

University of Detroit Mercy

ECN 5640 Online Summer 2015

Instructor: Chris Rakovalis
Time: Online
Office: (see “Weekly Office Hours”)
Phone: (734) 495-9443
E-mail: rakovacl@udmercy.edu

Instructor Bio

I am Chris Rakovalis, and I will be your instructor for this course. I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. In 1991, I finished my undergraduate degree in logistics from Wayne State University in Detroit. As for my graduate work, I finished my Masters of Science in Business Administration in 1996, and then a Masters of Arts in Financial Economics in 2008, both at the University of Detroit-Mercy. In my career, I have held management and supervisory positions at various logistics firms. Most recently, since 1997, I have held several positions at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan. Currently, I am a certified Six Sigma BlackBelt quality and inventory planning specialist supervisor. I oversee operations of two manufacturing facilities in metro Detroit, ensuring efficient inventory systems and accounting of Ford Motor Company inventory assets. My teaching career encompasses over 11 years of traditional classroom instruction at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Michigan, where I have taught macro and micro economics classes. In addition, my online experience in teaching economics and business encompasses over 10 years at University of Detroit-Mercy, University of Phoenix, Kaplan University, and Grantham University. I have created and taught several types of economics classes, such as micro, macro, international, applied economics, fiscal and monetary policy, labor economics, public finance, and graduate level economics classes. I want to welcome you to the start of this new term. Your success at UofD-Mercy is a high priority goal of mine.

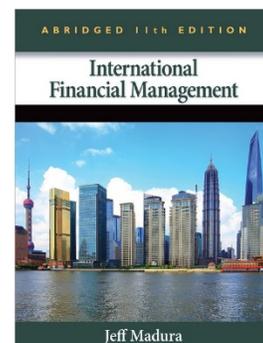
Course Catalog Description

ECN 5640 Financial Economics

Consideration of capital structures, debt and equity, business costs and financing methods are discussed in the context of mergers, acquisitions and financial forecasting for business/industry. The case study approach of analysis will be used to view various models of financial economic considerations.

Textbook

International Financial Management, 12/e Abridged
Jeff Madura
ISBN: 978-1-133-43517-4
Copyright year: 2013
Publisher: SOUTH-WESTERN Cengage Learning



Student Course Evaluations

Administration's statement repeated in italics:

Student course evaluations are an important source of information for curricular and teaching improvement in the College of Liberal Arts and Education. As such, all students enrolled in CLAE courses are *strongly encouraged* to complete an online course evaluation (<https://jackson.udmercy.edu/surveys/>).

Dishonesty and Plagiarism

Unacceptable behavior such as cheating in any form will result in penalties after a due process hearing determines that such behavior did occur. Students are advised to read the student handbook for the penalties resulting from such behavior – Student Code of Conduct (<http://www.udmercy.edu/slo/student-handbook/index.htm>).

University's Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

As members of an academic community engaged in the pursuit of truth and with a special concern for values, students are expected to conform to a high standard of honesty and integrity in their academic work. The fundamental assumption under which the University operates is that work submitted by a student is a product of his/her own efforts.

Among the most serious academic offenses is plagiarism, submitting the style of another author or source without acknowledgment or formal documentation. Plagiarism occurs when specific phrases or entire passages, whether a sentence, paragraph or longer excerpt, are incorporated into one's own writing without quotation marks or documentation. One also plagiarizes by paraphrasing the work of another, that is, retaining another writer's ideas and structure without documentation.

Students are advised always to set off another writer's exact words by quotation marks, with appropriate references. Students avoid plagiarism by concentrating on their own words and ideas and by fully crediting others' words and ideas when they find their way into the writing. Whenever in doubt, cite the source.

Students who purchase essays from other students or agencies or who copy from one another or from prohibited sources, commit the most serious type of academic dishonesty.

The consequences of plagiarism, or any act of academic dishonesty, may range from failure on an assignment or in a course to dismissal from the University.

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities may request accommodations as provided within federal law. In order for the University to adequately review each case, requests should be made to the Office of Disability Support Services prior to the start of the semester. Students should contact ADA

officer: Emily Gallegos, UDM Section 504 Coordinator, McNichols Campus, Ground Floor, Student Center, (313) 578-0310, gallegem@udmercy.edu.

Be sure to check the following...

Office of the Registrar
Important Dates

<http://www.udmercy.edu/registrar/academic-calendar/index.htm>

Evaluation Components

There are 1,000 possible points...

180 points – Discussion Board Participation (6 units x 30 points per unit)

400 points – Term Paper

420 points – Final Exam

1,000 points – Total

Evaluation Criteria

NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED! KEEPING THIS IN MIND, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU KEEP UP AND THAT YOU LET ME KNOW EARLY ON IF THERE ARE ANY SCHEDULING PROBLEMS...NO EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE (YOU HAVE PLENTY TO DO WITH YOUR REGULAR LOAD).

Weekly Summaries/Chapter Questions/Lectures

Weekly, I will submit study material for that week that will be supplemental to the PowerPoint presentations. I will post an announcement upon submitting the materials. It will be useful to you and pertinent for discussions and exams. The materials should also complement and supplement your textbook reading. Thus, it will be necessary to keep referring to the Announcements during the week, not only for the study materials, but also any other information I will be passing along.

Weekly Office Hours

During the week, I am available most of the time during the 5:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. timeframe, but on Sundays, I tend to be available in the afternoon only. If these times are not convenient for you, please let me know, and I will be happy to accommodate your schedule if at all possible. I provide you with these times to make it easier to communicate with me, not to limit our contact. Most often, I will in discussion boards and chat rooms during the evening hours.

One night per week, on Thursdays, I reserve time to be completely available for personal communication and discussion in real time. For office hours on Thursdays (9:30 p.m. EST to 10:30 EST), feel free to contact me there. Thanks!

Discussion Board Participation (180 points): There will be 2 discussion questions per week in 6 of the 7 weeks based upon lectures/textbook and/or reading. You must respond to both questions and also provide feedback/comments to at least 2 other student's input (be as critical as you like but stay on topic) in each question's thread; answers should be substantive. Thus, in total, to get full credit in a week, you will need to have submitted 4 posts – an initial response to each of the 2 discussion questions, and 2 responses to other students' posts in each discussion question.

Again, you are expected to participate in the Discussion Board on a regular basis.

You have to be participating on the Discussion Board at least three times per week (not all at once if you can help it): (1) response to my questions and (2) comments on your fellow students' postings. You will be expected to post your response to Discussion Question #1 by Wednesday of the week and Discussion Question #2 by Thursday of that same week. 10 points will be deducted for any discussion question initial response not submitted by the specified day. This will help to ensure there is discussion in the discussion boards and not a marathon posting of all four posts in one day on Saturday or Sunday of the week.

I will be the observer/facilitator of this process and will be assessing your contributions to the topic-related discussion. I'm looking for insightful analysis, probing questions, and constructive suggestions to each other. Keep thinking from the perspective – how can I add something useful? It may be an experience you've had – or a quote from an article you read...be creative!

I will interject questions and respond with occasional brief comments to keep your momentum on track but for the most part, the discussions will be left to you!

Term Paper (400 points): There will be a term paper due at the end of the course. The paper will entail writing minimum five-pages, double-spaced discussion of a country you select (except the United States) describing why that country was affected by the international credit crisis. For example, did its financial institutions invest heavily in mortgage-related securities? Did its MNCs suffer from limited liquidity because they relied on credit from other countries during the international credit crunch? Did the country's economy suffer because it relies heavily on exports? Was the country adversely affected because of how the international credit crisis affected its currency's value?

I recommend working on the paper later in the course to allow you to read the text and gather thoughts on how to approach the dilemma of the subject; of course, additional resources and research separate from the text may be necessary.

The overall grade of the assignment will be partly contingent upon strong presentation skills utilizing proper grammar, word usage, spelling, and essay layout of an introduction and thesis, body, and conclusion.

APA formatting (5th edition or newer) will be required, which also includes a bibliography. I will run a plagiarism check on the document for verification. Please make sure you properly cite resources used.

Final Exam (420 points): The exam will test your understanding of class topics throughout the course. The test in this course will be objective in nature, covering the material from the Discussion Boards, Reviews and Readings.

Call me immediately if you have any questions or concerns (the exam will be objective multiple choice and/or true/false - you'll have plenty of time to complete the work).

Translation of course averages into course grades

Graduate students (ECN 5640)

93 to 100 = A	90 up to but not including 93 = A-
88 up to b.n.i. 90 = B+	85 up to b.n.i. 88 = B
80 up to b.n.i. 85 = B-	74 up to b.n.i. 80 = C+
70 up to b.n.i. 74 = C	67 up to b.n.i. 70 = C-
64 up to b.n.i. 67 = D+	60 up to b.n.i. 64 = D
below 60 = F	

b.n.i. = (but not including)

Weekly grades will be updated by the Thursday of the subsequent week.

Weekly (Reading and Exams) Assignments

Week #1 5-4 to 5-10

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 1 - 3

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #2 5-11 to 5-17

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 4 - 6

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #3 5-18 to 5-24

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 7 - 9

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #4 5-25 to 5-31

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 10 - 12

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #5 6-1 to 6-7

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 13 - 14

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least

two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #6 6-8 to 6-14

Reading: Textbook: Chapters 15 - 16

Summary PowerPoint – for your benefit...to be used as a study guide.

Discussion Board (30 points total): Respond to both Discussion Board Questions (your responses should be concise, yet substantive and complete). Also, you must comment on at least two other students' responses. Your grade for the Discussion Board will be based on the thoroughness of your answers and your punctuality of submitting your responses by the required date for each discussion question.

Week #7 6-15 to 6-20

FINAL EXAM (420 points): Final Exam is cumulative and is timed, and once you are in the exam, you cannot exit and return; the system will not allow you to return once you have left. Please pay attention to the time, as you have 2 hours to complete.

TERM PAPER (400 points): Please refer to the section in the syllabus defining the requirements of the term paper. It should be at least 5 pages in length, double-spaced. Proper APA formatting is a requirement. Send me your term paper to my UDM email address of rakovacl@udmercy.edu.