

FINC 4521 – International Finance – Fall 2011 – Dr. Best

Professor: Ron Best
Phone: (678) 839-4812
Office: Adamson 206
Office Hrs: MW: 8:00-10:00 am; 11:00-11:30 am; T: 8:00-11:30 am; 12:30-2:00 pm
You are welcome to “drop-in” when I am in my office.

Web-page: <http://www.westga.edu/~rbest>
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The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her my.westga.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.

I. Catalog Description:

Designed to focus on the application of finance concepts in the international environment.

II. Required Background or Experience:

- A. Prerequisite: FINC 3511 or equivalent.
- B. Prerequisites Justification: Knowledge of finance needed in order to work with risk/return tradeoff, gain an understanding of international direct and portfolio investment and international financial markets.
- C. General Education (Core) Contribution: The course uses the writing skills developed in English courses, oral skills developed in speech courses, mathematical methods and critical thinking acquired in mathematics courses. The course uses basic finance knowledge acquired in FINC 3511.

III. Expected Outcomes: (http://www.westga.edu/acffin/index_16277.php)

- A. Communicate effectively (LG1).
- B. Apply basic quantitative skills to business problems (LG2).
- C. Use technology to solve business problems (LG3).
- D. Possess a basic knowledge of international business and trade concepts (LG4).
- E. Understand how ethical decision-making and globalization affect organizations (LG5).

IV. Texts:

- A. Eun and Resnick– Int'l Financial Management, McGraw-Hill, 5th edition, 2009.

Special or Unique Student Materials:

- B. A calculator is recommended.

V. Special or Unique University Facilities:

- A. Access to computer with Internet, spreadsheet, and word-processing programs as provided by the Richards College of Business Computer Lab.

VI. Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:

- A. The course provides a conceptual framework of international financial management at the introductory level by concentrating on issues relevant to the management of multinational firms.
- B. Instructional Methods
 - 1. Lecture and problem solving: A discussion of topics in the general areas of foreign exchange markets, currency futures and option markets, balance of payments, exchange rate determination parity conditions, foreign exchange risk and hedging, international financing, and international investment are discussed in online lectures presented by the instructor. Students are expected to solve problems and complete quizzes that relate to lectures.
 - 2. Project: Students complete a project examining the relationship of the U.S. Dollar and foreign currencies. The project serves as a means of applying concepts learned in the course and in other courses such as statistics and accounting.

VII. Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:

- A. Evaluation tools:

Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
Quizzes (10 highest)	15%
Project	15%

Each online quiz may be taken up to four times. The highest score is retained for grading purposes. The quizzes change each time they are opened. Quiz questions are randomly selected from the associated database. Sample exams are available for both the Midterm and Final Exams. Sample exams can help but not lower your overall course grade. If your highest score on the sample exam is greater than your corresponding exam score, your exam score will be calculated as:
Exam Score = (1/4)(Sample Exam Score) + (3/4)(Original Exam Score).

Work submitted for credit in other courses will not be accepted for credit in this course. There is no extra credit in this course beyond that explicitly stated in the course syllabus or announced by the instructor. I reserve the right to "curve" grades.

- B. Administrative Policies
- a. Information regarding course grades will not be given over the telephone. Grades will be posted in CourseDen.
 - b. Requests for quiz and exam score adjustments must be made in writing (email is fine) within ONE WEEK of grade assignment.
 - c. **Attendance Policy:**
 - i. **Class Meetings:** There is no face-to-face attendance requirement. An optional orientation meeting on the first day of class will be available (see CourseDen for dates). Online lectures are available on the course website (or CourseDen). Audio-enhanced problem solutions are available on the course webpage (or CourseDen) for sample problems.
 - ii. **Scheduled Exams: If you do not attempt all assignments within the allotted time for the course, you will receive a grade of zero on the missing assignments. Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped before the quiz total is calculated. If you cannot complete the course as expected, contact me immediately.**
 - iii. **General:** You are responsible for knowledge of any administrative announcements (test information, schedule changes, etc.) that are posted in CourseDen or sent to your official UWG email address.
 - d. Code of Conduct: Honesty and integrity are necessary to the academic and professional functions of business. Dishonesty undermines the foundation of the academic environment. Improper academic conduct shall be interpreted to mean the obtaining and using of information during an examination by means other than those permitted by the instructor, including supplying such information to other students. All forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, and falsification of academic records are subject to disciplinary action.

NOTE 1: This course covers the following AACSB perspectives: Influence of legal and regulatory issues; ethical issues; oral communication; international issues; social issues.

NOTE 2: This course covers the following teaching objectives: develops communication skills; develops ability to do research; develops problem solving (analytical) skills; develops critical thinking; encourages social responsibility; provides depth in major.

VIII. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: A suggested schedule for completing the course is shown below along with important dates for the course.

Important Dates:

October 5	Midterm Exam
October 14	Deadline to withdraw with a grade of W.
November 16	Project
December 5	Final Exam

NOTES:

- This class is online. Most Mondays and Wednesdays Dr. Best is available in his office for individual questions/assistance. Fridays are scheduled as online assignment days (primarily quizzes), so there are no required face-to-face meetings.
- All quizzes open when the class begins. They close at 11:59 pm on the dates shown below.
- Do not attempt quizzes during the period from 10:00 pm on Fridays until 7:00 am on Saturdays due to CourseDen maintenance during this period.

8/22	Introduction/Orientation (Optional)	
8/22 - 8/29	Module 1 (Chapters 1 and 2) <i>Quiz 1 – Chapters 1 and 2 – Closes on 8/29</i>	
8/29 - 9/12	Module 2 (Chapters 3 and 4) <i>Quiz 2 – Chapter 3 – Closes on 9/7</i> <i>Quiz 3 – Chapter 4 – Closes on 9/12</i>	
9/12 – 10/3	Module 3 (Chapters 5 and 6) <i>Quiz 4 – Chapter 5 – Closes on 9/26</i> <i>Quiz 5 – Chapter 6 – Closes on 10/3</i>	
9/28	Optional Review Session	
10/5	Midterm Exam – Covers Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 – (5:00 am to 11:59 pm)	

October 14 is the last day to withdraw with a Grade of W.

10/7 - 10/24	Module 4 (Chapter 7) <i>Quiz 6 – Chapter 7 – Closes on 10/24</i>	
10/24 - 11/14	Module 5 (Chapters 8, 9, and 10) <i>Quiz 7 – Chapter 8 – Closes on 10/31</i> <i>Quiz 8 – Chapter 9 – Closes on 11/7</i> <i>Quiz 9 – Chapter 10 – Closes on 11/14</i>	
11/14-12/2	Module 6 (Chapters 16 and 21) <i>Quiz 10 – Chapters 16 – Closes 11/30</i> <i>Quiz 11 – Chapters 21 – Closes 12/2</i>	Project Due 11/16 at 11:59 pm Submit in CourseDen
11/30	Optional Review Session	
12/5	Final Exam – Comprehensive – Covers All Chapters – (5:00 am to 11:59 pm)	

Contacting Me:

I am in my office most days. I check “regular” email most often (rbest@westga.edu). If calling, try my office number first, 678-839-4812. **If you have a problem that needs immediate attention, call or text me at my cell number: 678-378-8573.** You may also call me at home: 770-838-9165 (leave a message if I am not available to take your call). Please do not call before 8:00 am or after 9:30 pm.