Finance 203  
Course Outline and Reading List  
Professor Richard Kihlstrom  
Fall, 2010

• Readings

    * You will only need one of these three texts. The current edition of BMA is the tenth. The current edition of BD is the second. The current edition of RWJ is the ninth. The editions listed above are the ones used in Finance 100 in the last year or two. For that reason, the readings assigned from each of those texts are for the editions listed above.


  – Bulk Pack, Available from Study Net (B)

  – Additional readings and notes will be handed out in class. These will be duplicated by the instructor at Wharton duplicating and charged to students enrolled in the class. For the most part these notes will also be available on Webcafe. In many cases notes for the coming day will be on Webcafe in advance.

• Grading

  – *Written Case Analyses*: (50%)
    * Students should organize themselves into groups of three or four. Larger groups are absolutely not permitted. Normally all students in a group should be registered in the same section. Exceptions to this rule will be permitted, but only with explicit permission. Groups should be formed by Tuesday, Sept. 22. The list of students in each group should be e-mailed to the instructor prior to class on that date or given to the instructor at the
beginning of class on that date or earlier. Consult with the instructor if you are having a problem joining or forming a group.

* The written analyses will be done by each group for each of the cases for which a student write-up is required. The written analysis will be at most five double-spaced pages and will, if necessary, be supported by appendices. Appendices that are not referred to in the analysis should not be included. The analysis will be preceded by a one page double-spaced executive summary. (The one page summary will not count as one of the five pages of analysis.) The written analyses will be turned in by 9am on the day of the class during which the case is to be discussed. (Make additional copies for your own use during the class discussion.) Late analyses will not be accepted!

- There are three starred cases. Each of these will be worth one-quarter of the case grade (meaning 12.5% of the course grade). These case write-ups will each be given a grade between 1 and 10.
- The other cases for which a write-up is required will, therefore, in total also represent one-quarter of the case grade (meaning 12.5% of the course grade). These cases will each simply be given a grade of check, check-minus or check-plus.

- **Quizzes: (50%)**
  * There will be periodic short (20 minute) quizzes. Most of the quizzes will be unannounced.
  * There will be eight to ten quizzes in total.
  * Each quiz will be given a grade between 1 and 10.
  * Quizzes may occur at the beginning or at the end of class. They may cover the case to be discussed that day or cases discussed on previous days. They may also cover the reading material assigned for the preceding days or the class discussion and lectures for previous classes.

* The first possible quiz will be on Tuesday, September 21. There will be no quiz on Thursday, October 14, the first class after the fall break. There will be no quiz on Tuesday, November 24, the class before the Thanksgiving break nor on Tuesday, November 30, the first class after the Thanksgiving break.
* The bottom two quiz grades will be dropped when the grade is computed.
– **Class Discussion:** This will enter the grade determination only informally. It will be used for the purpose of determining grades only in borderline cases. In those cases it can definitely make a difference.

– **There will be no exams!**

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- **Thurs, Sept 9: Course Overview, Review and Introduction**

  – **Readings**
    * Benninga and Sarig, Chapters 1 and 2, "Financial Valuation Tools", B (Second item on Study.Net)
    * (For Review) BMA, Chapters 1-12, RWJ Chapters 1-12, BD Chapters 1-12.
    * H, Chapters, 1-4, 7 and 9 (pp. 347-365)

- **Tues, Sept 14 and Thurs, Sept 16: Financial Statements, the Evaluation of Financial Performance and Financial Planning and Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Clarkson Lumber (No student write up required)**

  – **Readings**
    * Benninga and Sarig, Chapters 1 and 2, B
    * BMA, Chapters 29-31, RWJ Chapters 26-28 or BD Chapters 26-27.
    * H, Chapters, 1-4, 7 and 9 (pp. 347-365)
    * Note on Bank Loans, B

- **Tues, Sept 21: (First date for a possible quiz!) Risk Adjusted Discount Rates and Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Comsat (No student write up required)**

  – **Material covered by a possible quiz:** Readings and class discussion for 9/9-9/16 and The Clarkson Case
- Readings
  * “Diversification, The Capital Asset Pricing Model, and the Cost of Equity Capital,” B
  * BMA, Chapters 6-10, RWJ Chapters 6-12 or BD Chapters 6,7, 10-12
  * H, Chapter 8

- Thurs, Sept 23: Leverage, the Discount Rate and WACC and Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Marriott (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and class discussion for 9/21 and The Comsat Case
  - Readings
    * BMA, Chapters 18-20, RWJ Chapters 15-17 or BD Chapters 14-16, 17-19
    * “Financial Leverage, The Capital Asset Pricing Model, and the Cost of Equity Capital,” B.

- Tues, Sept 28: Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Marriott Case continued (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and class discussion for 9/21 and Comsat Case

- Thurs, Sept 30 and Tues, Oct 5: Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Harris Seafood (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz on 9/30 and 10/5: Readings and class discussion for 9/28 and The Marriott Case

- Thurs, Oct 7: Class Discussion: Midland Energy* (Student write up required. Worth 12.5% of the course grade!)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Midland Energy Case

- Tues, Oct 12: No Class: Fall Break

- Thurs, Oct 14: (No quiz on this day) Three DCF Approaches: Discounting UFCF at WACC, APV and Discounting Flows to Equity at ROE
- Readings

- Tues, Oct 19: Class Discussion: The All America Pipeline Case (Student write up required.)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: All America Pipeline Case

- Thurs, Oct 21: Capital Structure and Bond Ratings
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Harris Case or All America Pipeline Case
  - Readings
    * BMA, Chapters 18-20, RWJ Chapters 15-17 or BD Chapters 14-16, 17-19
    * H, Chapters 6 and 8
    * Barclay, et.al., “The Determinants of Corporate Leverage and Dividend Policy,” B.

- Tues, Oct 26: Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: American Home Products (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and Class Discussion 10/21

- Thurs, Oct 28: Class Discussion: American Chemical (Student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: American Chemical Case

- Tues, Nov 2: Bankruptcy and Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Continental Airlines-1992 (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and Class Discussion for 10/21 and American Home Products Case
  - Readings
* BMA Chapters 18-20, 24 and 33 (section 33.4), RWJ Chapters 15-17 and 30 or BD Chapters 14-16, 17-19
* “Note on Bankruptcy in the US,” B

- Thurs, Nov 4: Takeovers, Mergers and “The Market for Corporate Control”
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and Class Discussion for 11/2 and Continental Airlines Case
  - Readings
    * BMA Chapter 32, RWJ Chapter 29 or BD Chapter 28
    * H, Chapter 9 (pp. 347-365)
    * Schleifer and Vishny, “Value Maximization and the Acquisition Process,” B
    * Schleifer and Vishny, “The Takeover Wave of the 1980’s” B
    * “Why All Takeovers Aren’t Created Equal,” B

- Tues, Nov 9: Class Discussion: Case TBA* (Student write up required. Worth 12.5% of the course grade.)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: The case due this day

- Thurs, Nov 11: Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Gulf (No student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and Class Discussion for 11/4

- Tues, Nov 16: Private Equity and LBOs
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and Class Discussion for 11/4 and The Gulf Case
- **Readings**
  * BMA Chapter 33 (Sections 33.1-33.3), RWJ Chapter 29 or BD Chapter 28
  * “Leveraged Buyouts,” B
  * Bhide, “Reversing Corporate Diversification,” B.
  * Kaplan and Stromberg, "Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity" B

- **Thurs, Nov 18:** Class Discussion: Mercury Athletic (Student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Mercury Athletic Case

- **Tues, Nov 24:** (No quiz on this day): Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Philip Morris and Kraft (No student write up required)

- **Tues, Nov 30:** (No quiz on this day): Instructor Case Presentation and Class Discussion: Seagate Technology Buyout (No student write up required)

- **Thurs, Dec 2:** Tues, Nov 24: Class Discussion: RJR Nabisco (Student write up required)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: The RJR case

- **Tues, Dec 7:** Topic TBA
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: Readings and class discussion for 11/16, Philip Morris and Kraft Case or the Seagate Technology Buyout Case

- **Thurs, Dec 9:** Class Discussion: Case TBA* (Student write up required. Worth 12.5% of the course grade.)
  - Material covered by a possible quiz: The case due this day