

Western State University College of Law  
Business Law Center  
Corporate Finance & Accounting for Lawyers  
Spring 2016 Syllabus

Wednesday 4:15 – 6:15 p.m.  
Room: TBA  
Professor John Ohashi

The class: (1) explores the interrelationships between legal and business/financial issues; and (2) introduces students to basic financial and accounting principles that are essential to the practice of law. Financial considerations play a significant role in how clients start, develop, and sell their businesses. Lawyers must be able to discuss business/financial issues with their clients and other professionals in order to provide effective legal counsel. A lawyer's knowledge of financial principles will also enhance his or her abilities to implement effective discovery and litigation strategies, and structure settlements. The financial principles discussed in class are also applicable to the students' own personal financial planning.

**Required Text Book**

Fundamentals of Financial Management (13th ed.) by Brigham & Houston

**Required Financial Calculator**

Students must have a financial calculator by the fourth week of class. The class will discuss this requirement before the fourth week.

**Grading**

Grades are based on:

- (1) In class quizzes (TBA) and final exam. The quizzes and final exam will consist of essay and multiple choice questions. The final exam will be cumulative. If a student's final exam score exceeds the average of the student's quizzes then the student will get the final exam score. If a student's final exam score is less than the student's quiz average, then the quiz average score will be averaged with the final exam score;
- (2) Bonus points for **TIMELY** completion and submission of: (a) assigned problems; and (b) weekly class project (student stock portfolio analysis). Points will be deducted from a student's overall class score for multiple late or missing submissions; and
- (3) Bonus points for a student's class presentation of a selected financial topic.

The final exam score and bonus points will be totaled and the student's final grade will be on a percentage basis. For example: 70 = 2.0; 75 = 2.5; 80 = 3.0; 83 = 3.3; 90 = 4.0.

### **DISABILITY SERVICES STATEMENT:**

Western State College of Law provides accommodations to qualified students with disabilities. The Disabilities Services Office assists qualified students with disabilities in acquiring reasonable and appropriate accommodations and in supporting equal access to services, programs, and activities at Western State College of Law.

To seek reasonable accommodations, a student must contact Senior Assistant Dean Donna Espinoza, Student Services Director and Disabilities Services Coordinator, whose office is in the Second Floor Students Services Suite. Dean Espinoza's phone number and email address are: (714) 459-1117; [despinoza@wsulaw.edu](mailto:despinoza@wsulaw.edu)<<mailto:despinoza@wsulaw.edu>>. When seeking accommodations, a student should notify Dean Espinoza of her or his specific limitations and, if known, her or his specific requested accommodations. Students who seek accommodations will be asked to supply medical documentation of the need for accommodation. Classroom accommodations are not retroactive, but are effective only upon the student sharing approved accommodations with the instructor or professor. Therefore, students are encouraged to request accommodations as early as feasible with Dean Espinoza to allow for time to gather necessary documentation. If you have a concern or complaint in this regard, please notify Dean Espinoza; or please notify Associate Dean of Students Charles Sheppard at [csheppard@wsulaw.edu](mailto:csheppard@wsulaw.edu)<<mailto:csheppard@wsulaw.edu>> or (714) 459-1152. Complaints will be handled in accordance with the College of Law's "Policy against Discrimination and Harassment."

### **Weekly Class Topics:**

- Week 1 Chapter 1 An Overview of Financial Management  
Reading Assignment: Read Chapter 1 for the first class session.
- Week 2 Chapter 2 Financial Markets and Institutions
- Week 3 Chapter 3 Financial Statements, Cash Flow, and Taxes
- Week 4 Continuation of Chapter 3;  
Selected topics from Chapter 4 Analysis of Financial Statements
- Week 5 Chapter 5 Time Value of Money-Part 1
- Week 6 Chapter 5 Time Value of Money-Part 2
- Week 7 Chapter 6 Interest Rates

Week 8 Chapter 7 Bonds and their Valuation  
Week 9 Chapter 9 Stocks and their Valuation  
Week 10 Continuation of Chapter 9  
Week 11 Personal Financial Planning  
Week 12 Student Class Presentations  
Week 13 Student Class Presentations  
Week 14 Review for final exam; Closing