

FINC 301: Introductory Business Finance Syllabus

John Felice Rome Center

Fall 2026

Mondays & Wednesdays | 5:15-6:30pm

Classroom: TBA

Professor David Pollon

Email: dpollon@luc.edu

Office Hours: Immediately after class or by appointment

Course Description

The objective of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the general principles of business finance: capital investment, financing, capital structure and related areas including the basics of valuation.

*** FINC 301 is a terminal course. If you have any desire to major or minor in FINC you must take FINC 334 in Chicago.***

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- Apply time value of money and risk-return concepts to make financial decisions
- Value financial and physical assets
- Analyze appropriate capital budgets
- Evaluate dividend policies

Required Text / Materials

Essentials of Corporate Finance, Ross, Westerfield and Jordan – 10th Edition

Assigned readings posted on Sakai

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the Rome Center mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, and in compliance with full-time student visa status, all courses adhere to the following attendance policy.

Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student and synonymous with academic success. Attendance is mandatory at every class meeting for each course. Lateness or leaving class early will impact the course grade at the professor's discretion. All absences, including medical absences, will be treated the same, unless they are documented long-term conditions or emergencies. Such situations will be evaluated case-by-case by the Academic Affairs office.

Twice-a-week classes:

- After 2 absences, a 2% final grade reduction will be applied for each missed class.
- Missing 6 classes or more will result in an automatic failure (F).

Assessment Components

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Exam #1 | 25% |
| • Exam #2 | 25% |
| • Exam #3 | 25% |
| • Field Trip Assignment | 15% |
| • Class Participation | 10% |

Exams are not cumulative. Students may bring a two-sided cheat sheet to each exam.

Field Trip Assignment details posted on Sakai. Due date: **TBA**. 50% penalty/day for late submissions.

Class Participation is separate from Attendance and is based on a student's asking and answering questions in class.

Grading

94-100: A
90-93: A-
87-89: B+
84-86: B
80-83: B-
77-79: C+
74-76: C
70-73: C-
67-69: D+
60-66: D
59 or lower: F

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago's guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola's standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Late or Missed Assignments

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor. ***As per the JFRC academic policies, students who miss any scheduled exam or quiz, including a final exam at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit for a make-up examination without approval of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Permission is given rarely and only for grave reason; travel is not considered a grave reason. Make-up exams will only be given for documented absences.***

Accessibility Accommodations

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center the first week of classes.

Title IX Information

<https://www.luc.edu/equity/otherresources/resourcesforfacultystaff/syllabuslanguage/>

AI Usage

Use of AI for class assignments is prohibited.



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**ROME
CENTER****Course Schedule****Friday Class Days:**

Friday, September 18

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Text/ Assignment</u>
M 8/31	An Overview of Financial Management	Chapter 1
W 9/2	Financial Markets	Chapter 1
M 9/7	Financial Statements	Chapter 2
W 9/9	Financial Ratios	Chapter 3
M 9/14	Time Value of Money	Chapter 4
W 9/16	<i>Papal Visit – no classes held</i>	
F 9/18	*Makeup Friday* Special Topics	
M 9/21	Annuities	Chapter 4 – 5
W 9/23	Interest Rates	Chapter 4, 5, 6
M 9/28	Bonds	Chapter 6
W 9/30	Review	Chapters 1 - 6
M 10/5	Exam #1	Chapters 1 - 6
W 10/7	Stocks	Chapter 7
<i>No JFRC classes held week of October 12</i>		
M 10/19	Field Trip Assignment	
W 10/21	Field Trip Assignment	
M 10/26	Cost of Equity	Chapter 11
W 10/28	Capital Budgeting	Chapter 8
M 11/2	Cost of Capital	Chapter 12
W 11/4	Capital Structure and Leverage **Field Trip Assignment due**	Chapter 13
M 11/9	Review	Chapters 7-8, 11-13
W 11/11	Exam #2	Chapters 7-8, 11-13
M 11/16	Dividends	Chapter 14
W 11/18	Cash Conversion Cycle	Chapter 16/17
M 11/23	Short Term Assets	Chapter 16/17
W 11/25	Short Term Liabilities	Chapter 17
M 11/30	Review	Chapters 14, 16-17
W 12/2	Review	Chapters 14, 16-17
TBA	Exam #3: TBA	Chapters 14, 16-17