

1. Course Information

Course Information

Course Name: Corporate Finance

Course Number: FM 2555A

Term: Fall

Location: Online Delivery

Time: Tue 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM, Thu 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Antirequisite(s): [Management and Organizational Studies 2310A/B](#), [Management and Organizational Studies 3310A/B](#).

Pre-or Corequisite(s): [Actuarial Science 2553A/B](#) or [Actuarial Science 2053](#).

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2. Instructor Information

Instructor	Kyle Leistner, Lecturer
Office	Online via Zoom
Email	Kleistne@uwo.ca
Phone	n/a
Office Hours	Tue 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM; Thu 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Students must use their Western (@uwo.ca) email addresses when contacting their instructors. For office hours, please set up a Zoom call with the email address above.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Goal and governance of firms, bond and stock pricing, risk and return, portfolio theory, Capital Asset Pricing Model, capital budgeting, market efficiency, corporate financing.

Lectures will be delivered in a combination of synchronous and asynchronous format. Zoom recordings of synchronous lectures will be available after the delivery of the lecture.

Week	Topics Covered
1	Introduction
2	Goals and Governance of the firm How to Calculate Present Values
3	Valuing Bonds The Value of Common Stocks
4	Net Present Value and other Criteria Making Investment Decisions with the Net Present Value Rule
5	Introduction to Risk and Return (mean and variance analysis) Portfolio Theory and the Capital Asset Pricing Model Multi-factor models
6	Risk and the Cost of Capital Project Analysis Risk metrics (VaR and CTE)
7	Review and Midterm 1
8	Investment, Strategy, and Economic Rents Agency Problems, Compensation, and Performance Management
9	Fall Reading Week
10	Efficient Markets and Behavioral Finance An Overview of Corporate Financing
11	Midterm 2 How Corporations Issue Securities
12	Payout Policies
13	Capital Structure How Much Should a Corporation Borrow
14	Finance and Valuation Classes End

Classes begin: September 9
Reading Week: November 2-8
Classes end: December 9

Canadian Institute of Actuaries Actuarial Exam Accreditation

This course is accredited under the Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA) [University Accreditation Program](#) (UAP). Achievement of the minimum required grades in accredited courses may provide credit for preliminary exams. Please note that a combination of courses may be required to achieve exam credit. Details of required courses and grades at Western University are [available at:](#)

<https://www.cia-ica.ca/membership/university-accreditation-program-home>

In addition to the university's internal policies on conduct, including academic misconduct, candidates pursuing credits for writing professional examinations shall also be subject to the [Code of Conduct and Ethics for Candidates in the CIA Education System](#) and the associated [Policy on Conduct and Ethics for](#)

[Candidates in the CIA Education System](#). For more information, please visit [Obtaining UAP Credits](#) and the [CIA FAQ."](#)

Students need both Fin Mod 2555A (minimum grade of 75%) and FinMod 3530A (minimum grade of 80%) in order to be eligible to receive a credit for SOA Exam FM

4. Course Materials

Text Book:

Brealey, R.A.; Myers, S.C.; and Allen F. Principles of Corporate Finance (12th Edition), 2017, McGraw-Hill

Students can order a physical copy through the [Book Store's](#) website and the books will be shipped directly to them. Alternatively, students can purchase an e-book version through the following link:

<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/cebcodeid33219>

Students should check OWL (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class. Students are responsible for checking OWL on a regular basis.

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Technical Requirements

Stable internet connection

Computer with working microphone

Zoom

5. Methods of Evaluation

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Midterm Exam 1	25%
Midterm Exam 2	30%
Final Exam	45%

Midterm 1 Date: October 8th, 2020, 12:30pm to 1:30pm (1 hour)

Midterm 2 Date: November 10th, 2020, 12:30pm to 2:00pm (1.5 hours)

The final exam will be a take-home exam and will be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar.

Midterms and exams are not open book and will be written synchronously by all students. The online proctoring system, Proctortrack, will be used to proctor midterms and exams.

Accommodated Evaluations

In the event there is an excused absence for a midterm, the weight of that midterm will be proportionately redistributed to the remaining midterm and the final exam. No make up midterms will be administered. In the event there is an excused absence for the final exam, the student will write the make-up exam on January 7th, 2021.

6. Accommodation and Accessibility

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities policy can be found at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the semester, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs, see:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar:

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (see http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/exam_schedule.html).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

7. Academic Policies

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy, <http://www.uwo.ca/its/identity/activatenonstudent.html>, the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

All of the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using both Zoom and the remote proctoring service, such as Proctortrack.

When Zoom is used for exam invigilation, you will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session using Zoom will not be recorded.*

Proctortrack will require you to provide personal information (including some biometric data). The session will be recorded. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software. More information about remote proctoring is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system and technical requirements for both Zoom and Proctortrack. Information about the system and technical requirements are available at the following links:

<https://www.proctortrack.com/tech-requirements/>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please provide this information to the instructor in advance of the test or examination.

8. Support Services

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling webpage for information on add/drop courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (519) 661-2147 if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Student Development Centre (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <http://westernusc.ca/services>.