



**Cotsakos College of Business**  
**Department of Economics, Finance and Global Business**  
**FIN 4450 - Finance Information System**

**Instructor:** Billy Bataille

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**Office:** Virtual

**Office Hours:** Virtual Office Hours are held by appointment.

Also, you can contact me by email using the contact information mentioned above. I respond to all messages within 24 hours.

**Textbook Information:**

Required Course Materials:

Title: Principles of Finance with Excel

Author: Simon Benninga

Edition: 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Additional Reading:**

Supplemental material will be provided to you on Blackboard.

### Class Schedule & Due Dates for All Graded Work\*

\*This schedule is tentative. Please regularly check Blackboard and your email inbox for any changes.

Week	Topic	Chapter Readings	Graded Work
1	Introduction to Excel	24	
2	Graph and Chart in Excel	25	Discussion Forum: Meet & Greet (response to prompt) due today
3	The Time Value of Money	2	Discussion Forum: Meet & Greet (responses to 3 classmates) due today
4	Statistics for Portfolios	9	Open Bloomberg Morningstar Accounts
5	Introduction to Capital Budgeting	4	Midterm on Statistics due today
6	Issues in Capital Budgeting	5	
7	Choosing a Discount Rate	6	Research Project #1 due today
8	What is Risk	8	
9	CAPM & the Security Market Line	11	Discussion Forum on Risk due today (response to prompt)
10	The Security Market Line and the Cost of Capital	13	Discussion Forum on Risk due today (response to 3 classmates)
11	No Class		
12	Bond Valuation	15	
13	Valuing Stocks	16	Final Project due today
14	Introduction to Options &	20	
15	Options Pricing Facts	21	Final Examination due today

**Performance Assessment:**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Out of 1,000 Total Points</i>
2 Discussion Forums	100 pts. each = 200 pts.
Research Project	100 pts.
1 Final Project	300 pts.
1 Midterm Exam	150 pts.
1 Final Exam	250 pts.

Your final course grade will consist of two discussion forums, one research project, one final project, one midterm and one final examination. Your attendance and participation will also count towards your final grade. More details on the composition and the due dates for each assignment will be provided below or will be forthcoming.

**Performance Grid:**

93-100: A	90-92.9: A-	87-89.9: B+
83-86.9: B	80-82.9: B-	77-79.9: C+
73-76.9: C	70-72.9: C-	67-69.9: D+
63-66.9: D	60-62.9: D-	< 60: F

\* No make-up exams or extra-credit assignments are given for reasons of fairness to other students.

**Late Work Policy:**

All assignments and examinations must be completed as scheduled unless a valid, *verifiable* reason for failing to do so is provided. Verification must be provided or a minimum of 10 percent will be deducted from any late work.

**Course Format:**

This course is designed to be an online class that is web-enhanced via Blackboard. Accessing Blackboard is easy. Blackboard features include: online discussions, web-links, videos, podcasts, access to supplemental course material, and webpage activities. Our format will enable video lectures, discussions, readings, critical thinking, and reflection, class presentation, interactive activities, videos and literature integration.

**Course Description:**

FIN 4450 is a highly innovative, intensively technological and practical course within the department of finance, which will educate and train students to become financial analyst.

The course will provide a rigorous and hands on exposure to the world of finance. You will learn to use professional financial software and databases to collect, consolidate, analyze financial data. You will also apply critical thinking and problem-solving methods to determine the value of the assets and projects. You will make a comprehensive financial analysis for any given company and integrate your knowledge of corporate finance and financial markets. In particular, we will cover capital budgeting, cost of capital, equity valuation, risk analysis and other general financial concepts. You will use standard business technology to build data sets and retrieve relevant business information for data-driven decision-making so as to analyze business problems and offer recommendations.

3 credit hour course.

**Course Outline, Content and Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Utilize Excel to create data analysis from the financial statements including an Income Statement and a Balance Sheet. Include named cells and utilize formulas in their spreadsheets. Use a combination of relative, mixed and absolute cell references.
2. To calculate financial concepts like cost of capital, NPV and others using Excel financial functions and be able to generate the excel worksheet. Use a range of assumptions to conduct sensitivity analysis.
3. Understand the role and function of financial software has in financial markets. To be familiar with the Bloomberg Trading Terminals, Morningstar and other databases such as Data Stream and etc.
4. Use Bloomberg Professionals to obtain historical and current trading data for equity, bonds and other financial markets. To conduct a financial analysis using the financial data and evaluate the company financial situation. Discuss the ethical/legal implications of inflating or distorting financial data in the financial markets.

5. Integrate their knowledge regarding capital budgeting, financial statements, ratio analysis, risk management, cost capital, working capital, investments to produce a comprehensive written financial analytical report using MS Word with integrated tables/graphs from MS Excel and also the data series obtained from Bloomberg Professions or MorningStar. Discuss impact of comprehensive financial investment and impact for clients, communities, governments, and society.

### **Blackboard Information:**

It is very important you do the following as soon as possible:

- Ensure that you are able to login to Blackboard
- Please review the information on Blackboard and on student resources available on the WPUNJ website at: <https://www.wpunj.edu/irt/>
- If you require assistance, please contact the 24/7 Help Desk at (973) 720-4357.

### **Technology Requirements:**

Students must possess basic computer skills and have regular access to appropriate computer hardware, software, speakers, microphone (if applicable), webcam (if applicable), and internet connectivity to fully participate in the coursework.

### **Accommodation for Individuals with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course MUST provide documentation of accommodations from the WPUNJ Counseling Health and Wellness Center. Phone: 973-720-2360. For more information, contact the Counseling Health and Wellness Center (<https://www.wpunj.edu/health-wellness/>)

### **Suicide Prevention Statement:**

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning. We care about your overall well-being and WPUNJ Counseling Services is here to help with any issues you may experience. If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, personal distress, and/or addictions: Counselors are available during business hours. After hours, or during college breaks or closures contact: 911 and go to your nearest emergency room. On and Off Campus Resources: N.J. HOPE LINE at 855-654-6735 for peer support and suicide prevention hotline; REACH NJ at 844-732-2465 for help navigating/accessing treatment for addict.

## **Cheating & Plagiarism:**

The WPUNJ Student Code of Conduct defines plagiarism. Anyone found cheating or plagiarizing on an examination or any assignment will receive an “F” for this course. WPUNJ requires independent, honest work on the part of its students, and students are expected to conduct themselves with scholarly integrity. Each confirmed incident of academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism must be reported by the faculty member, in writing, to the Dean of Academic Affairs.

Violations of academic dishonesty, cheating and plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Copying graded homework assignments from another student.
- Working together on an assignment without being authorized by the faculty member.
- Copying and submitting another student’s computer program or class project as one’s own.
- Stealing or borrowing all or part of an exam’s questions or answers.
- Giving or selling a term paper, or computer program to another student for submission.
- Falsifying data or a source of information.
- Use of any technology to gain access to test answers, test questions or prohibited materials such as notes, online databases and websites during a test.
- Submitting work that was submitted in another class without the instructor’s permission.
- Copying answers from a textbook or website to submit for a grade without authorization.
- Submitting work obtained from a term paper service or taken from the Internet.
- Submitting work written by someone else as one’s own.
- Submitting a paper wholly or in substantial part using the exact phrasing of source material.
- Making up information and citations.