

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYLLABUS

FALL 2026

Name: MGT 3062

Website: <https://gatech.instructure.com/courses/480866>

Time: TR 12:30pm—1:45am | 3:30pm—4:45pm

Location: Scheller College of Business (SCOB) 102

Instructor: Professor Sharada Sridhar

Instructor E-mail: sharada@gatech.edu

Office: SCOB 406

Graders:

Introduction

In this class, you will learn fundamental concepts of finance. Examples of topics include valuing cash, the term structure of bonds, reading financial statements, investment decision making, the cost of capital, and risk. Beyond establishing the building blocks of a finance curriculum at Scheller, grasping these ideas will give you greater context to the domestic market that upholds the modern financial world. This knowledge can be helpful in a broad range of scenarios, from considering your own finances to giving greater context to the news to making conversation during a job interview. Moreover, you will learn how to quantitatively apply these concepts to specific scenarios. The in-class turn-in assignments, homework and exams assigned will allow you to flexibly test your knowledge from the basics (i.e., define an interest rate) to the more challenging (i.e., find the net present value of an investment project with multiple growing cash flows).

Objectives

My goal this semester is to teach effectively enough for you to 1) innately understand why *time* is so central to studying finance and 2) be able to explain, clearly and confidently, one (though, hopefully more!) concept learned in class, in under a minute. These objectives might seem simple, but to do them well is a challenge.

Communication

Please (anonymously) fill out the [Early Course Survey](#) if you have not done so already.

During the semester, you can always come talk to me after class. However, here are some other options:

- **E-mail**

My email is sharada@gatech.edu. When you send me an email with a question about the material, please detail exactly what you are asking. For example, say something like “When computing the discounted future cash flow in the first practice question from yesterday’s class, why did we use $r = 1.3\%$? Also, my answer is not the same as the one we got in class. This is the formula I used, and I have attached my Excel sheet where I was doing my work,” instead of writing “I don’t understand the practice questions we went

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over in class.” Not only can this potentially allow you to answer your own question, but it will also allow me to be much more efficient in helping you.

Please allow 24 hours before sending a follow-up email.

- **Office Hours**

Wednesday, 2pm to 4pm. Location: SCOB 406.

Fastest path to my office: Use the elevator bank at the Spring St NW and Armstead PI NW Scheller entrance to go to the 4th floor – you’ll need your BuzzCard. Continue straight through the automatic door. My office is a couple of doors down on the right-hand side, along Spring St NW.

- **Graders**

There are two graders for this course. They should be the first people you contact with questions regarding grading. They will escalate the issue up to me, if needed.

Canvas

I will use Canvas to post all relevant course material, grades and class announcements and you will use Canvas to submit weekly homework and your final project. Therefore, please make sure 1) you can log into your [Georgia Tech Canvas account](#) and 2) once you’re logged in, you have this class added to your “Active Courses.”

Textbook

There is no mandatory textbook. All exams, quizzes, and homework will be based on in-class slides. However, the best reference would be McGraw Hill’s *Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, 13th Edition* by Ross, Westfield and Jordan.

Evaluation

1. Quizzes – 10%

On Tuesdays, you will complete an open-note quiz, with pen and paper, that must be turned in. You may not use the internet, and you may not talk or converse with any other human during the quiz. No laptops, phones or other electronics are allowed. A calculator is required for all quizzes.

Each quiz has one or two questions, usually multiple choice, and is worth 10 points. Your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.

2. Attendance – 10%

On Thursdays, you will complete a take-away assignment, writing a few sentences on a piece of paper about your take-aways of the week. This assignment will not be graded.

Attendance is calculated based on your turn-in rate for both quizzes and takeaways.

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Turning in a completed quiz, independent of accuracy, counts as attendance for the day.

Turning in a (reasonably) thoughtful takeaway counts as attendance for the day.

You are allowed two unexcused absences.

Quizzes and take-aways will be returned the following week with comments. Attendance grades will be updated weekly.

3. Homework – 30%

Homework will be assigned weekly, posted on Canvas on Tuesday or Thursday by 8am EST, and must be uploaded onto Canvas by 8am EST a week later. There will be ten homework assignments in total.

These problem sets will consist of open-ended questions. You can – and are encouraged to – work in groups, but submissions must be individual. To obtain full credit, you must show work and have the correct answer.

Late homework is accepted, but 4% of total points are docked every hour you are late. This means if you are 25 hours late, you are guaranteed to obtain a zero. However, the two lowest homework grades will be dropped.

4. Midterms – 35%

There will be two in-class midterms, the first on Tuesday, September 22nd and the second on Thursday, October 29th. There will be no final exam. **I will only count the highest of your two exam grades.**

Tests will have a multiple-choice portion, and a long answer portion. The material is not cumulative, but remember, **concepts will build on each other**, i.e., on the first midterm a multiple-choice question might ask what an interest rate is, and on the second midterm it will be assumed you know this definition.

Exams are closed book, but you are allowed a single 8.5” by 11” piece of paper with relevant notes. You may use both sides of the paper. However, you may not use the internet, and you may not talk or converse with any other human during the examination. Exams will be completed with pen and paper. No laptops, phones or other electronics are allowed. A calculator is required for all exams.

If you are going to miss an exam for a legitimate reason (see below), you must give me at least **one week’s notice beforehand.** Late exams will not be accepted.

5. Final Project – 15%

For your final project, you need to make a video, explaining a concept we have talked about in class. The goal of the video is to *educate* not simply relay information. This is an opportunity for you to showcase your thought process.

The video must be at least 15 seconds long but should not exceed 1.5 minutes. You will work in groups of 4 or 5.

Submission Deadline: Friday, November 20th (the week before Thanksgiving)

Further details and examples to follow.

Final Grades

Your final number grade – 0 through 100 – will be determined by a weighted average of quizzes, attendance, homework, exams, and the final project, as detailed above. These scores then will be translated into the final letter transcript grades – A through F – via the following ranges:

Your transcript grade is an...	...if your number grade is...
A	≥ 90%.
B	≥ 80% and < 90%.
C	≥ 70% and < 80%.
D	≥ 60% and < 70%.
F	< 60%.

However, at my discretion, I may employ a grading curve in determining final grades.

Also, for students taking the course on a pass/fail basis, you must satisfy the course point requirement for a letter grade of “C” to be reported as “Satisfactory,” or an “S,” under the pass/fail system.

Extra Credit Opportunities

1. Volunteer

If you volunteer at least one hour of your time between August 18th and December 3rd this semester, I will add 2.5 points to your exam grade.

You can donate your time any (reasonable) way you’d like, but [Civic Engagement](#) and [Hands on Atlanta](#) are good places to start. Feel free to chat with me about other options.

To receive your extra credit, you must do **both** of the following:

- I. Have the organizer of your volunteer opportunity fill out [this form](#), which can be found on Canvas under “Files/volunteering”. Both you and the organizer must sign the form.
- II. Take a picture of you volunteering!

Make sure to upload the form and photo on Canvas, otherwise you will not receive any credit.

2. Vote

If you vote in the election on November 3rd, I will add 2.5 points to your exam grade.

The [voting registration deadline](#) online, by mail (postmarked), or in person is Monday, October 7th.

Email me photographic evidence – a picture by the booth/in line/with the “I voted!” sticker etc.

3. Peer Reviewed: Best Final Project

On the day final projects are due, all submissions, across both sections, will be posted on Canvas. You will then have 11 days to submit your (ranked) top 3 videos. You cannot vote for your own project.

On the final day of class, you will vote on the best final project, across both sections (again, you cannot vote for your own video). The winning group’s members will each receive extra credit of 2.5 points to

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their exam grade. Moreover, I will take the members out for dinner at any ITP restaurant of their choosing during the Spring 2027 semester.

Important Note: *your Final Project grade will be independent of the popular vote.*

4. Grudgeball!

We will play Grudgeball! on the last day of class, in teams of 6 to 10. The winning team will get an additional 2.5 points added to your exam grade.

Absences, Illnesses and Missed Work

- **Absences**

In line with Georgia Tech's official policy, absence from class is permitted to participate in athletic events, school sponsored field trips, and religious observances. To allow for efficient planning, please send written notice of your planned absence to my email sharada@gatech.edu at least one week before the event. If you know of these dates sooner, even in the beginning of the semester, letting me know ASAP will be best for both of us, in order to discuss missed work.

[Here](#) is information about obtaining official notice from the Registrar about Institute-approved absences.

- **Illness**

If you do not feel well, please do not come to class. I will always ensure that there is an opportunity for you to make up the missed work once you are feeling better.

For "hospitalizations, accidents, death in the family, family emergencies, and lengthy illnesses" please make sure to fill out [this](#) form with Student Life.

- **Missed Work**

In case an absence leads to a missed quiz, homework, or exam, please email me at sharada@gatech.edu as soon as possible. In most cases, I will extend your deadline for the given assignment. However, if this is not possible – i.e., exams are hard to re-schedule – your final grade will put more weight on the remaining analogous assignments, i.e., the other exam.

Classroom Accommodations

If you require classroom accommodations (see a list [here](#)), please contact Georgia Tech's Office of Disability Services (<https://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/students/getting-started>) as soon as possible. It is important to do this promptly as your usual schedule might be diverted. For example, if you require extra time to complete an exam, you must take the test at the Testing Center.

Please also communicate with me directly so that we can discuss how to ensure your accommodation is properly met.

Classroom Etiquette

- **Promptness**

Please arrive to class early, to ensure we begin on time. However, if you do arrive late, please enter the classroom quietly and respectfully to not disturb your other classmates.

- **Electronics**

Well cited studies, such as [this](#) and [this](#), show that electronics disrupt learning. To that end, I would like to try something: ***for the first five minutes of each class, all electronics are put away***. This includes, but is not limited to, laptops, phones, tablets, smart watches, and fitness trackers. As I would like us to do some Excel exercises in class, and as I understand you are all adults with multi-faceted lives, I will not enforce this rule strictly beyond the first five minutes. But I also reserve my right to change this policy, including extending the no-electronics rule, at any point.

Academic Honesty

- **Georgia Tech's Honor Code**

All students are expected to know, understand and adhere to the Institute's Honor Code, found [here](#).

- **Artificial Intelligence**

I welcome the use of ChatGPT and other forms of AI (i.e., Claude, Perplexity, etc) on homework, and in-class assignments. There are some caveats, however:

- Given that no internet is allowed during exams or quizzes, this includes AI. **Using any form of AI during exams is equivalent to cheating.**
- Cite AI software when you use it. You will not be penalized **if you are upfront about your usage, but failing to attribute credit is equivalent to cheating.**
- Remember, full credit for long answer questions on homework is given when full work is shown. Simply obtaining the correct answer is not enough, even with proper citation.
- **BUYER BEWARE: while powered with the mind of the internet, AI is not always correct.** I have personally found issues with solving even the simplest problems in this course.
- I reserve the right to rescind this free use of AI at any point during the course.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change)

Date	Day	Topic	Due @ 8AM	Assigned @ 8AM
Aug 19 th	T	Introduction to Financial Management		
Aug 21 nd	R	Time Value of Money		
Aug 26 th	T	Present and Future Values		HW 1
Aug 28 th	R	Multiple Cashflows		
Sep 2 nd	T	Application: Investment Decision Rules I	HW 1	HW2
Sep 4 th	R	Application: Investment Decision Rules II		
Sep 9 th	T	Loan Types: Annuities	HW 2	HW3
Sep 11 th	R	Loan Types: Perpetuities		
Sep 16 th	T	Interest Rate Types	HW3	
Sep 18 th	R	Review		
Sep 23 rd	T	Exam 1 (In Class)		
Sep 25 th	R	Going Over Exam 1		
Sep 30 th	T	Bonds I		HW 4
Oct 2 nd	R	Bonds II		
Oct 7 th	T	Fall Break (No Class)		
Oct 9 th	R	Bonds III	HW 4	HW 5
Oct 14 th	T	Bonds IV		
Oct 16 th	R	Bonds V	HW 5	HW 6
Oct 21 st	T	Bonds VI		
Oct 23 rd	R	Inflation		
Oct 28 th	T	Review	HW 6	
Oct 30 th	R	Exam 2 (In Class)		
Nov 4 th	T	Equity Valuation		HW 7
Nov 6 th	R	Expected Returns and Risk		
Nov 11 th	T	Portfolios and Risk	HW 7	HW 8
Nov 13 th	R	Beta		
Nov 18 th	T	Pricing Models I	HW 8	HW 9
Nov 20 st	R	Pricing Models II (Recorded Video)	Final Project	
Nov 25 th	T	Thanksgiving (No Class)		
Nov 27 th	R	Thanksgiving (No Class)		
Dec 2 nd	T	Grudgeball!	HW 9	