I. COURSE OBJECTIVE AND DESCRIPTION

This is a study of corporate finance theory, at the doctoral level. This literature can be divided into several sections such as, agency costs, market efficiency, asset valuation, options theory, capital budgeting, capital structure, and dividend policy. Any student passing this course should have an in depth knowledge of the corporate finance literature.

II. CLASS CONDUCT

Student preparation and participation forms an integral part of this course. All students should come fully prepared with the study material scheduled for a class meeting. During student presentations, a lively discussion of the topic is expected through intelligent class participation.

CAUTION - A NOTE ON PLAGIARISM: To plagiarize is to claim originality to work or idea belonging to somebody else. Any reference to external source either verbatim or paraphrased must be appropriately cited. Please familiarize yourself with definitions and examples of plagiarism as applicable at UTA by visiting the appropriate websites. Any form of plagiarism may lead to a failing grade in class in addition to other penalties, as the instructor may deem fit.

Walk Rule: If the instructor is late by more than 15 minutes, please leave the class quietly.

For further details and additional information, please refer to the enclosed syllabus addendum.

III. COURSE TEXTS

Course Text


Assigned articles.

Financial Calculator: Texas Instruments™ BA II Plus, Texas Instruments™ BA II Plus Professional or equivalent. I will demonstrate the use of Texas Instruments™ BA II Plus. This is my personal preference. Please feel free to use a different brand or model if you are confident with using it as long as it is at least functionally equivalent to Texas Instruments™ BA II Plus and does not have programming or mass storage capability. Use of iPhone™, iPad™ or similar device in a financial calculator emulation mode is not allowed.
IV.  GRADING

Grades will be based on your performance on two in class exams, term paper, class presentation and class participation using the following weighting:

- Mid-term exam: 30%
- Term Paper: 20%
- Class Presentation: 5%
- Class Participation: 5%
- Final Examination: 40%
- Total: 100%

Please note that the final exam will be comprehensive in nature. There is no provision for makeup or extra points. The instructor may take into consideration student inputs regarding peer presentations.

V.  KEY DATES

- First day of class for FINA 6311: January 14, 2014
- Census date: January 29, 2014
- Spring Break: March 10 to March 14, 2014
- Last day of class for FINA 6311: April 29, 2014
- Final Exam for FINA 6311: May 6, 2014; 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Please note the University Policy regarding drops as stated in the Graduate Catalog.

VI.  TERM PROJECT

The term project should be original work of the individual student deserving the quality of a doctoral level seminar class. Please note that it should be a new independent project exclusively dedicated for FINA 6311 and not a continuation of some other project that the student might have worked on in the past or would like to add-on to an unfinished project already turned in another class. Either way, each student is encouraged to discuss the project with the instructor as early as possible so as to meet the stated deadlines.

While the electronic copy could be mailed before the start of class, the hard copy of the outline is to be handed in at the beginning of class on February 25, 2014. The completed papers for all students (electronic copy and hard copy) are due at the beginning of class on April 1, 2014. Each student will be required to present his/her term paper to the class either on April 1, 8, 15, 22, or 29, as assigned by the instructor. Please proofread your paper thoroughly to eliminate common mistakes. Please make a copy for yourself before turning in. The copies of outline, as well as completed papers turned in to the instructor will not be returned to the student. Please turn in both hard copies and electronic copies of the outline and the paper before their respective deadlines.
Please note that this is a nice opportunity to get acquainted with the wealth of resources at UTA. In addition to having access to most of the leading journals and professional publications in Finance and Real Estate, UTA also has access to WRDS databases. The students are expected to use these facilities and develop an **academically rich document** as their term project. Students are also encouraged to pursue working on the term paper along with the help of the instructor even after the submission deadline to achieve the ultimate goal of publication in a high quality peer reviewed academic journal that distinguishes the students from other candidates in their respective career paths. Depending on future publication potential, which will vary from case to case, the instructor may provide additional feedback on further improving the quality of the paper after the close of the semester.

**VII. COURSE OUTLINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
<th>Material</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>Hand out syllabus, course introduction and discuss term projects;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Chapter 13, The Role of the CFO, Performance Measurement, and Incentive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Chapter 14, Valuation and Tax Policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 04</td>
<td>Chapter 15, Capital Structure and the Cost of Capital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Chapter 17, Applied Issues in Corporate Finance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feb 25    Mid Term Exam: Tuesday, Feb 25

Term Paper Proposals Due

Mar 04    Chapter 18, Acquisitions, Divestitures, Restructuring, and Corporate Governance.


Boyle, Glenn, Corporate Investment Policy: What is the cost of Capital?

Apr 01    Term Paper Presentation

Apr 08    Term Paper Presentation

Apr 15    Term Paper Presentation

Apr 22    Term Paper Presentation

Apr 29    Term Paper Presentation

May 06, 2014, Tuesday 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Comprehensive Final Examination

The dates and topics are tentative and may be changed with notice, as needed. Moreover, additional readings may be assigned during the semester.
University Policies

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Bomb Threats: Effective April 8, 1997, the College of Business Administration has adopted a policy to deal with the classroom disruption caused by bomb threats in the building. [A] Section 22.07 of the Texas Criminal Law Statutes governs terrorist threats and classifies bomb threats as Class A misdemeanors. Section 12.21 of the Texas Criminal Law Statutes states that a Class A misdemeanor is punishable by (1) a fine not to exceed $4,000, (2) a jail term of not more than one year, or (3) both such a fine and confinement. [B] If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will soon have technology to trace phone calls. [C] Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations and exams caused by bomb threats to the Business Building. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. If a student who has a class with a scheduled test or presentation arrives and the building has been closed due to a bomb threat, the student should immediately check for
the alternate class site notice posted on/near the main doors on the south side of the Business Building. If the bomb threat is received while class is in session, Your instructor will ask you to leave the building and reconvene at another location. [D] Students who provide information leading to the successful prosecution of anyone making a bomb threat will receive one semester’s free parking in the Maverick Garage across from the Business Building. UTA’s Crime Stoppers will provide a reward to anyone providing information leading to an arrest. To make anonymous report, call 817-272-5245.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend each class and students are expected to come to each class with their assignments completed. Any student who must miss a class is responsible for securing any and all assignments for course work missed.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Absences Based on Religious Beliefs:** A student who misses class work due to the observance of a religious holiday will be given the opportunity to complete the missed work within 15 days following the due date of the work. To be eligible for make-up, the student must notify the instructor prior to the holiday.
Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located on either side of the hallway, as you walk out of the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.