



**Syllabus<sup>1</sup>:**  
**Advanced Corporate Finance**  
**C15.0008**  
**Spring 2010**

<b>Schedule:</b>	MW 11:00am-12:15pm (Section 01) MW 02:00pm-03:15pm (Section 02)
<b>Location:</b>	Tisch UC25 (Section 01) Tisch LC21 (Section 02)
<b>Instructor:</b>	Professor Samuel Lee
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<b>Office hours:</b>	TBD
<b>Personal website:</b>	<a href="http://w4.stern.nyu.edu/faculty/facultyindex.cgi?id=539">http://w4.stern.nyu.edu/faculty/facultyindex.cgi?id=539</a>
<b>Course website:</b>	TBD

**Course description:**

This is an advanced undergraduate course in corporate finance. It has three main objectives:

- 1) Develop a deeper understanding of the core economic concepts in corporate finance,
- 2) Apply these concepts to structure and analyze real-world corporate finance problems,
- 3) In particular to selected corporate finance topics *not* covered in other courses

Selected topics will include **equity offerings, debt financing, bankruptcy, corporate governance, working capital, etc**; the topics will be discussed both from an economist's and a practitioner's perspective in an effort to develop analytical skills and practical know-how.

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<sup>1</sup> This syllabus was posted on Oct 20, 2009, and is preliminary and incomplete. A complete and updated syllabus will be made available before the start of the course.

### **Prerequisites:**

The prerequisites for this class are passing grades in C15.0002 Foundations of Financial Markets and C15.0007 Corporate Finance. Students will also be assumed to be familiar with financial statements analyses.

### **Course Material:**

#### Lecture Notes (required):

A booklet with the lecture notes will be distributed in the first class.

#### Case Studies (required):

There will be case studies for the course. The case studies will be available for purchase at the NYU bookstore.

#### Textbook (recommended):

TBD

### **Course Requirements:**

#### Problem Sets:

There will be several problem sets throughout the semester. The problem sets are intended to help you understand core economic concepts.

I will announce in class and on the course webpage when we have a new problem set; the problem set will be due in class one week after it is posted. The solutions for the problem set will be posted on the course webpage after the problem set is due.

You can work alone or with other students on the problem sets. However, you need to write up your own individual solution and turn it in for credit. If you work with other students, note their names on your problem set.

No late problem sets will be accepted. Exceptions will be made for students who experience a documented serious illness or family emergency. Exceptions will also be made for religious observances or civic obligations only when the problem set cannot be reasonably completed prior to the due date and you make arrangements for late submission with me at least one week prior to the due date.

### Cases:

There will be several case studies in this course. The cases are intended to help you apply the acquired tools and economic intuition to real-world problems and, moreover, to let you maintain ownership of a constructive and effective discussion.

You should work with other students on the case studies. Groups will be formed early in the semester and should consist of 3-4 persons. Each group will be responsible for preparing and handing in a (joint) case write-up. The hand-ins should be at most 2 pages of text, plus tables or excel sheets. All group members are responsible for all aspects of the case study preparation.

I will announce in class and on the course webpage when we have a new case study and when the case study write-ups are due in class. After the hand-in, the cases will be discussed interactively in class. I reserve the right to call on any group member during a case discussion.

No late case solutions will be accepted. Exceptions will be made for students who experience a documented serious illness or family emergency. Exceptions will also be made for religious observances or civic obligations only when the problem set cannot be reasonably completed prior to the due date and you make arrangements for late submission with me at least one week prior to the due date.

### Final Examination:

There will be an individual case take-home exam at the end of the semester. Students are required to work on their case take-home exams *individually* and must turn in individual solutions.

### Grading:

Problem sets:	20%
Class participation:	20%
Case hand-ins:	30%
Take-home exam:	30%

At Stern, we want to ensure fair and consistent grading across core courses. As such, grades for this course will be distributed following the Stern Grading Guidelines for Core Courses at the Undergraduate College: 25-35% A's, 50-70% B's, 5-15% C's and below. No course incompletes will be given.

To further ensure that all students are treated fairly and consistently, the problems sets and the take-home exam will be graded according to a grading schedule, which awards points for correctly completing specific steps of a question and deducts points for common mistakes.

If you believe your exam has not been graded fairly, you have the right to make a formal appeal. In this case, you will need to submit a written explanation of the issue and a proposed resolution. The teaching fellow and I will look at your explanation, exam, and proposed resolution and

determine whether a grade adjustment is appropriate. In doing so, we also reserve the right to re-grade the entire exam.

### **Ethical Guidelines:**

#### Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to follow the “Stern Code of Conduct”, available online at: <http://www.stern.nyu.edu/uc/codeofconduct>

As per the Stern Code of Conduct, a student’s responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A duty to acknowledge the work and efforts of others when submitting work as one’s own. Ideas, data, direct quotations, paraphrasing, creative expression, or any other incorporation of the work of others must be clearly referenced.
- A duty to exercise the utmost integrity when preparing for and completing examinations, including an obligation to report any observed violations.

Violations of the Stern Code of Conduct may result in the receipt of a Failing grade in the course, as well as hearing and sanctioning by the Stern Undergraduate Honor Council.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

If your class performance may be affected by a disability, you should notify me immediately so that arrangements can be made in consultation with the Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Students with Disabilities <http://www.nyu.edu/csd> to accommodate your needs. If you will need to take an exam at the CSD, you must submit a completed “Exam Accommodations” form to them at least one week prior to the scheduled exam time in order to be guaranteed accommodations.