

**Dominican University**  
**Brennan School of Business**  
**FIN 323 – 01**  
**Financial Markets & Institutions \*\*\*(DRAFT)\*\*\***

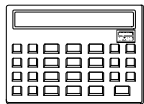
Professor: Ryan Mason  
Course: MWF 12:30am – 1:20am, Room TBD  
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Office Hours: MWF 1:30pm – 2:20pm, & by appointment



**MATERIALS:**

Required Text:

Financial Markets and Institutions by Mishkin and Eakins 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (**required**). On-line access will not be needed. ISBN#: 978-0133423624 and 013342362X



Financial Calculator: **A financial/business calculator with a cash flow register is highly recommended.** The recommended calculator which will be used for illustrations in the class will be the Texas Instruments BAII Plus. **Students will not be permitted to use laptops, PHONES, or tablets during quizzes or exams.**



**Internet:** Canvas and @dom e-mails will be used to minimize time allocated to housekeeping tasks in the classroom and to maximize the availability of materials to the student. You will find PowerPoint presentations, homework files, the syllabus and much more on Canvas. **You should be checking Canvas AND your @dom e-mail EVERY DAY.**

**PREREQUISITES:**

**Students must complete all prerequisite classes before registering (Economics 191), and are expected to be proficient in all prerequisite material (basic algebra, basic statistics, macro- economics and basic Microsoft Excel). You need to know this material because it serves as the foundation for this course.**

**COURSE LEARNING GOALS:**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of various financial instruments in domestic and international financial markets.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics & functions of various financial institutions.
3. Understand history, foundation, & economic consequences of depository institution regulation.
4. Identify the market forces that determine the level and structure of interest rates.
5. Analyze the health of a financial market or bank.

**CLASS POLICIES:**

**Attendance:** Class Attendance **IS REQUIRED**. After 3 absences, 0.5% will be deducted from your final grade for each absence. Roll will be taken during each class; **showing up late or leaving class early WILL count as an absence**. Students are expected to have the reading assignments for that day completed prior to attending class. **You should bring your financial calculator to every class!**

- If there is a valid reason for leaving before the class ends, a word to the instructor before class and choosing an aisle seat is appropriate. In case of an emergency, leave as quietly as possible.
- Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Private conversations should be held outside the classroom. In some cases, students will try to get a word or concept they missed during the lecture. Asking your neighbor is disruptive to the entire class; either raise your hand and ask the instructor for clarification or fill in the blank with the help of a fellow student after class.
- Cell phones, lap tops, tablets, etc. need to be **turned off** when in the classroom.

- Use of the previously mentioned electronic devices is considered disruptive behavior. If you are expecting an urgent call, please let me know before the class starts and sit near the door. Any student whose phone is in view and/or ringing (including vibrating and texting (including under the table texting)) during the class will receive a **2%** deduction from your final class grade for each violation. Please do not take this risk in class as it will hurt your class grade substantially.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned on a regular basis and the students are required to do the HW. It may be collected and graded at the discretion of the instructor. **E-mailed or Late homework will not be accepted;** if you need to miss class HW should be turned in early or sent with another student from the class. Some, not all of the HW will be reviewed in class.

**No Make-up Examinations/Quizzes:** If you need to take an exam or quiz early due to conflict, you are expected to make arrangements with me at least one week prior.

**About Academic Integrity: What is it?** Whatever the assignment, students are encouraged to engage in critical thinking and to use quoted or paraphrased material in ways that appropriately support their own ideas. In written or oral work, a student may make fair use of quotations, ideas, images, etc., that appear in others' work only if the student gives appropriate credit to the original authors, thinkers, owners, or creators of that work. This includes material found on the Internet and in electronic databases. Student plagiarism is the deliberate presentation of the writing or thinking of another as the student's own. Failure to maintain academic integrity will not be tolerated. The following link is provided for further understanding and clarity: <http://business.dom.edu/about/commitment-ethics-and-opportunity>

**Hints for Avoiding Plagiarism:**

- *More than three words is plagiarism.* This is a good base to use when wondering whether or not quotes are appropriate. They are, if you are copying more than three words in sequence.
- *One source is not "common knowledge."* Common knowledge does not require citation. But something is not common knowledge if you have found just one source for the information.
- *When in doubt, cite!* If you have any doubt about whether or not to cite a source, err on the side of making the attribution.
- *If your co-author sounds surprisingly eloquent, make sure the contribution is their own.* We often work in groups and co-author papers and projects. You should ask the question of your co-author if you doubt the work is their own. In group work, you are responsible for the project/paper in its entirety.
- *Look away.* When you are writing, do not have open books or papers in front of you as you type. Read your sources, and then put what you have read into your own words.
- *Writing is hard work.* Paraphrasing is relatively easy, writing is hard. Learning to be a good writer is part of what your college education is about. Staring at an empty screen in *MS Word* does become less daunting over time!
- *Just because it's on the Internet, doesn't mean it's yours.* The Internet is a fantastic resource and search engines are terrific research tools. But what you find on the Internet was written by someone. You must cite Internet web sites, and if you use a quote, use appropriate quotation procedures.
- *Paraphrasing is more than changing a verb tense or reordering a list.* There is a difference between citing a source for a fact and creating a bad quote.

**The High Cost of Plagiarism**

In your professional career, you will find that reputation is everything. Plagiarism can ruin your reputation and cost you your professional career, along with the respect of your peers and family. Plagiarism at Dominican University is an act of academic dishonesty that has serious consequences. Refer to the Student Handbook for details about sanctions and penalties.

**Reasonable accommodations are provided for students with disabilities.** Students should self-identify to me as early in the semester as possible. Official documentation must be obtained through the office of department of Disability Support Services to receive accommodations.

**E-mail:** Please only email from **DOM.EDU** accounts as this is a school policy.

COURSE GRADE:

- Homework & In-Class Assignments (15%)
- Quizzes (15%)
- Group Project/Presentation (10%)
- Participation (5%)
- Exam 1 (10%)
- Exam 2 (10%)
- Exam 3 (10%)
- Comprehensive Final Exam (25%)

The weights shown above determine the final numerical grade for the course.

The grading scale is as follows:

- 93-100 is an A
- 90-92.99 is an A-
- 88-89.99 is a B+
- 83-87.99 is a B
- 80-82.99 is a B-
- 78-79.99 is a C+
- 73-77.99 is a C
- 70-72.99 is a C-
- 60-69.99 is a D.
- 59.99 and below is an F.

COMPONENTS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

**Homework/Quiz:**

- The homework/in-class assignments/quizzes will be averaged to determine your grade, respectively.
- Pop quizzes are a possibility, covering previous class material and/or that day's reading assignment.

**Examinations:**

- 3 mid-term exams will be given during the semester & a comprehensive final during exam week.
- **Exams will cover the reading, homework, & lectures associated with the reading list topics.**
- \*Any student receiving greater than 89.99% on **ALL THREE** mid-term exams may opt out of the final exam, voluntarily taking the average of their three exams as their final exam score.
- \*As long as your final exam score is better than the lowest of your three mid-term exam scores, the final exam will replace that low score, taking on the additional 10% weight from the mid-term.

**Papers/Project:**

- One group project will be required, including a professional citation based research paper and a digital presentation.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS IN ECON 367:

- This class is a conceptual & math based lecture course. Taking detailed notes and working along with the in class practice problems are a necessity.\*
- Forming **student study groups** that meet on a regular basis is helpful.\*
- Read and outline the assigned chapter **BEFORE** the lecture. Focus on learning vocabulary words with which you are unfamiliar.\*
- Read and take notes from the chapter's power point slides **BEFORE** the lecture.\*
- Attend each lecture and take copious notes. **DO NOT** just print out the power point slides and zone out in class!\*
- After the lecture for each chapter, work through the example problems from the power point slides without looking at the answers. Check your answers against the correct solutions.\*
- Work through some of the example problems for the chapter from the text.\*
- Do not wait until the night before the homework is due to start working on it, as this will not give you a great opportunity to ask questions.\*
- If you have difficulty with homework, refer to the example problems from the slides and from the text.\*
- To study for your exams, rework all homework problems and make sure you know all vocabulary words and formulas. I recommend using 3 x 5 note cards to make flashcards to help you learn vocabulary and formulas. These flashcards can also be used to study for the final exam.\*
- To study for your comprehensive final exam, redo all homework problems for the entire semester and

redo the midterm exams.\*

- Practice using your financial calculator as much as you can. Go over the instructions from the power point slides and do as many problems as possible. The finance material in this course is quite difficult, so make sure you really know how to use your calculator when you go into the exams.\*
- I urge students having difficulty to utilize my office hours to come visit, call on the phone, or use E-mail. I am willing to help the student who has made an honest attempt at the material. I have little or no time for the student who tries to use my time as a replacement for their own preparation time.

**\*\*Please be prepared when stopping by office hours.\*\***

**\*\*\*Average time spent outside of class per week should be 6 – 9 hours\*\*\*  
\*\*\*approximately 2 to 3 hours for each hour of class time\*\*\***

**COURSE OUTLINE - READING ASSIGNMENTS (subject to change if our progress requires it)**

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Topics</u>
1 & 2	Basic Introduction to Financial Markets
3	What are Interest Rates
4	How Do Interest Rates Work
12	Bond Markets
6	Are Financial Markets Efficient
	<b>Exam 1</b>
13	Stock Markets
24	Hedging with Derivatives
11	Money Markets
14	Mortgage Markets
	<b>Exam 2</b>
15	Foreign Exchange Markets
9	Central Banks & The Federal Reserve
18	Financial Regulation
17	Management of Financial Institutions
22	Investment Banks & More
21	Insurance & Pension Funds
	<b>Exam 3</b>

**\*\*\* Comprehensive Final \*\*\* During Exam Week \*\*\***