



**Course Syllabus**  
**Semester Spring 2021-2022**  
**Dr. Yaqoub Baqer Alabdullah**  
**MBA 521 – Financial Management**

**Lecture Time and Location:**

**FIN 521/01** : Sundays 5:00pm – 7:50pm Room # TBD

**Contact Information:**

**Location** : Department of Finance & Financial Institutions – CBA - Shudadeya Campus  
**Email** : [yaqoub.alabdullah2@ku.edu.kw](mailto:yaqoub.alabdullah2@ku.edu.kw)  
**Phone #** : You can call me on MS Teams  
**Office Hours** : Half an hour before class or by appointment.  
**Website** : [www.ybaqer.com](http://www.ybaqer.com)  
**MS Teams** : Please join our team for all class materials.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide you with a solid foundation and understanding of financial management to make informed investment and financing decisions. The course familiarize students with tasks include, but are not restricted to, financial markets, time value of money, asset valuation, risk and return, bond and stock valuation, capital budgeting, cost of capital, and capital budgeting. It also examines the basis of financial decisions made by companies, emphasizing the following: theories of asset valuation; the cost of capital; risk analysis; real options; capital structure; dividend policies.

This is not a “how to” course. This is a “why do” course. By way of analogy, think of the set of plans for a building. Both an architect and a draftsman can read the plans and even copy the plans with minor changes. But an architect can do more than a draftsman can do. When it is time to design a completely new building that responds creatively to the needs of the client and the context of the built and natural environment, you want an architect. I am here to train financial architects—not draftsmen. Please do not expect to learn a cookbook of formulas that you plug numbers into. (Now that we have macros in Excel, no one will pay a salary for that skill.) Expect to learn a few simple, but powerful, intuitions and be able to apply them creatively to a variety of new situations. Finance is such a rapidly changing area that you would be poorly served with a set of rote formulae—such knowledge would be rapidly obsolete.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

1. Understand time value of money and be able apply it.
2. Understand the concepts and tools used to value stocks.
3. Understand the concepts and tools used to evaluate projects.
4. Understand a firm’s optimal capital structure and dividend policy and how such decisions affect firm value



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**Required Material:**

**Textbook** : *Financial Management: Theory & Practice*, by Michael C. Ehrhardt and Eugene F. Brigham, 14th Edition, published by Cengage Learning.

**Additional Material** : Financial Calculator. PPT Slides available on MS Teams.

**Course Requirements and Policies:**

**Expectations:** I expect every student to come prepared for class and participate in discussions. Participation is an important part of this graduate level class. I expect students to follow current events and share their findings with the class.

**Exams:** There will be a one midterm exam and a final exam. All exams will be held on campus unless CBA decides otherwise. If CBA decides later during the semester that exams should be held online, the number of exams and their grade distribution will change. I will give you more information later if that happened. This is our tentative exams schedule: (I reserve the right to change the dates depending on circumstances)

Date	Event	Notes
8/5/2022	Midterm Exam (chapters 1,3,4,6 &7)	Class time - place TBA
5/6/2022	Final (comprehensive)	5:00-7:00 - place TBA

**Cases:** I will assign two business cases for this course. These case studies are here to help you understand the material and tie the concepts and expose you to real-world problems and situations. You should form groups of 4 students per group for the case purpose. The case will constitute two parts: A written part, and a discussion part. The written part's grade is the same for the group but the discussion part is individual. Once I assign the cases, I will give you questions to answer about your case. I will provide you with a deadline for submitting your answers.

**Assignments:** There will be around three assignments given throughout the semester. Each assignment will have its own deadline.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not mandatory. However, if you plan to attend you should arrive before class starts.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3, Section 2). A copy of the student guide can be accessed online on:

[http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku\\_content/kuw055940.pdf](http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku_content/kuw055940.pdf)

Please carefully note all sources and assistance when you turn in your work. Under no circumstances should you take credit for work that is not yours. You should neither receive nor give any unauthorized assistance on any deliverable. If you have any questions about what constitutes "unauthorized assistance" please email me before the deliverable is submitted.



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**Writing Style:** Students must refer to APA writing style for their assignments and report writing. Refer to the English Language Center for help.

**Grading:**

The scores in this course will be the weighted average of the following items:

<b>Weight</b>	<b>Description</b>
8 + 2	Participation + Current Events
30 + 3	1 Midterms + Bonus
20 + 5	Case Studies + Assignments
40	Final
108	TOTAL

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Due</b>
6-Mar-22	Ch. 1: An Overview of Financial Management & the Financial Environment	
13-Mar-22	Ch. 3: Analysis of Financial Statements	
20-Mar-22	Ch. 4: Time Value of Money	Assignment 1
27-Mar-22	Ch. 4: Time Value of Money	
3-Apr-22	Ch. 6: Risk, Return, and the Capital Asset Pricing Model	Assignment 2
10-Apr-22	Ch. 7: Stocks, Stock Valuation, & Stock Market Equilibrium	
17-Apr-22	Ch. 9: The Cost of Capital	Assignment 3
24-Apr-22	Ch. 10: The Basics of Capital Budgeting: Evaluating Cash Flows	
1-May-22	Holiday	
<b>8-May-22</b>	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	
15-May-22	Ch. 11: Cash Flow Estimation & Risk Analysis	Case Study
22-May-22	Ch. 14: Distributions to Shareholders: Dividends & Repurchases	
29-May-22	Ch. 15: Capital Structure Decisions	Case Study
<b>5-Jun-22</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	