



**AEB 5326 Agribusiness Financial Management
Fall Semester 2023**

Credit hours: Three hours
Place: Online asynchronous course via Zoom / Canvas
Instructor: Carlos Trejo-Pech, PhD. (ctrejo@ufl.edu and ctrejope@utk.edu)

Prerequisite

AEB 3122 or ACG 2071 (or equivalent).

Course Objective

This course aims to provide a basic understanding of corporate finance principles and build a foundation for other agribusiness courses. The course gives students the tools to understand and solve essential financial problems farms and agribusinesses face today. Practical applications and problem-solving techniques are emphasized. The topics covered include financial statement analysis, time value of money, valuation of financial assets, investment frameworks, capital budgeting techniques, and capital structure theory.

E-Learning in Canvas

There will be an e-Learning webpage for this course. To access e-Learning, you will need your Gatorlink username and password. E-Learning can be accessed via <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>. Should you have difficulties accessing e-Learning, please contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

The course will be delivered via Canvas/Zoom. Some lectures will be video recorded, and the instructor will share with students a link to access the video/lecture if needed.

In addition to PowerPoint and Excel files to support the lectures and discussion, the instructor plans to use software (Goodnotes) as a virtual “whiteboard” during the lectures.

Grading Policy

The following components determine your final course grade:

Item	Weight
Homework assignments	60%
Exams	40%
Total	100%

The instructor reserves the right to curve standards down, but there is no guarantee that this will happen.

Exams:

We plan to have three “in-class” exams during the semester. Each exam will have the same weight/value, meaning that the average of the three exams will be worth 40% of your final grade. The exams will be ‘closed-book/notes’ exams administrated via Canvas using Respondus / LowDown Brower + Webcam or similar software. Given the asynchronous nature of this course, the exam will be made available to students during one complete day so that they can complete it at their convenience.

The in-class exams will include all topics covered throughout the term and content from the homework assignments. In particular, the test will cover content from the reading materials and the “lectures.” Regarding the format or structure, the in-class exams might include multiple choice, false or true, numerical calculations, and essay types of questions.

Tentative exam dates

Below are *tentative* term exam dates:

- Exam 1: September 28, 2023
- Exam 2: November 2, 2023
- Exam 3: TBA according to UF calendar

You will be confirmed at least one week before each term exam date.

Homework assignments:

We plan to have from three to five homework assignments throughout the semester. Each homework assignment will have the same weight/value, meaning the average of all assignments’ grades is worth 60% of your final grade. The homework assignments will consist of solving case studies or problem sets or practicing/replicating a financial technique feature in course materials or discussed in lectures. Homework assignments will be due before the in-class exams. Thus, they should allow students to work with the relevant content covered during the term and prepare themselves for the in-class exams.

Grades will be awarded as follows:

Percentage	Grade
93% or greater	A
90% to 92.99%	A-
87% to 89.99%	B+
83% to 86.99%	B
80% to 82.99%	B-
77% to 79.99%	C+
73% to 76.99%	C
70% to 72.99%	C-
67% to 69.99%	D+
63% to 66.99%	D
60% to 62.99%	D-
Below 60%	E

Please note that grades are not “rounded” in any way at the end of the term. However, a curve may be implemented at the instructor’s discretion.

For general information about grading and grading policy at the University of Florida, please refer to: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Course Reading Materials

Strongly recommended:

Fundamentals of Financial Management, **Concise Edition 9th Edition**

By E. F. Brigham and J. F. Houston
(University of Florida)

Notice that this is not the most current textbook edition (the 10th edition of this book has been published). Still, it is inexpensive compared to the latest editions, and the 9th edition book content suffices to achieve the objectives of this course. This textbook covers financial management or corporate finance topics. The instructor will provide supplemental materials to cover problems related to agribusinesses and farms.

Tentative course timeline (subject to changes to be announced/updated)

Date	Topic	Main material
	<i>Financial accounting and financial statements</i>	
24-Aug	Introduction and syllabus	
29-Aug	The income statement (IS) and balance sheet (BS)	TN 1 & Chp. 3
31-Aug	The IS and BS	TN 1 & Chp. 3
5-Sep	Transaction analysis: connecting IS and BS	Slides
7-Sep	Transaction analysis: connecting IS and BS	C1
12-Sep	Generating the IS and BS given multiple transactions	C1
14-Sep	Generating the IS and BS given multiple transactions	C1 & Chp. 3
19-Sep	The statement of cash flow (SCF)	Chp. 3 and other
21-Sep	The SCF and free cash flow (FCF)	Chp. 3 and other
26-Sep	The SCF and free cash flow (FCF)	Chp. 3 and other
28-Sep	Exam 1	
	<i>Financial analysis: interpreting financial statements and market data</i>	
3-Oct	Financial analysis	TN 2 & Chp. 4
5-Oct	Financial analysis	TN 2 & Chp. 4
10-Oct	Financial analysis	C2 & Chp. 4
12-Oct	Financial analysis	C2 & Chp. 4
17-Oct	The cost of capital	Chp. 8
19-Oct	Leverage, the cost of capital, and the CAPM	Chp. 8
24-Oct	Leverage, the cost of capital, and the CAPM	Chp. 5
26-Oct	The time value of money	Chp. 5
31-Oct	The time value of money	Chp. 5 and 11
2-Nov	Exam 2	Chp. 5 and 11
	<i>Operating investment and risk: evaluating a prospective project</i>	
7-Nov	Capital budgeting techniques	Chp. 11
9-Nov	FCF estimation for a new project	Chp. 12
14-Nov	FCF estimation for a new project	Chp. 12
16-Nov	What if analysis for launching a new product	Chp. 12
21-Nov	Scenario analysis and Expected NPV using Excel	Chp. 12
23-Nov	Thanksgiving (Nov. 22-24)	
28-Nov	Capital budgeting case study	C3
30-Nov	Capital budgeting case study	C3
5-Dec	Review third exam and overall comments/questions	
TBA	Final exam	

TN are teaching notes, Chp. refers to chapter number in the Brigham & Houston textbook, and C refers to case study.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

If you have a question about the grading of your assignment and/or exam, you must contact me immediately. If you believe there has been a grading mistake, you can appeal points earned in an assignment and/or exam (i.e., get more points). **To appeal, you must state your case in writing within one week of the day I return the assignment or exam.** Turn the entire assignment or exam in, along with a written description of your concern and your expected resolution of the problem. Be aware that I will re-grade the entire assignment or exam when you do this.

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to having your profile or video image recorded, keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who unmute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited. Zoom will be used to broadcast and record lectures (<https://zoom.us/privacy>).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Attendance and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>. In general, you are expected to submit all assignments on time on e-Learning or via email to your instructor.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students are notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled.

The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University or by a guest instructor as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

University Honesty Policy

The Honor Pledge binds UF students: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the

University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

Federal laws protect your privacy about grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern, and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).