved reason, the student will write the exam the next time the course is offered.

**Grades will not be adjusted because of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: You are responsible for your grades in this course.**

The instructor reserves the right to adjust all grade components and final grades, up or down, by standardizing to a pre-determined common mean range. As such, students' grades will be partially determined based on their results relative to the class average. Standardization of grades is designed to control for variations in assessment difficulty across different delivery methods, and to ensure fairness across sections.

The DAN Department has a grade policy which states that for courses in the 2000 range, the class average must fall between 65% and 72% for all sections of a course taught by the same instructor. In very exceptional circumstances only, class averages outside this range may be approved by the Undergraduate Chair or Chair. **Class averages are not grounds for appeal.**

## **6. Lecture and Examination Schedule**

Please refer to BRIGHTSPACE for a tentative detailed course schedule. The professor reserves the right to change or update this outline, and any other course related materials. Students will be informed in a timely manner through the course website and/or announcements.

Material covered during lectures or tutorials, or in recorded videos, will not always be exactly as material covered in the textbook. These two sources should be viewed as complimentary and not substitutes. Lectures often add real-world context and critical thinking to the theory presented in the textbook.

## 7. Student Responsibilities

Students should familiarize themselves with Western University Senate Regulations, please see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/index.html](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html).

Material covered in lectures will not always be the same as material covered in the textbook. These two sources should be viewed as complimentary and not redundant. As such, students who want to do well in this course are **strongly encouraged** to attend lectures on a regular basis. Please note that the instructor will not be providing copies of lectures notes or overheads. Therefore, if you miss a lecture, you should try to obtain this material from another student.

### 7.1 Respect

Please act respectfully towards the classroom, the Professor and your fellow students. Acting respectfully means arriving on time, turning off phones, avoiding private discussions during lectures, refraining from viewing non-course material on your laptops, and cleaning up after yourself. Acting respectfully provides a better learning experience for everyone.

Private in-class discussions are distracting to students and the Professor. If other students are distracting your attention from the material, you should ask them to be quiet. If you feel uncomfortable doing this (or the problem persists), please see the instructor.

Late arrivals are also distracting. Please try to arrive on time for classes.

### 7.2 No Recording of Classes

Students are not permitted to record any portion of a class, audio or video, without the prior written permission of the professor.

### 7.3 Copyright Notice

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may **not** record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, wiki material, and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without my written consent.

## 8. Exam Policies

- Exams may utilize Proctor track or similar software. Students should be prepared to show identification, have a working webcam and microphone.
- While exams in this course are open book, however no communication devices of any form such as: smart watches, smart phones, or other electronic devices are permitted at exams either on one's person or desk. Your computer will be monitored to ensure you are not on email and/or communicating with anyone else.
- ***This course has other exam guidelines and expectations which will be outlined prior to the assessments via our course Brightspace announcements.***

## 9. E-mail Policies

The following policies apply to all emails between students and the Professor. Please respect the fact that the Professor receives hundreds of emails from students and must deal with those emails in a fair and organized manner. Unacceptable emails will receive a reply saying only "Please see Email Policies on the course outline".

### 9.1 UWO.CA Email Addresses Only

For privacy reasons, students must use their Western email accounts to contact the Professor. The Professor will not respond to emails from non-uwo.ca addresses (e.g. hotmail.com, gmail.com, etc.).

### 9.2 Subject Line Must Include Course and Section Number

The subject line of emails must contain the name or number of the course, and the section number in which the student is enrolled. The Professor teaches different courses and sections and cannot properly respond to questions if he does not know which course or section you are enrolled in.

### 9.3 Acceptable Emails

- asking to set up an appointment to ask questions or review an exam
- notification of illness or other special circumstances
- providing constructive comments or feedback about the course

### 9.4 Unacceptable Emails

- questions that may be answered on BRIGHTSPACE or on this course outline.
- questions about course content or materials (these should be directed to BRIGHTSPACE Discussions).
- asking when grades will be posted.
- asking what grade a student received.
- asking where or when an exam is scheduled or the material covered on an exam.
- requests for grade increases, extra assignments, or reweighting of course components.

### 9.5 Response Time

- Emails will be replied to and/or acknowledged within *48 hours (excluding weekends)*.
- Only follow-up with the instructor after the 48-hour period has elapsed.

## 10. Attendance

As this course is asynchronous, live attendance is not expected. However, it is expected that students will keep up with the weekly chapters and problem sets (posted to BRIGHTSPACE). *This course is fast-paced, and concepts are built on each other. It is very important to be self-disciplined and devote the appropriate study time to this course.*

### 10.1 Short Absences.

If you miss a class due to minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or exam. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow the missed lectures notes from a classmate.

### 10.2 Extended Absences.

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. The Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed about your difficulties.

## 11. Grade Fairness

Fairness requires that all students be treated equally and be evaluated using the criteria set out in this course outline. The evaluation criteria are based on actual achievement and not on how hard a student has tried.

Claims by students of an excellent academic history, good attendance record, need to obtain or maintain a scholarship, desire to be admitted to Ivey or graduate school, or other personal issues, cannot be used to justify a higher grade in the course or a reweighting of course components. There is no extra work or assignments available for extra credit or to “make up” for a course component that was missed or performed poorly.

**You, the student, are responsible for the grades earned.**

## 12. Posting of Grades

Midterm exam grades will be posted on BRIGHTSPACE once the grades are available. Final exam grades and final course grades are not posted on BRIGHTSPACE and are available once they have been posted by the Registrar under “Academic Summary” at the [Student Centre](#) website.

## 13. University Policy Regarding Illness, Absence and Accommodation

### 13.1 Illness

Students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty Academic Counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

For privacy reasons, students should also note that individual instructors should not receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For details on the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness, go to:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

Students can download the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### 13.2 Accessible Education

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

Students needing access to Accessible Education should register here:

[http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible\\_education/index.html](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html)

### 13.3 Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

### 13.4 Make Up Examinations

***There is no make-up midterm exam in this course.*** If a student misses the regularly scheduled exam for any reason, and for which adequate documentation is received by the instructor (this documentation must be supplied by the Academic Counseling office), then **the student will receive a modified and lengthened final exam which will be re-weighted to 75% of the course grade weight.**



If a student misses the regularly scheduled final exam for any reason, and for which adequate documentation is received by the instructor (this documentation must be supplied by the Academic Counselling office), then the student must write a make-up exam. The date and time of the final exam make-up will be set by the instructor, who will communicate the date to the student. The format of the final exam make-up may be different than the format of the regularly scheduled exam, but will contain the same breadth and depth of coverage.

If a student is unable to meet the scheduled make-up as agreed, then the student is responsible for obtaining new accommodations from Academic Counselling and seeking a new make-up date with the instructor within a reasonable time frame. Students who miss a final exam make-up for legitimate reasons will typically be offered an opportunity to write an alternative make-up during the final exam period the next time the course is offered.

- 13.5 Accommodation for missed Problem Sets, Reading Assignments, & Contribution**  
Universal accommodation is built-in to the grading policy for Problem Sets, Reading Assignments, & Contribution by automatic grade adjustments. Please refer to the course expectation documents for further information. **In general, there are no extensions, make-ups, or re-writes for any missed problem sets, reading assignments, or missed contribution opportunities (via iClicker or other) during lectures.** Students who face extraordinary circumstances, which require multiple assessments to be missed, should seek advice and/or accommodation through the Academic Counselling office of their respective faculty. In such rare instances, grade re-weighting may be available on a case-by-case basis.

## 14. University Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offenses. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offenses in the Academic Calendar.

Note that such offenses include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knBrightspaceedge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse.

A copy of guidelines about how to avoid cheating can be obtained from the Office of the Ombudsperson, Room 3135 WSSB, (519) 661-3573, [ombuds@uwo.ca](mailto:ombuds@uwo.ca).

Cheating on exams will not be tolerated; students are referred to the university policy on scholastic offenses. Looking at the test of another student, allowing another student to view your exam, or obtaining information about a test in advance are all examples of cheating.

Students found cheating will receive a zero (0%) on that exam. A number of safeguards will be employed to discourage cheating. For example, examination supervisors (proctors) of the tests may ask students to move to another seat during the exam, cover their paper, avert their eyes from other students' papers, remove baseball caps, etc. This is not meant as a personal affront nor as an accusation of cheating, rather as vigilant attempts at proctoring.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offense include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

## 15. Procedures For Appealing Academic Evaluations

1. In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation).
2. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Undergraduate Chair: Student Affairs of the Department of Management and Organizational Studies.
3. If the response of the Undergraduate Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course of program was taken.
4. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Office of the Ombudsperson.

## 16. Support Services

### 16.1 Support Services

The Registrar's office provides you with information on services, courses, student finances, resources, latest news, as well as Student Central's hours of operation at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services (***including the services provided by the USC listed here***) can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support & Engagement can be reached at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### 16.2 Academic Concerns.

If you are in academic difficulty, it is strongly recommended that you see your academic counsellor.

## 17. Use of AI

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploring a topic, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources of information and avoiding plagiarism. Essays, written assignments and/or lab reports should reflect the student's own thoughts and independent written work. Students should also generate their own figures (e.g., graphs, diagrams) rather than using AI generated ones. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and effective learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and all them to produce original written contributions. The same principles also apply to the use of translation software to support the writing the essays and other written assessments.