

**COURSE SYLLABUS
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY**

Department: Economics and Finance
Course Title: Financial Policy

Course No. FI480
Revision Spring 2012

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

A case course that examines the complex issues of establishing financial policy for organizations.
(3)

II. Prerequisites:

FI362 Advanced Financial Management with minimum grade of "C"; senior standing.

III. Purposes or Objectives of Course:

A. To review fundamental finance principles from the perspective of a corporation. *BSBA Goal: Knowledge of the fundamentals of accounting, finance, business law, MIS, marketing, management, and economics.*

B. To provide the student with the opportunity to apply the concepts and techniques of financial management to real (business) world situations.

1. To illustrate the interrelationships of financial concepts.

2. To provide an in-depth study of advanced financial concepts.

BSBA Goal: Application of critical thinking skills to business problems and ethical dilemmas. Use critical thinking to reach decisions by identifying the problem/issue(s), presenting plausible alternatives, evaluating the alternatives and resolving the problem/dilemma with justification based on ethical principles, discipline-specific understanding, and professional judgment.

C. To emphasize the importance of financial management to the business organization.

D. To develop problem recognition, analysis and solving skills. Develop the ability to formulate workable plans of action. *BSBA Goal: Application of critical thinking skills to business problems and ethical dilemmas. Use critical thinking to reach decisions by identifying the problem/issue(s), presenting plausible alternatives, evaluating the alternatives and resolving the problem/dilemma with justification based on ethical principles, discipline-specific understanding, and professional judgment. BSBA Goal: Effective use of technology. Use technology-related terms, concepts and processes appropriately. Use the Internet, spreadsheet, database, word processing, statistical, and presentation software effectively.*

E. To develop research and communication skills. *BSBA Goal: Proficiency in oral/written communication. Write business documents with clear focus, development, organization, and mechanical correctness. Create and deliver a professional presentation on a relevant business problem or issue. The presentation will display adequate content, organization, and delivery. Listen satisfactorily and recall work-related information.*

IV. Student Learning Outcomes (Minimum of 3)

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

A. Analyze a firm's financial performance to determine its strengths and weaknesses, and use analysis to develop recommendations to improve performance.

B. Solve problems related to the concept of weighted average cost of capital (WACC) and be able to calculate a firm's WACC.

C. Develop cash flow projections necessary to analyze capital expenditures and apply evaluation methods.

V. Expectations of Students:

- A. General: Each student is expected to perform in a professional manner with reference to attendance, participation, compliance with assignments, etc. This is a professional course and requires a professional attitude on the part of the student. This means that the assigned material should be read with discrimination, intellectual curiosity, reflective thinking, and critical analysis.
- B. Examinations: There will be a minimum of a mid-term and final examination. The tests will cover both theory and problems.
- C. Cases: The main focus of the course is on case analysis. Therefore, each student will be assigned several case problems during the semester for analysis and presentation.
- D. Business Simulation: Students will participate in a business simulation to illustrate the interrelationships of financial concepts.

**Suggested Time In
50 Minute Periods**

VI. Course Content or Outline:

A. Long-term Financing	10
1. Bond and Stock Valuation	
2. Cost of Capital	
3. Determining Appropriate Returns	
4. Dividend Policy	
B. Performance Analysis and Business Planning	10
1. Financial Statement Analysis	
2. Financial Forecasting	
3. Business valuation	
C. Long-term Investment Decisions	11
1. Capital Budgeting-Evaluation Methods	
2. Capital Budgeting-Cash Flow Estimates	
3. Capital Budgeting-Risk Analysis	
4. Lease Analysis	
D. Working Capital Policy	10
1. Cash Management	
2. Credit Policy/ Receivables Management	
3. Inventory Management	
E. Exams/Other	4
TOTAL	45

VII. Textbook(s) or Other Required Materials or Equipment

- A. *Cases in Finance*, 2nd Edition, Demello Irwin McGraw-Hill, 2006.
- B. *Intermediate Financial Management*, Brigham and Daves, 11th Edition, Dryden Press, 2013.
- C. *FinGame Online 5.0*, Brooks, 5th Edition, Irwin McGraw-Hill, 2008.

VIII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

- A. Exams.
- B. Business simulation performance.
- C. Cases.
- D. Other assignments.

