



Course Type: **Core**

Course Code: **MBA 604**

Course Name: **Finance**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

*Students please note that this is Core course. Recognized Prior Learning (RPL) for this course will be recognized. Students may do this course by (a) studying the course via TubeClasses and using the (free) MOOC courses from leading universities as supplementary delivery vehicles of the course content (\$250 per course); OR (b) undertaking similar courses elsewhere (including accredited MOOC Courses) and having the assessments suitably externally proctored (via organizations such as ProctorU); and then applying to Calwest for credit towards their degree program (\$25 per course); OR undertaking similar courses elsewhere (including accredited MOOC Courses) and undertaking 'challenge exams' at Calwest university (\$250 per course). Students may also undertake similar courses in other accredited universities for credit (\$25 per course). Please note there are limits to the maximum credits allowed in graduate programs.*

---

### **1. Course Description**

This course will introduce students to frameworks and tools to measure value; both for corporate and personal assets. It will also help students in decision-making, again at both the corporate and personal levels. This course is primarily devoted to the fundamental principles of valuation. Students will learn and apply the concepts of time value of money and risk to understand the major determinants of value creation. The course uses both theory and real world examples to demonstrate how to value any asset.

### **2. Learning Objectives**

1. Students will gain an understanding of the frameworks and tools to measure value; both for corporate and personal assets.
2. Students will gain a broad critical perspective of financial decision-making.
3. Student will read and analyze the financial flows within a firm, and set priorities and benchmarks for success.
4. Students will learn how apply the fundamental principles of valuation; such as the concepts of time value of money and risk to understand the major determinants of value creation.
5. Students will learn to think about finance beyond its traditional confines.

### **3. Learning Outcomes:**

To successfully complete this subject, a student should be able to:

1. Use financial mathematical skills for financial analysis.
2. Understand corporate asset pricing theories and financial policy formulation techniques.

3. Appreciate the capital budgeting, financing, valuation acquisition and dividend decisions of firms.
4. Acquire skills in corporate financial strategy modeling.
5. Develop numerical-cum-computing skills needed to apply the rich menu of modern theories to corporate valuation.

#### 4. Prescribed Reading (Compulsory)

Jonathan Berk and Peter DeMarzo, *Corporate Finance*, Latest Edition, Prentice Hall,  
<http://www.pearsoned.com/>

#### 5. Student Resource Requirements

- PC: A reliable computer running Windows XP or higher with 500 MB of RAM or higher
- Mac: A reliable computer running Mac OS 10 or higher
- Reliable high speed Internet connection (minimum 768 Kbps/128 Kbps)
- Web browser with Adobe Flash Player installed (Flash Player 10 or higher recommended)

#### 6. Topic Outline

<b>Topic No.</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Text Book Chapter</b>	<b>Lecture Power Point</b>
1	The Corporation	1	1
2	Introduction to Financial Statement Analysis	2	2
3	The Law of One Price and Financial Decision Making	3	3
4	The Time Value of Money	4	4
5	Interest Rates	5	5
6	Valuing Bonds	6	6
7	Investment Decision Rules	7	7
8	Fundamentals of Capital Budgeting	8	8
9	Valuing Stocks	9	9
10	Capital Markets and the Pricing of Risk	10	10
11	Optimal Portfolio Choice and the Capital Asset Pricing Model	11	11
12	Estimating the Cost of Capital	12	12
13	Investor Behavior and Capital Market Efficiency	13	13
14	Capital Structure in a Perfect Market	14	14
15	Debt and Taxes	15	15

#### 7. Assessment

There will be **Continuous Assessments** done throughout this course. All topics will have a **Topic Quiz** that needs to be satisfactorily answered prior to being allowed to access the next topic in the course. You are allowed 3 attempts in each Topic Quiz, so that you can revise the course material and master the topic before proceeding to the next topic in the course. Calwest keeps computer logs of all student activity in terms of accessing the course material and MCQs to ensure that sufficient time is being spent on online

studies. Note that negative marks will be attached to wrong answers in the Topic MCQs, and this will affect the final assessment score. *Therefore, please study the course material before attempting the Topic MCQs.*

After completing all Topics (and Quizzes), your **Final Assessment** will be available for you to undertake online at a time of your convenience. There will be a time limit of *90 minutes* for the final assessment in which you will need to answer *80 multiple-choice questions* that will be randomly selected from the questions asked in the topic quizzes.

**Please ensure that you have an undisturbed 90-minute time frame to undertake your Final Assessment as after 90 minutes your work will be automatically submitted and graded.**

**There will be only one attempt provided for the Final Assessment.**

***The Final Assessment will form the over 80% of the weight given to your final course grade. The Balance 20% is obtained as an average of the scores you achieve in the Topic Quizzes.***

## **8. Grading Criteria**

Calwest University applies the following grading system in all courses:

A pass mark of 60% (grade of D which is a bare minimum pass) or above is required to satisfy the educational requirements of the university for completing the course. The grade assessments are as follows:

Below 60%: Fail	73-75% : C	85-88% : B+
60-64% : D	76-78% : C+	89-91% : A-
65-69% : D+	79-81% : B-	92-95% : A
70-72% : C-	82-84% : B	Over 95% : A+