FINC 4532 -- PROBLEMS IN CORPORATE FINANCE
Monday-Friday 3:00 - 5:15 PM
Summer III – 2012

Instructor: Dr. Charles Hodges
Office: Adamson Hall 205B
(You are WELCOME to drop in at other times)
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Course Webpage locations: WEBCT and http://www.westga.edu/~chodges/html/finc_4532.html

I. Catalog Description:

An examination of various topics in finance including bankruptcy and reorganization, mergers
and acquisitions, lease financing, and others. The course emphasizes logical financial decision-
making techniques through the examination of underlying theories and through problem solving.
Problems, cases, and directed readings are used extensively.

II. Required Background or Experience:

A. Prerequisite: FINC 3511
B. Prerequisite Justification:
   In-depth knowledge of the time value of money and a basic knowledge of capital
   budgeting, the cost of capital, short-term financing, and accounting are required.
C. General Education (Core) Contribution:
   The course uses writing skills developed in English courses, oral skills developed in
   speech courses, mathematical methods and critical thinking acquired in mathematics
   courses. The knowledge gained in Core Area IV Course of Accounting 2101 and 2102,
   Management 3600, and Economics 3402 and 3406 are used. Statistics is used throughout
   the course.

III. Expected Outcomes: (http://www.westga.edu/rcob/index_10607.php)

A. Improve communication effectiveness in oral and written presentations —L0 1.1, 1.2
   (Learning Objective)
B. Apply statistical techniques to finance problems—L0 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 6.1
C. Understand how Time Value of Money/Capital Budgeting techniques are used to analyze
   each of the topics within the class.—L0 2.3, 4.1, 6.1
D. Know where finance fits into the structure and organization of the firm—L0 2.3, 4.1, 6.1, 6.2

IV. Text and References:

2011.
Special or Unique Student Material:

A financial calculator with a "cash flow" button is recommended. It may be possible to complete this course without a financial calculator; it would place you at a decided disadvantage relative to your classmates with financial calculators. (Examples: TI 83 Plus)

V. Special or Unique University Facilities:

Access to Internet connected computer, library reference resources, and College of Business computer lab. [http://www.westga.edu/~chodges/html/finc_4532.html](http://www.westga.edu/~chodges/html/finc_4532.html) is the location of the course webpage. WEBCT is used in this course for quizzes.

VI. Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Method:

A. Expanded Description of the Course:

The course examines the investment banking process including how and why stocks and bonds are issued and the regulation of securities markets. The course considers the major ways to reorganize and/or expand the firm, including bankruptcy, mergers and acquisitions, and international finance. Lastly, the course considers balance sheet management, which includes liquidity management, leasing, and other asset-based financing.

B. Instructional Methods:

1. Lecture and Problem Solving: Topics in financial management are discussed in lectures presented by the instructor. During lectures, students contribute through their comments and their evaluation of analytical problems. Problems and cases are analyzed and discussed in class.

VII. Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:

A. Evaluation tools:

Your overall grade is based on three exams and online quizzes. The weights are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADING WEIGHTS</th>
<th>GRADING SCALE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st exam 25%</td>
<td>Letter grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd exam 25%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd exam 25%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes 25%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
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I reserve the right to curve grades.

B. Administrative Policies

1. Information regarding test scores will not be given out over the telephone. If you are absent when exams are returned, you must contact me in person to receive grade information.

2. Requests for adjustments to exam scores must be made in writing within ONE WEEK of the return of the test. Only WRITTEN requests will be considered.
3. Attendance Policy:
   **Regular Class Meetings:**
   You are expected to attend all class meetings. Attendance will be taken each class period using a seating chart or sign up sheet (the seating chart helps me to learn everyone’s name). Each absence, whether excused or unexcused, beyond the first will result in a 1-point reduction in your overall course average. If you miss more than six class sessions, I will drop you from the class and assign you a grade of WF. Attendance is a zero sum game. All points deducted from students missing class will be proportionally allocated to students missing two or fewer classes.
   
   **Online Quizzes:**
   There will be a short online WEBCT quiz for each chapter covered in the course, for a total of 10 quizzes. I will use your 9 highest quizzes in calculating your overall average. Each quiz will open when coverage of a chapter begins and remain open until the day before the Exam for that Chapter (e.g. Chapter 14, 19, 25, 26 quizzes close on June 11).
   
   **Scheduled Exams**
   Makeup exams will likely be more difficult than the scheduled exams and may include an oral portion. If your absence from an exam is not excused, you will receive a zero for that exam. If possible, please notify me in advance if you know you will be unable to take an exam at the scheduled time. In any event, you must notify me within two class days of the missed exam, or the absence will not be excused.
   
   **General**
   You are responsible for knowledge of any administrative announcements (test information, schedule changes, etc.) that are made at any time during scheduled class periods regardless of whether you are in attendance. It is recommended that you make a reciprocal agreement with a classmate to share missed notes and other class information.

4. Stuff required because some administrator felt a need to solve non-existing problems.
   **My.westga.edu**
   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.
   
   **Extra Credit**
   There is no extra credit in this course beyond that explicitly stated in the course syllabus.
   
   **Work from Other Courses**
   Work submitted for credit in other courses will not be accepted for credit in this course.

5. Code of Conduct
   Honesty and integrity are necessary to the academic and professional functions of business. Acts of dishonesty undermine the foundation of the academic environment. Improper academic conduct on the part of students shall be interpreted to mean the obtaining and using of information during an examination by means other than those permitted by the instructor, including the supplying of such information to other students. All forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, and falsification of academic records are subject to disciplinary action.

   **C. Learning Domains:**
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Jun 4 | Syllabus  
Chapter 2 – Principles |
| 5    | Chapter 14 – Agency Theory |
| 6    | Chapter 19 – Investment Banking and Issuing Securities |
| 7    | Chapter 25 – Mergers and Acquisitions |
| 8    | Chapter 26 – Financial Distress |
| 11   | **EXAM I** |
| 12   | Exam I Review  
Chapter 21 Leasing and Other Asset-Based Financing |
| 13   | Chapter 20 – Long-Term Debt |
| 14   | Chapter 20, Group Project Discussion |
| 15   | Chapter 27 – Multinational Financial Management |
| 18   | **EXAM II** |
| 19   | Exam 2 Review  
Chapter 22 – Liquidity Management |
| 20   | Chapter 23 – Accounts Receivable and Inventory Management |
| 21   | Chapter 23 – Accounts Receivable and Inventory Management |
| 22   | Chapter 24 – Financial Planning |
| 25   | Exam Preparation |

**FINAL EXAM --- June 26, 2012 --- 3:00 PM – 5:15 PM**

NOTE 2: This course covers the following AACSB perspectives:
- Influence of legal and regulatory issues
- Ethical issues
- Written and oral communication
- Social issues

NOTE 3: This course covers the following teaching objectives:
- Developing oral communication skills
- Develops analytical/critical thinking
- Encourages social responsibility