



Course Descriptor FINA 410 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN FINANCE

Proposed Academic Year	2020-2021	Last Reviewed Academic Year	2019-2020
Course Code	FINA 410	Course Title	Contemporary Issues in Finance
Credit hours	3	Level of study	Undergraduate - Year Four
College / Centre	COBA	Department	Accounting and Finance
Co-requisites	None	Pre-requisites	None

1. COURSE OUTLINE

This course stresses on the currently outstanding issues in financial management. After identifying these issues and their position and significance for the finance area, the course will explain in details why these issues still persist and the tools and mechanisms applied so far to solve them. This approach allows the students to have a better understanding and mastery of these issues, and equip them with the necessary tools that can help them in dealing with these issues from both a theoretical and empirical perspectives.

This Course will introduce students to global financial markets and operations of multinational firms, and will acquaint them to the modern elements composing the modern financial world. The students will be learning about the concepts of Globalization and internationalization in contemporary finance. The major topics covered in this course are

1. Issues in Empirical Finance
2. Behavioral Finance
3. Introduction to Global Inter- Market Analysis
4. Asset & Liability Management and
5. Financial Markets.

2. AIMS

This course increases the level of knowledge and understanding of the latest and pertinent issues in the area of finance. The course aims at equipping the students with the necessary theoretical and practical tools that would allow them to deal with the current issues in the financial area. It is vital in the context of this course to keep the students aware of the latest developments in the financial area.

The aim of the module is to identify and explain unresolved puzzles in finance through both lectures AND presentations, Q&A. This course will help the students develop various skills related to financial analysis, financial research, technical and fundamental analyses, etc. This course would also allow the students to practice what they have learned in class in an attempt to directly interact with the contemporary issues in finance from a practical perspective.

The major objective of the course is to Provide students with an advanced knowledge of how international financial markets work, and to equip them with an understanding the international financial markets scenario. This course will also allow students to be capable to explore methods used to manage risk in the global markets

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES, TEACHING, LEARNING and ASSESSMENT METHODS



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Learning Outcomes (Definitive) Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:	Teaching and Learning methods (Indicative)	Assessment (Indicative)
1. Be able to understand the contemporary issues in Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures through Presentations (PPT), Oral discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments Presentations Formal examinations
2. Be able to learn the techniques of preparation of the research report.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures through Presentations (PPT), Oral discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments Presentations Formal examinations
3. Be able to gain knowledge in the various critical areas of Financial Markets and analytical techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures through Presentations (PPT), Oral discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments Presentations Formal examinations
4. Be able to understand various financial markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures through Presentations (PPT), Oral discussions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments Presentations Formal examinations

4. ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING

Assessment	Percentage of final mark (%)
Home Assignments	20
Midterm Examination - I	20
Midterm Examination - II	20
Final Examination	40
TOTAL	100%

5. ACHIEVING A PASS

Students will achieve 3 credit hours for this course by passing **ALL** of the course assessments and achieving a **minimum overall score of 50%**

NB *Ensure that ALL learning outcomes are taken into account

6. COURSE CONTENT (Indicative)

Issues and recent developments in Empirical Finance
Behavioral Finance
Behavioral Finance- important theories and its sources of financial literature
Economic Factors –
Influence on International Financial Markets
Understanding the significance of the Research Report
Research Methodology- Significance, Research Survey,
Formulating A Research Problem
Design of the study, Data interpretation and presentation
Financial Markets – Significance
Securities Markets-



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Fixed Income Securities	
Derivatives Markets	
Derivatives Markets & Commodities Markets	
Revision & Final Exam Comprehensive Final Examination	
TOTAL HOURS	48 Hours
Plus RECOMMENDED INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS	48 Hours
TOTAL COURSE HOURS	96 Hours

7. RECOMMENDED REFERENCES

Core text/s:

- Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches , by John W. Creswell , Paperback, Second Edition, 272 pages, Published July 23rd 2002 by SAGE Publications, Inc
- Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches, by John W. Creswell , Paperback, 416 pages, Published December 20th 2006 by Sage Publications (CA)
- International Journal of Finance
- Research Studies in Finance
- Alan C. Sharpio, (9th Edition, 2009), Multinational Financial Management. Wiley. ISBN: 978-0-470-45035-2.
- Jos Daniels, David VanHoose, 2014, International Monetary & Financial Economics. Prentice Hall. ISBN-10: 0132461862 • ISBN-13: 9780132461863

Library + online resources:

Open Educational Resources:

[Money and Banking - Open Textbook Library \(umn.edu\)](#)

[International Finance: Theory and Policy - Open Textbook Library \(umn.edu\)](#)