FINANCIAL MARKETS AND INSTITUTIONS

Course Description:
Course coverage includes an analysis of financial markets and institutions; regulation, money market operations, global impact of central banking principles and monetary policy, and determinants of interest rates with financial asset pricing.

Required Materials:
Study Guide is OPTIONAL

Additional requirements
- Financial Calculator (Texas Instrument’s BAII Plus is HIGHLY recommended-no scientific calculators will be allowed)
- Internet Access for accessing Blackboard and university and publicly available databases and information

Prerequisites:
ECON2301, ECON2302 and Junior standing or above.

Learning Objectives:
By the end of this course, the students will be able to:
- Understand the role of the financial institutions and markets and their fundamentals
- Describe the central banking system and how the latter conducts its monetary policy
- Discuss the similarities, differences, advantages, and disadvantages of various types of financial organizations
- Calculate interest rate changes and the impact on financial asset pricing

Major Requirements:
Two midterm tests and a final exam will be given. Test materials will come from lecture notes, the text, assigned readings, homework, and class discussion. Test format is multiple choice questions; questions will emphasize the understanding and application of concepts and topics covered. All tests are closed books, closed notes. Only a formula sheet will be allowed during examinations. Students will prepare a written project. To facilitate student mastery of financial concepts, homework problems will be assigned following the discussion of each major topic
area. In addition in-class quizzes will be given after each chapter. The quizzes will be closed notes and books and will be unannounced. A zero grade will be assigned for every quiz missed. Students should prepare for class meetings by studying the assigned text materials and preparing problems and other assignments prior to class.

**Grades will be assigned based on the following weights:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 Midterm exams (25 points each)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam (comprehensive)</td>
<td>30 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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**TOTAL POINTS** 100 points
Letter Grades Assignments (tentative)

If your points are

- at least 90       A
- 80 to 89.99      B
- 70 to 79.99      C
- 60 to 69.99      D
- below 60         F

Exam dates will be announced in class. **No make-up exams will be administered.** If you must miss an exam, notify me in advance and provide written documentation that the absence was an excused University activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. Exams are closed books. A sheet with formulas is allowed, but the formula sheet will be collected after the exam. To protect the integrity of the test banks employed, exams will not be returned. However, exams are available for review in my office during scheduled office hours for two weeks after the exam. Students are responsible for all material in the assigned readings, handouts, homework, and class presentations. All assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class on their due date unless otherwise instructed. **Late assignments will not be accepted.**

Course Policies

**Attendance/Tardiness**
Experience has shown that regular attendance is essential to successful completion of any course. Attendance will be taken at every class meeting.

**Late Work and Make-Up Exams**
No make-up exams will be administered. If you must miss an exam, notify me in advance and provide written documentation that the absence was an excused University activity, a severe illness, or a dire emergency. Otherwise a zero will be assigned for the exam. All assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class on their due date unless otherwise instructed. Late assignments will not be accepted.

**Cell Phone/Electronic Device Usage**
I expect everyone to follow all rules of common courtesy during classroom lecture and discussion. The presence of cell phones and pagers as well as other disruptive items or actions are prohibited in the classroom. Laptops used for any purpose other than class work is prohibited.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a disciplinary action.
Dropping a Class
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Friday, November 11, 2016, is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Classroom/professional behavior
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Disabilities Accommodations
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
Statement of Academic Continuity
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.