**FIN6934**

**Financial Modeling & Analytics**

**Fall 2016**

Instructor: Dr. Yuting M DiGiovanni

Section: 901 (Tuesday 6:30PM – 10:15PM)

Classroom: BSN 2303

Course Credits: 3

Office: BSN 3130

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday (2PM – 4PM)

Email: yuting2@usf.edu

**Recommended Textbook**

Chandan Sengupta. <Financial Analysis and Modeling Using Excel and VBA>, 2nd edition.

ISBN: 978-0-470-27560-3

**Laptop**

A laptop with Microsoft Office Excel is required in class. All USF students can download the latest version of Excel for free on PC and Mac. You can find more information about downloading Microsoft Office here: <http://www.usf.edu/it/documentation/office365/personal-download.aspx>

**Course Description/Learning Objectives**

This course is designed to provide students with advanced knowledge of finance and skills of using Excel for financial modeling and financial analysis. Students are encouraged to use creative and strategic thinking to develop simple to sophisticated real-world financial models in all major areas of finance. Finance concepts will be covered in class, then modelled and analyzed in Excel. Principles of Finance is a pre-requisite for the course and all students are expected to be very comfortable with the topics covered there.

By the end of the term, students should be able to:

* Master advanced finance knowledge.
* Be able to create a financial model with their own style, be creative instead of following a template.
* Possess expert-level technical skills.
* Be able to evaluate data, make comprehensive analyses, and provide insights based on the model.

**Course Attendance**

First Day Attendance (FDA) policy: First day attendance is required. Students fail to show up will be dropped.

General Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class, as class assignment is 30% of your final grade, see the grade policy below for details. Exceptions include illness, family emergency, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days. Documents from professionals, such as doctor notes, should be provided.

**Grading Policy**

Students will be evaluated according to your in-class assignments, homework assignments, and a final project. The computation of your final score will be based on the following weighting scheme:

In-class Assignment 30%

Homework Assignment 28%

Final Project 36%

Class Participation 6%

* In-class Assignment: There will be 10 in-class assignments throughout the semester. Each will be a fairly easy and small assignment based on the lecture that day. You are expected to submit the in-class assignment to me by the end of the class. You will be graded based on the quality of the assignment you submitted. You will receive a zero for an in-class assignment if you fail to show up or submit the assignment. If a note is provided, your in-class assignment can be made up at a later date. You cannot make up more than 2 assignments. The notes provided must be written by an appropriately accredited professional, such as a doctor.
* Homework Assignment: After each course topic, there will be homework assigned. You are expected to submit homework to me before each due time. The assignments are based on the materials covered in class. There will be 7 homework assignments in total. You will be graded based on the quality of the work you submitted.
* Final Project: A final project instruction will be provided to you after all course topics are finished. You should work individually on the final project. The project is a comprehensive project based on all the important topics and models covered in class. You are expected to submit homework to me before due time. You will be graded based on the quality of the work you submitted, I will provide feedback upon request.
* Class Participation: You are strongly recommended to ask and answer questions during class.

**Grading Scale**

95-100 A+

90-95 A

87-89 A-

85-86 B+

80-84 B

77-79 B-

75-76 C+

70-74 C

67-69 C-

65-66 D+

60-64 D

57-59 D-

<57 F

**Tentative Course Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 8.23 | Syllabus + Financial Functions in Excel + Advanced Excel Features |
| 8.30 | Advanced Excel Features + How to Build Good Models  |
| 9.6 | Financial Statements |
| 9.13 | Time Value of Money |
| 9.20 | Capital Budgeting and Financial Planning |
| 9.27 | Using VBA for Financial Modeling |
| 10.4 | Portfolio Optimization + Capital Structure |
| 10.11 | Bond Valuation |
| 10.18 | Stimulating Stock Prices |
| 10.25 | Option Portfolios and Pricing |
| 11.1 | Final Project hand out  |
| 11.8 | Working on Final Project (Office open for Q&A) |

**University Policies**

Disability Access: Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Students with

Disabilities Services (http://sds.usf.edu/) in order to receive academic accommodations. Students

are required to give reasonable notice (at least 5 business days) to their instructor prior to

requesting an accommodation. A letter from SDS must accompany this request.

Religious Observances: Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from the online

environment for more than 1 week or any other conflict due to a major religious observance must

provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of the course.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is the foundation of the University of South Florida

System’s (USF System) commitment to the academic honesty and personal integrity of its

university community.

University Emergency Policy: In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for the USF

campus to suspend normal operations. During this time, USF may opt to continue delivery of

instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: learning management system

(Canvas), email and/or alternative schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor their

courses for specific communication, and the main USF, College and department websites, emails

and MoBll messages for important general information.

Announcements: You are responsible for all class announcements, so it is essential to pay

attention to all notices on Canvas and / or messages sent to your USF email address, as there may

be changes to the class schedule, or other important class information.

Others: Please see <http://www.usf.edu/undergrad/standard-policies.aspx> for more university policies.