



BUSI 2501 A & B: Business Finance

FALL 2025

Instructor	Paul Wefers Bettink
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Class Times	Section A: Monday, 8:35 – 11:25 am Section B: Thursday 2:35 – 5:25 pm
Modality	In-Person Lecture
Office Hours	Wednesday evenings 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Office Location	Zoom (Online)
TA Name/Email	TBD

Pre-Requisites & Preclusions:

Prerequisites: BUSI 2018 (or BUSI 1005), and ECON 1001 and ECON 1002 (or ECOR 3800).

Restricted to selected Sprott programs.

Preclusions: BUSI 2503, BUSI 2504 (no longer offered).

Course Description/Instructor's Statement

Carleton Calendar Description

Basic issues and practices in finance. Survey of business firms' financing, investment, and payout decisions. Emphasis on understanding the principles, resources, and trade-offs in the financial area of business.

Instructor's Description:

This is an introductory course in corporate finance. It focuses on the fundamental principles and techniques used in corporate financial decision-making. Topics include the:

- Time value of money, discounted cash flow valuation (i.e., present and future values of single and multiple cash flows),
- Bond and stock valuation, and lessons from capital market history.
- Project investment decision criteria related to capital budgeting, and the impact of cash flows and tax allowances.
- Relationship between risk and return, the security market line, and the cost of capital.

Designed to equip students with essential financial tools, this course emphasizes both theoretical concepts and practical applications in corporate finance. These tools will be required for more advanced and specialized courses in finance (corporate, investments, portfolio analysis, etc.).

Required Materials & Prices

Title of Textbook

Fundamentals of Corporate Finance by Stephen A. Ross, Randolph W. Westerfield, Bradford D. Jordan, J. Ari Pandes, Thomas Holloway, 12th Canadian Edition, McGraw-Hill, Ryerson, 2025.

Price Options for 12th Edition:

- Print Textbook - \$159.95
- eBook (180-day access) - \$69.00 or (lifetime access) - \$99.00

The 12th edition is the most recent version of this textbook; however, students may want to purchase a previous edition (e.g., 11th or 10th edition) since the topics and questions in the 12th edition are similar to those in these previous editions (i.e., there may be different numbers and answers for the practice questions).

Calculator: Texas Instruments BA II Plus or other non-programable, financial calculator (e.g., HP, Sharpe)

Suggested Readings:

Financial News/Magazines:

The Globe and Mail – Report on Business

Details on how to activate **free online subscription access** to the Globe and Mail will be provided in class.

Please purchase the textbook(s) from the campus bookstore in Nideyinàn (formerly the University Centre) or through the bookstore website: <https://carleton.ca/campus-services/the-bookstore/>.

Grading Scheme and Key Dates

	Percentage of Total Grade	Section A - Monday	Section B - Thursday
Class Attendance	10		
Mid-Term Exam (in-class)	35	October 27 th	October 16 th
Final Exam	55		
TOTAL	100%		

BONUS: Midterm Feedback Survey: 2%



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Class Attendance & In Class Group Questions (10%) – As a way to record class attendance and to help students to better prepare for their mid-term and final exams, students will be asked to work in small groups (e.g., 2 to 3 members) on two to three problems in class and will be asked to hand in their work. Students will receive credit for their attempt to solve the problems. They will be asked to hand in their work at the end of class.

Midterm Feedback Survey (2% Bonus):

The Midterm Feedback Survey is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts on the course so far. Your feedback will help me understand what's working well and what can be improved. By completing the survey, you will earn 2% of your total course grade. Your input is valuable and will contribute to making the rest of the course as effective and engaging as possible. Details will be disclosed in class.

Midterm and Final Exam

Midterm Exam (35%): (around 30 questions, 2 hours) will be held during class time (see the following Course Schedule for dates). It will be a closed book. Material covered up to and including the class before the midterm exam is eligible to be addressed.

A student who does not write the midterm exam will automatically receive a grade of zero unless this is due to a medical reason or an emergency with the appropriate documentation. Please refer to the following Deferred Examinations Policy for detailed information about the makeup midterm exam.

Final Exam (55%): (around 45 questions, 3 hours) will be a comprehensive test, covering material from the entire course, including material before the mid-term exam. More information about the final exam will be provided in class as the term progresses.

Both the midterm and final exam will be conducted online (Brightspace) using the Carleton University e-proctoring system (CoMaS). These exams will be conducted in-person, but will still use this system, as you will be writing using your laptops. Details about this system and your requirements will be laid out well before the exams so that you are ready. You can find more information at <https://carleton.ca/ses/e-proctoring/>.

The minimum computing requirements for CoMaS e-proctoring service are as follows:

- Hardware: Laptop
- OS: Windows 10, Mac OS 10.14, Linux Ubuntu 18.04
- Internet Browser: Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, or Microsoft Edge

Note: Chromebooks, tablets (Android, iOS, Windows), and smartphones are not supported by CoMaS currently. You must complete your exams using Windows-based or MacOS computers. Make sure to bring your charging cables and ensure your device's batteries are fully charged.

Deferred Examinations:

If you wish to defer a **Formal Final Exam**, you – the student – must reach out to the registrar's office with the proper documentation before the deadline (please refer to <https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/> for dates). Once the request has been put through, your instructor will be notified for their approval. Your final exam will be formally scheduled. If you miss the deadline for applying for a deferral, please reach out to your instructor personally to discuss.

If you are unable to write the midterm exam due to extenuating circumstances (such as a death in the family, illness, etc.), you must provide appropriate supporting documentation to your professor. Upon review, a deferred test may be offered. Please note that students who do not provide valid documentation or fail to offer a reasonable explanation for missing an assessment will receive a grade of 0% for that examination.

The deferral will be held on Monday, November 3rd at 7:15am.

Preparation and Participation:

Student Responsibilities:

- Skim each chapter listed in the Course Schedule (see below) in advance
- Take notes during lectures
- Read each chapter listed in the Course Schedule (see below) after each lecture
- Review the lecture slides after each lecture
- Work on the Problem List (see below) before tutorials
- Participate in the Class Discussion Board
- Attend tutorials to see how the problems identified in bold can be solved and to ask questions about other problems or other course materials
- Reflect on course concepts outside of class. For example, when reading the newspaper or watching the news, question if what you see or hear aligns with what you've learned

For many students, this course can be challenging. Part of this difficulty arises from new and (sometimes) counterintuitive subject matter, but the biggest challenge often comes from not dedicating enough time and effort to engage with the material. **To succeed in this course, you will need to consistently spend 5-7 hours each week reviewing course materials, working on problem sets, and attending weekly tutorials to ask questions, in addition to attending every lecture.** You must keep up with the assigned readings and end-of-chapter problems.

The teaching assistants and I are here to enthusiastically answer your questions promptly. Do not hesitate to ask for clarification. Remember: the only way to learn finance is to do finance. Practice, practice, and practice...

Course Schedule – Section A (Mondays 8:35 to 11:25 AM)

Week #	Date	Topic	Textbook Chapters
1	September 8 th	Overview of Corporate Finance	1
2	September 15 th	Time Value of Money	5, 6
		Discounted Cash Flow Evaluation	
3	September 22 nd	Discounted Cash Flow Evaluation (Continued)	6
4	September 29 th	Interest Rates and Bond Valuation	7
5	October 6 th	Stock Evaluation and Lessons from Capital Market History	8, 12
	October 13 th	Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday – No Classes	
	October 20 th	Fall Break (Reading Week) – No Classes	
6	October 27 th	Mid-Term Exam (35 percent of Final Grade)	
7	November 3 rd	Net Present Valuation and Other Investment Criteria	9
8	November 10 th	Cash Flows, Capital Cost Allowance & Capital Budgeting	2, 10
9	November 17 th	Return, Return, and the Security Market Line	13
10	November 24 th	Return, Return, and the Security Market Line (Continued)	13
11	December 1 st	Cost of Capital	14
12	December 5 th	Personal Finance (if time allows) & Review	Lecture Notes

Course Schedule – Section B (Thursdays 2:35 to 5:25 PM)

Week #	Date	Topic	Textbook Chapters
1	September 4 th	Overview of Corporate Finance	1
2	September 11 th	Time Value of Money	5, 6
		Discounted Cash Flow Evaluation	
3	September 18 th	Discounted Cash Flow Evaluation (Continued)	6
4	September 25 th	Interest Rates and Bond Valuation	7
5	October 2 nd	Stock Evaluation and Lessons from Capital Market History	8, 12
6	October 16 th	Mid-Term Exam (35 percent of Final Grade)	
	October 23 rd	Fall Break (Reading Week) – No Classes	
7	October 30 th	Net Present Valuation and Other Investment Criteria	9
8	November 6 th	Cash Flows, Capital Cost Allowance & Capital Budgeting	2, 10
9	November 13 th	Return, Return, and the Security Market Line	13
10	November 20 th	Return, Return, and the Security Market Line (Continued)	13
11	November 27 th	Cost of Capital	14
12	December 4 th	Personal Finance (if time allows) & Review	Lecture Notes

Contribution to Learning Goals of the Program ([BCom](#), [BIB](#)):

Program Learning Goal	Competencies Not Covered	Competencies Introduced (only)	Competencies Taught But Not Assessed	Competencies Taught and Assessed
	CHECK (X) ONE PER ROW			
BC1 Knowledge <i>Graduates will be skilled in applying foundational business knowledge to appropriate business contexts.</i>				X
BC2 Collaboration <i>Graduates will be collaborative and effective contributors in team environments that respect the experience, expertise and interest of all members.</i>		X		
BC3 Critical Thinking <i>Graduates will be discerning critical thinkers, able to discuss different viewpoints, challenge biases and assumptions, and draw conclusions based on analysis and evaluation.</i>				X
BC4 Communication <i>Graduates will be effective and persuasive in their communications.</i>		X		
BI5 Global Awareness (BIB ONLY) <i>Graduates will be globally-minded.</i>				X

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course Sharing Websites

Materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Required calculator in BUSI course examinations.

If you are purchasing a calculator, we recommend any one of the following options: Texas Instruments BA II Plus (including Pro Model), Hewlett Packard HP 12C (including Platinum model), Staples Financial Calculator, Sharp EL-738C & Hewlett Packard HP 10bII

Group work

The Sprott School of Business encourages group assignments in the school for several reasons. They provide you with opportunities to develop and enhance interpersonal, communication, leadership, followership, and other group skills. Group assignments are also good for learning integrative skills for putting together a complex task. Your professor may assign one or more group tasks/assignments/projects in this course. Before embarking on a specific problem as a group, it is your responsibility to ensure that the problem is meant to be a group assignment and not an individual one.

Grading

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 34), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

Grades entered by Registrar:

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

DEF = Deferred

Academic Regulations

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

Requests for Academic Accommodation

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the *Academic Consideration Policy for Students*

in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy Accommodation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity are a serious academic offence. Violations of academic integrity – presenting another's ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data, unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the degree and will not be tolerated.

Process: If an alleged violation occurs, all relevant documentation will be forwarded to the Dean. If the allegation proves true, the penalties may include; a grade of Failure on the submitted work and/or course; academic probation; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; suspension from full-time studies; suspension from all studies at Carleton; expulsion from Carleton, amongst others. **For a first offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally be a zero on the submitted work and at least a minimum full grade reduction of the final course grade. For a second offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally lead to a suspension from studies.**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy which is available, along with resources for compliance at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

Sprott Student Services

The Sprott Undergraduate Student Services Office offers program advising and overall student success support. Our team is available to discuss your academic goals and your program progression plans. We can also work with you to develop strategies for success, including study skills for Business. If you experience any difficulty this term or if you would like to access support, please contact our team at bcom@sprott.carleton.ca or at bib@sprott.carleton.ca.

Centre for Student Academic Support

The Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS) is a centralized collection of learning support services designed to help students achieve their goals and improve their learning both inside and outside the classroom. CSAS offers academic assistance with course content, academic writing and skills development. Visit CSAS on the 4th floor of MacOdrum Library or online at: carleton.ca/csas.

Important Information:

- Students must always retain a copy of all work that is submitted.
 - All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.
 - For us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid CARLETON address. Therefore, in order to respond to your inquiries, please send all email from your Carleton CMail account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://carleton.ca/its/get-started/new-students-2/>
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