



# **Rotman** Commerce UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## Course Outline

### **RSM 333H1F - Introduction to Corporate Finance**

Fall 2014

Course Meets:

|              |            |       |
|--------------|------------|-------|
| <b>L0101</b> | Mon: 3-5pm | WO 30 |
| <b>L0201</b> | Mon: 5-7pm | WO 30 |

Instructor: William Huggins, sections L0101, L0201  
 E-Mail: [william.huggins@rotman.utoronto.ca](mailto:william.huggins@rotman.utoronto.ca)  
 Office Hours: Mondays 2-3, Thursdays 3-6 in RT424  
 Lead Teaching Assistant: TBA

This is an introductory course in corporate finance. The course provides a framework for analyzing the major types of investment and financial decisions made by corporations. Lectures and readings will provide an introduction to capital budgeting principles, capital structure and dividend decisions of firms, mergers and acquisitions, the use of options for risk management, working capital management and corporate governance.

### **Course Prerequisites**

*Exclusion:* [ACT349H1](#), [ECO359H1](#)  
*Prerequisite:* [RSM219H1](#), [RSM332H1](#)

### **Course Materials**

The required textbook is:

L. Booth, and W. S. Cleary, **Introduction to Corporate Finance**, 3rd edition, John Wiley & Sons Canada, 2007 (BC, ISBN: 978-0-470-16110-4).

Three optional texts are recommended for this course:

T. E. Copeland, J. F. Weston, and K. Shastri, **Financial Theory and Corporate Policy**, 4th edition, Addison-Wesley, 2004 (ISBN: 0-32-112721-8).

C. Holden, **Excel Modeling in Corporate Finance**, 3rd ed, Prentice Hall, 2008 (ISBN: 0-13-602561-7).

B. Malkiel, **A Random Walk Down Wall Street**, 9th edition, Norton, 2007 (ISBN: 0-39-333033-8).

### **Evaluation and Grades**

Grades are a measure of the performance of a student in individual courses. Each student shall be judged on the basis of how well he or she has command of the course materials.

| <u>Work</u>        |     | <u>Due Date</u>               |
|--------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| Assignment #1      | 10% | October 20                    |
| Group presentation | 5%  | November 7 and 21 (see below) |
| Mid Term Exam      | 30% | October 24                    |
| Assignment #2      | 10% | December 4                    |
| Final Exam         | 45% | During A&S Final Exam Period  |

## **Weekly Tutorials:**

Tutorials for this course will be held each week starting in week 2 during which a TA will be available to help you understand the course material and work through some of the quantitative problems you may encounter. During these sessions, questions from past exams which cover topics from that week will be reviewed. These sessions are not mandatory but students should attempt to attend them on a weekly basis. Dates and times TBA.

## **Course Format and Expectations:**

Although the majority of the assignments are mathematical problem sets, please note that clear, concise, and correct writing will be considered in the evaluation of assignments. That is, you may lose points for writing that impedes communication: poor organization, weak paragraph development, excessive wordiness, hard-to-follow sentence structure, spelling mistakes and grammatical errors. Students who require additional support and/or tutoring with respect to their writing skills are encouraged to visit the Academic Success Centre ([www.asc.utoronto.ca](http://www.asc.utoronto.ca)) or one of the College Writing Centres ([www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres](http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres)). These centres are teaching facilities – not editing services, where trained staff can assist students in developing their academic writing skills. There is no charge for the instruction and support.

### **For Assignment Group Work:**

Both assignments allow students to work in teams of **no less than 4 and no more than 5 people**. One assignment is then handed in for each group. If you have concerns about the grading of the assignment, please bring them to the attention of the lead TA within two weeks of the assignment being returned. Please re-submit the assignment with a written explanation of your concerns.

### **For Presentation Group Work:**

Students will be randomly assigned to a group (within their section) by the Rotman Commerce program office. Each group will be of 4 students, but depending on the number of students in the section we could have one or two groups of 3 to 5 students. No change is allowed in the group composition, if some group members drop the course, the group will remain even if it gets smaller. Once groups are available on Blackboard, students can view/contact other group members via the course page.

Presentations will take place **outside of regular class time on Fridays** November 7 and 21 with no change of date are allowed (which date for which groups will be announced by the end of September). Groups must sign up in advance for a presentation time either via the Rotman Commerce Portal. Each group member is expected to present.

Students will be required to deliver their presentation on Friday, November 7 or 21 between the hours of 9am and 3pm (depending on the time slot selected). You are expected to ensure that you are available that day and to provide the instructor with sufficient notice (i.e. at least 2 weeks) if you have a documented conflict

Learning to work together in teams is an important aspect of your education and preparation for your future careers. That said, project-based teamwork is often new to students and you are therefore reminded of the following expectations with respect to behaviour and contributions to your team project.

1. Read the document entitled, “Working in Teams: Guidelines for Rotman Commerce Students” which is available on the RC portal under the Academic Services tab.

2. When working in a team, Rotman Commerce students are expected to:

- Treat other members with courtesy and respect;
- Honour the ground rules established by the team;
- Contribute substantially and proportionally to the final project;
- Ensure enough familiarity with the entire contents of the group project/assignment so as to be able to sign off on it as original work;
- Meet the project timeline as established by the team.

3. Resolving conflicts:

Conflicts are part of the team's process of learning how to work together effectively and when handled well can generate creativity and bring-multiple perspectives to the solution.

Student teams are collectively expected to work through their misunderstandings as soon as they arise (and prior to submission of the final project). In cases where teams are unable to arrive at a solution that works for all members, the team must meet with the Rotman Commerce Team Coach\*\* as soon as possible. The Coach will listen to the team and help develop options for improving the team process. All members of the project team must commit to, and, utilize their action plans.

\*\* For an appointment with a Rotman Commerce Team Coach, please contact Nikoleta Vlamis at [nikoleta@nikoletaandassociates.com](mailto:nikoleta@nikoletaandassociates.com) or Elaine Zapotoczny at [elaine@nikoletaandassociates.com](mailto:elaine@nikoletaandassociates.com). Nikoleta and Elaine are highly skilled at facilitating team dynamics and collaboration. Note that the Team Coach's role is to provide guidance, support and advice on team matters – not to formally evaluate or assess teamwork for academic purposes.

**For Final Exam:**

The final examination will not be open book. You will be permitted a 8.5x11 inches 2-sided aid sheet with notes and/or formulae. You are also permitted a non-programmable calculator.

The following schedule of topics covered is subject to modification as the course progresses.

| <b>Week of:</b>   | <b>Topic</b>                           | <b>Readings</b>            |
|---|--|----------------------------|
| 1: September 8  | Project Evaluation                     | Chapters 13-14             |
| 2: September 15   | COACHING ON PRESENTATIONS              |                            |
| 3: September 22   | Special Cases in Capital Budgeting     | Chapters 13-14, 16         |
| 4: September 29   | Project Evaluation under Uncertainty   | CLASS NOTES                |
| 5: October 6  | Options                                | Chapter 12                 |
| <b>Assignment #1 due by 4:00 pm at Rotman Commerce Office Tuesday, Oct 21st, 2014</b> |  |                            |
| 6: October 13   | THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS                |                            |
| 7: October 20   | Working Capital Management             | Chapters 23-24             |
| OCTOBER 24  | MIDTERM EXAM                           |                            |
| 8: October 27   | Cost of Capital and Investment Banking | Chapter 17,20              |
| 9: November 3   | Capital Structure                      | Chapter 21                 |
| 10: November 10   | Dividend Policy                        | Chapter 22                 |
| 11: November 17   | READING WEEK – NO CLASS                |                            |
| 12: November 24   | Firm Valuation                         | Chapter 15 and class notes |
| 13: December 1  | Mergers & Acquisitions                 | Chapter 15 and class notes |
| 14: December 3  | Corporate Governance                   | CLASS NOTES                |
| <b>Assignment #2 due by 4:00 pm, Rotman Commerce Office, Dec 4, 2014</b>              |  |                            |

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

### **Missed Tests and Assignments (including midterm examinations)**

Students who miss a test or assignment for reasons entirely beyond their control (e.g. illness) may submit a request for special consideration. Provided that notification and documentation are provided in a timely manner, and that the request is subsequently approved, no academic penalty will be applied.

In such cases, students must notify Rotman Commerce on the date of the missed test (or due date in the case of course work) and submit supporting documentation (e.g. [Verification of Student Illness or Injury form](#)) to the Rotman Commerce Program Office within **48 hours** of the originally scheduled test or due date. Students who do not provide Rotman Commerce or the instructor with appropriate or sufficient supporting documentation will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for the missed test or course deliverable.

**Note that the physician's report must establish that the patient was examined and diagnosed at the time of illness, not after the fact. The Faculty will not accept a statement that merely confirms a later report of illness made by the student to a physician.**

There is no make- up Mid Term Exam. If the Mid Term Exam is missed, its weight will be shifted to the Final Exam bringing the new weight of the Final Exam to 75%.

### **Missed Presentation**

No points will be given for the group presentation unless the student is presenting himself. Students who miss the presentation for reasons entirely beyond their control (e.g. illness) may submit a request for special consideration (see procedure for the missed test and assignments above). If approved, the weight of the presentation (5%) will be added to the Final Exam.

### **Late Assignments**

As solutions are provided immediately after the due date, late assignments will not be accepted.

### **Accessibility Needs**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic Integrity is a fundamental value essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarships at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the UofT degree that you earn will continue to be valued and respected as a true signifier of a student's individual work and academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously.

*The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm> outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the process for addressing academic offences, and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the instructor's permission.

- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment (this includes collaborating with others on assignments that are supposed to be completed individually).

On test and exams:

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else's answers
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to), medical notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated by the following procedures outlined in the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*. If you have any question about what is or is not permitted in the course, please do not hesitate to contact the course instructor. If you have any questions about appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information from the instructor or other UofT resources such as College Writing Centres or the Academic Success Centre.

### **Email**

At times, the course instructor may decide to communicate important course information by email. As such, all UofT students are required to have a valid UTmail+ email address. You are responsible for ensuring that your UTmail+ email address is set up AND properly entered on the ROSI system. For more information please visit <http://help.ic.utoronto.ca/category/3/utmail.html> Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that important messages from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

### **Blackboard and the Course Page**

The online course page for this course is accessed through Blackboard. To access the course page, go to the UofT Portal login at <https://portal.utoronto.ca/> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in, look for the My Courses module where you'll find the link to all your course websites. If you don't see the course listed here but you are properly registered for the course in ROSI, wait 48 hours. If the course does not appear, go to the Information Commons Help Desk in Robarts Library, 1st floor, for help, or explore the Portal Information and Help at [www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/students](http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/students) and review the Frequently Asked Questions.

### **Recording Lectures**

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. Students wishing to record a lecture or other course material in any way are required to ask the instructor's explicit permission, and may not do so unless permission is granted (note: students who have been previously granted permission to record lectures as an accommodation for a disability are, of course, excepted). This includes tape recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Blackboard materials, etc.

If permission is granted by the instructor (or via Accessibility Services), it is intended for the individual student's own study purposes and does not include permission to "publish" them in

anyway. It is absolutely forbidden for a student to publish an instructor's notes to a website or sell them in any other form without formal permission.