
FIN 3310: Financial Institutions and Markets

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Instructor:	Steve Nenninger, PhD
Meeting Schedule	Section 4: Tues/Thurs 9:30 – 10:50, SHB 106 Section 5: Tues/Thurs 12:30 – 1:50, SHB 106
Semester	Spring 2018
Office Number	SHB 210H
Email	san009@shsu.edu
Office Phone	294.1898
Office Hours	Tues/Thurs 11:00 – 12:30 and 2:00 – 3:00 or by appointment
Text:	<i>Financial Markets & Institutions</i> ; Mishkin and Eakins, 8th Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2015 (recommended, but not required)

Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

This course explores the process of providing external funds and finance with emphasis on the role of financial institutions and markets. The nature, participants, instruments, and relationships of the money and capital markets are examined.

Course Learning Objectives:

Discuss the function and purpose of the financial system.

Explain interest rates and their role in valuation.

Describe the structure of the Federal Reserve System and explain how it operates.

Explain the basics of specific financial institutions.

Discuss the basics of specific financial markets.

Basis for Student Evaluation:

Exams: Three exams will be given, each including primarily multiple choice questions. Each exam is worth 100 points. See the class schedule for exam dates, but note that exam dates may change due to the progression of the class. There will also be an optional final exam. A student can elect to take the final to replace his/her lowest exam grade. **Any student missing a regular exam will take the final as the make-up exam. No other make up exams will be given.**

Homework: Homework will be assigned for most chapters, some of which will be discussed in class and some will be turned in to the instructor. Homework assigned for a grade is due at the beginning of class on the date due. Homework solutions will be posted on blackboard, so **late homework is not accepted**. All homework must include the student's name and seat number and must be turned in at the beginning of class or through Blackboard (**not emailed**). Each assignment is worth 10 points, and the lowest two homework scores will be dropped from the final grade.

Discussion Questions: Discussion questions will be posted for each chapter and will be discussed in class. I will randomly call on students to answer these questions, and a correct answer will result in one point of extra credit. Each student will be called the same number of times, but if a student is absent from class, he or she will miss that "round" of questions.

Attendance Policy: *Attendance is necessary and expected.* Attendance will be taken at all class meetings. Absence from class will result in no credit for any assignments due that day. *A student missing 5 or more class sessions will have their final grade dropped by 1 letter grade, and those missing 7 or more sessions will receive an F. A tardy counts as ½ absence. Any student arriving after roll has been taken is responsible for informing the instructor after class of their attendance.* Experience has shown that those students who attend all class sessions generally do much better in the class.

Grade Determination:

Grade	Percentage of Total Points
A	90% or 360
B	80% or 320
C	70% or 280
D	60% or 240
F	below 60% or 240

To Calculate Your Grade:

Top 10 HW Grades	_____
Exam 1	_____
Exam 2	_____
Exam 3	_____
Total	

Academic Integrity: Any act of academic dishonesty will result in losing credit for the associated assignment and will also be referred to the necessary departments on campus.

Student absences on religious holy days policy: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to be absent from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Disabled student policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Any student with a disability that affects his/her academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the SHSU Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786) to request accommodations.

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Tentative Schedule

Updated 12-7-17

Date	Reading	Topic
Jan 18 23 25 31 Feb 1	Chapter 2	Introduction and Overview of the Financial System
6	Chapter 9	Central Banks and the Federal Reserve System
8 13 15 20	Chapter 10	Conduct of Monetary Policy: Tools, Goals, Strategy, and Tactics
13 15 20	Chapter 17	Banking and the Management of Financial Institutions
22	Exam 1	
22 27	Chapter 3	What Do Interest Rates Mean and What Is Their Role in Valuation?
March 1 6 8 12-16 20	Chapter 11	The Money Markets
22 27 29	Chapter 12	The Bond Market
22 27 29	Chapter 13	The Stock Market
29	Exam 2 Review	
April 3	Exam 2	
5 10 12 17 19 24 26	Chapter 14	The Mortgage Markets
12 17 19 24 26	Chapter 20	The Mutual Fund Industry
19 24 26	Chapter 21	Insurance Companies and Pension Funds
26	Chapter 22	Investment Banks, Securities Brokers and Dealers, and Venture Capital Firms
May 1 3	Exam 3	

Thursday May 10 at 9:30
Tuesday May 8 at 1:00

Optional Final Exam for 9:30 class (subject to change)
Optional Final Exam for 12:30 class (subject to change)