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Soochow University

# FIN 311 Advanced Corporate Finance I

Summer 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:**TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course offers insights into modern financial risk management from a non-financial corporate perspective. Students will explore which risks companies should manage and why, how to develop and organize risk management policies, and methods for measuring and managing various types of risk. Through case studies, they'll gain practical understanding of operational challenges faced by corporations and the interaction of financial market conditions with corporate decision-making.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the importance of managing financial risk in non-financial corporations;
2. Develop skills in designing and organizing effective risk management policies;
3. Learn methods for measuring and managing different types of financial risks;
4. Gain insights into operational challenges faced by corporations through case studies;
5. Explore the interaction between financial market conditions and corporate decision-making.

## **PREREQUISITES**

ECO 110 Microeconomics; FIN 213 Corporate Finance I; FIN 214 Corporate Finance II

## **GRADING**

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the



maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
2 Case Studies	20 Points
Research Paper	15 Points
2 Presentations	20 Points
Midterm	20 Points
Final Exam	25 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$ .

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### **Required Texts:**

*Corporate Finance*, Fourth Edition, Jonathan Berk and Peter DeMarzo, Pearson.

### **Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:**

None.

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 1: Principles of corporate financing Topic 2: Agency costs and corporate governance Topic 3: Decision-making under information asymmetry Topic 4: Capital structure theories Topic 5: Debt financing strategies <b>Assessments:</b> Case Study#1 Presentation#1



Module 2	<p><b>Topics:</b>          Topic 6: Equity financing and shareholder rights          Topic 7: Risk management techniques          Topic 8: Liquidity management in corporate finance          Topic 9: Financial market interactions          Topic 10: Impact of risk management on firm value  <b>Assessments:</b>          Case Study#2          Presentation#2</p>
Module 3	<p><b>Topics:</b>          Topic 11: Capital budgeting and investment decisions          Topic 12: Cost of capital estimation          Topic 13: Taxation and corporate financing          Topic 14: Behavioral aspects in financing decisions          Topic 15: Corporate governance mechanisms  <b>Assessments:</b>          Midterm</p>
Module 4	<p><b>Topics:</b>          Topic 16: Investor activism and corporate behavior          Topic 17: Mergers and acquisitions dynamics          Topic 18: Takeovers and corporate strategy          Topic 19: Financial intermediaries in corporate financing          Topic 20: Real options analysis in investments  <b>Assessments:</b>          Research Paper</p>
Module 5	<p><b>Topics:</b>          Topic 21: Ethical considerations in corporate finance          Topic 22: Financial distress and bankruptcy          Topic 23: International corporate finance issues          Topic 24: Corporate risk management case studies          Topic 25: Corporate finance trends and challenges  <b>Assessments:</b>          Final Exam</p>

### STUDY HOURS OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY FORM	ACTIVITY HOURS
Lectures	40
Tutorials	16
Assignments and Tests	26



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Self-Study	48
Total	130

## **ATTENDANCE**

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

## **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

## **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam.



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Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.