
**AUK College of Business and Economics
CBE Course Syllabus**



Academic Year: 2022 – 2023
Semester: **SPRING 2023**

Course Title:	Financial Markets and Institutions	Course Code	FINC 355
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Number of Credit Hours, Contact Hours, and Prerequisites:

Credit Hours:	3
Contact Hours:	3
Pre-requisite(s) (if any):	FINC 232
Co-requisite(s) (if any):	n/a

Instructor's Name and Contact Information:

Name:	Wafaa Sbeiti	Office No.:	A439
E-mail:	wsbeiti@auk.edu.kw	Office Tel.:	Ex. 3550
Class Time	UTR 10:00	Office Hours	UTR 9-10/11-12

AUK College of Business and Economics Mission and Values

The College of Business and Economics provides an American educational experience producing ethical, innovative, articulate, and globally-agile graduates. The College of Business and Economics strives to uphold the following values: Freedom of thought, expression, and intellectual inquiry, respect for individual identity and rights, and cultural diversity, commitment to high standards of morality, integrity, and social responsibility, and adherence to high professional standards and ethics.

Catalogue Course Descriptions:

This course focuses on the financial markets and institutions. It covers the role of the central bank and regulatory authorities, commercial bank operations, securities markets and public-private financing.

Degree of learning for each Program Learning Outcomes in this course:

Program Goals		
PLO1	Communication: Demonstrate effective English language communication skills in writing and oral presentations	
PLO2	Ethical behaviour: Articulate ethical and professional responsibilities, recognize ethical dilemmas, and formulate ethical strategies.	A
PLO3	Critical thinking: Identify, evaluate, analyze, and solve diverse and unstructured management problems in unfamiliar settings, use, synthesize, and evaluate data/ evidence, exercise judgment, and assess risks, understand the holistic and systemic nature of the organization and its internal and external environment.	A
PLO4	Global and multi-cultural aspects of business: Understand diverse cultures; develop intercultural skills; understand global processes; and be prepared for citizenship, both local and global.	A
PLO5	Entrepreneurial behaviour: Entrepreneurship is value creation, iterative learning, opportunity identification, business development, venture creation and growth. Becoming entrepreneurial is personal development, creativity, self-reliance, initiative taking, and action orientation.	
PLO6	Technology Agility: Develop a mastery of appropriate ICT in decision- making.	R

Course objectives:

This course introduces the students to financial markets and institutions and the various domestic and foreign financial markets and describe the special functions of financial institutions. It takes an analytical look at how financial markets and institutions benefits today's economy. It provides an overview of the various securities markets and describes each security, its participants, the securities traded in each and the trading process. It also summarizes the operations of commercial banks, describes the key characteristics and recent trends in the commercial banking sector, describes the financial statements of a typical commercial banks and their issues used to analyze those statements. It provides comprehensive look at the regulations under which these financial institutions operate and particularly the effect of recent changes in regulations.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs):

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)	Corresponding PLO
CLO1: Gain a thorough understanding of the mechanism of the financial markets and institutions and their function in facilitating the flow of funds through the economic system from lenders to borrowers and outlined the markets and instruments that lenders and borrowers employ to complete this process.	PLO3
CLO2: Perform a research which involves exploring, analyzing, interpreting and presenting data related to markets, operations, economics, customers, and other information related to the finance field.	PLO3
CLO3: Analyse of information in order to form the right financial decisions, which is not only include information about the current situation in the global (or any other) scenario but also raise some critical issues or problems, suggesting their possible solutions.	PLO3
CLO4: Demonstrate the value of an ethical approach to the financial institutions and the importance of corporate culture in applying business ethics.	PLO2
CLO5: To be able to evaluate the recent trends in the financial industry globally as well as regionally using theories learned in the class.	PLO4

Required Texts/Recommended Readings: “Ebook”

Financial Markets and Institutions by Anthony Saunders, 7th edition. McGraw-Hill.

The code will be available in the bookstore.

Assessments and grading:

		Link to PLO
1. Midterm 1	25%	PLO2, PLO3
2. Midterm 2	20%	PLO2, PLO3
3. Presentations	15%	PLO1, PLO3
4. Attendance	5%	PLO1, PLO3
5. Journal articles review	15%	PLO1, PLO3
6. Participation during presentations	10%	PLO1, PLO3
7. Oral Final Exam	10 %	PLO1, PLO3

Letter of grade is assigned based on the following scale

AUK Official Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage	University Points
A	94-100	4.0
A-	90-93	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	84-86	3.0
B-	80-83	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	74-76	2.0
C-	70-73	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	64-66	1.0
D-	60-63	0.7
F	0-59	0.0

AUK Attendance Policy:

Any student who misses more than 15% of class sessions of any course during a semester should expect to fail, unless she/he submits documented evidence to the course instructor of inpatient medical care, death of an immediate family member, academic instructional activities, or national athletic activities. If excused, students are required to satisfy all coursework due or assigned during their absence as determined by the course instructor. If a student does not submit documented evidence for her/his absence exceeding the limit, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the course by the specified deadline, as indicated on the academic calendar. Students who withdraw from a course receive a grade of "W". Students who do not withdraw from a course nor submit supporting documents for excessive absences will receive a grade of "FN" (failure for non-attendance).

Code of Academic Honesty and Integrity:

Upon admission to the American University of Kuwait, students agree to act responsibly in all areas of academic, personal and social conduct and to take full responsibility for their individual and collective action. Such regulations are found in the American University of Kuwait Catalogue, Student Handbook, and the AUK website at www.auk.edu.kw. Any question of interpretation regarding the code of academic honesty and Integrity shall be reported to the appropriate academic dean. The Code shall be reviewed annually at the discretion of the academic deans. Any student or student organization found to have committed the cited violations or misconduct, either on or off campus, is subject to the disciplinary sanctions outlined in adjudication procedures.

Cheating:

The term “cheating” includes but is not limited to, copying homework assignments from another student; working together with another individual on a take-home test or homework when not approved by the instructor, looking at and/or copying text, notes or another person’s paper during an examination when not permitted to do so. Cheating also includes the giving of work information to another student to be copied and/or used as his or her own. This includes but is not limited to giving someone answers to exam questions either when the exam is being given or after having taken an exam; informing another student of specific questions that appear or have appeared on an exam in the same academic semester; giving or selling a term paper, report, project or other restricted written materials to another student.

Academic Support:

Learning Support Services focuses on empowering students to become independent and successful learners by developing their literacy skills, enhancing their understanding, and helping them improve their academic and study skills. Learning Support Services is comprised of two centers: the Tutoring Center and the Writing Center. The Tutoring Center provides free academic support in various subjects to AUK student. Email: tutoringcenter@auk.edu.kw.

The Writing Center provides multilingual support (English, Arabic, French, and Spanish) through individual or small-group consultations. Email: writingcenter@auk.edu.kw

Disability Accommodations:

AUK provides equal and inclusive educational environment in order to enable all students to meet and perform requisite academic standards and to participate in the opportunities and activities of its community. If you believe you can benefit from accommodations for a learning, physical, or mental health disability, [click here to book a session through the Counseling Center/Disability Services Booking Page](#), to ask about disability services at AUK, initiate an accommodation plan, or receive disability services. You can also email counseling@auk.edu.kw if you need assistance in booking a session.

CLASS POLICIES:

Student Responsibility for Learning

- I will organize, explain and illustrate course content and provide opportunities for you to learn. *However, I cannot learn for you. You are responsible for learning.* Accepting responsibility for learning, and so achieving academic success, requires you to adopt a mature non-adolescent attitude that does not blame anyone else for your failures. Instead, you *must acknowledge your ability to control outcomes.*
- Students are individually responsible for complying with regulations in the University Catalog. Failure to read, understand and/or comply with does not exempt students from the requirements. Students are expected to have read, understand and to obey the University's Code of Conduct and Academic Honesty. Students are required to read and sign the attached document pertaining to these expectations.
- Included in an AUK's code of conduct are the requirements that students must observe local and state laws as well as AUK's academic and behavioral regulations.
- Students are responsible for all course content. If a student misses a lecture for any reason, the student is responsible for any and all content and assignments that was presented during that lecture.
- Cell phones should not be used during class.
- The side conversation (on campus and online) makes it difficult for your classmates to listen and learn. So, please be considerate of others. If side conversation persists, you will be asked to leave the class and use a more appropriate setting. You will be considered absent from any class in which you are asked to leave.
- No electronic communication devices or recording devices will be permitted during quizzes and exams. Personal possession of any electronic device during quizzes and exams will be considered a violation of the Academic Integrity policy, which may result in a failing grade for the entire course.
- AUK requires instructors to be evaluated by their students. The results of these evaluations are important to provide feedback to instructors on how their performance can be improved. In addition, these evaluations are carefully considered in promotion, salary adjustment, and other important decisions. AUK openly encourages students to provide feedback to the instructors and to the College through the evaluation process.
- Students are expected to observe the Academic Integrity policy detailed in the AUK catalog at all times. Particular attention is drawn to the policies on plagiarism, inappropriate collaboration, and dishonesty. Your AUK Student Handbook has a section that describes the student code of conduct. A violation of the Academic Integrity policy may result in a failing grade for the entire course.

Please be sure to use your official AUK email account, write your full name, and indicate which class and section you are taking when you send me an email. If you have a question, please check the syllabus first and if your question is not answered there, then please feel free to send an email and I will be happy to clarify. I respond to questions via email or posted on the discussion forum within 24 hours of receiving them; if I do not respond within 24 hours, please re-send the email.

Teaching and learning methodologies, including any use of online instruction:

S. No	Teaching Method/Instruction	
1	Lecturers	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Assignments	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Case Based Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Case analysis	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Project Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Seminars	
7	Class participation	
8	Online Discussion / Instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Guest Speaker Sessions	<input type="checkbox"/>

Timetable of Course Content

Week 1:	Overview of financial markets and institutions and their special functions. CLO1.
Week 2:	Analytical look at how financial markets and institutions benefits today's economy. CLO1
Week 3:	Review the various money market securities available to short term investors. CLO 2.
Week 4	The process through which the money market securities are issued and traded. CLO2.
Week 5:	The bond market and different types of bond market. CLO1.
Week 6:	The process through which bonds are traded and the different types of international bond market. CLO1/CLO5.
Week 7:	Corporate stocks and stock markets, major characteristics of corporate stocks and description of trading process. CLO1/CLO4.
Week 8:	Different types of stock market indexes and their role in predicting economic activities. CLO3/CLO5.
Week 9:	An overview of the major activities of commercial banks and recent trends in the banking industry and the differences between the asset and liability portfolios of commercial banks and other financial institutions. CLO1/CLO4. Discussion 1: Case study, students will be introduced to ethical implications in the banking industry.
Week 10:	And overview of banking industry's performance over the last decades and several global issues and commercial banking. CLO3/CLO5.
Week 11:	The activities and regulation of insurance companies and recent trends in this sector. CLO1/CLO5
Week 12:	Discuss the different types of insurance companies, property versus casualty companies and the regulations. CLO1/ CLO4.
Week 14:	An overview of security firms and their roles and services to investors and investment banking firms. CLO1. The structure of the security firms industry and changes and the degree of concentration and firm size and death industry over the last three decades. CLO1/CLO5.
Week 15	An Overview of the mutual fund and hedge fund industries and Pension Funds. CLO1/CLO5.
Week 16	Final week. Oral final exam CLO1/CLO2.

Rubric to assess Oral Communication

CBE Communication Learning Goal states that students “demonstrate effective English language communication skills in writing and oral presentations”). AACU defines Oral communication as “prepared, purposeful presentation designed to increase knowledge, to foster understanding, or to promote change in the listeners’ attitudes, values, beliefs, or behaviors.

Score Criteria	4	3	2	1	Points
Verbal Skills	Pronunciation comprehensible. Volume/pacing effective. Few or no pauses (e.g. well, uh, um, but) that distract	Pronunciation mostly comprehensible, Volume/pacing mostly appropriate, some vocal pauses that distract	Pronunciation somewhat comprehensible Volume/pacing somewhat appropriate Frequent vocal pauses that distract	Pronunciation incomprehensible, Volume/pacing prevent comprehension, Continual vocal pauses prevent comprehension	
Nonverbal Skills	Eye contact with different people most of time. Good posture poised	Eye contact with different people some of time. Facial expressions + gestures appropriate. Posture mostly good Nervousness sometimes distracting	Facial expressions +/or gestures confuse audience Poor posture throughout, nervousness prevents comprehension	No eye contacts Facial expressions +/or gestures sometimes unclear	
Language	Language choices are imaginative, memorable, compelling and enhance effectiveness of the presentation. Language is appropriate to audience. Speaks in sentences, clear enunciation, fluent delivery.	Language choices are thoughtful and generally support the effectiveness of the presentation. Language is appropriate to audience. Speaker uses sentences, enunciates well, is fluent in the delivery	Language choices are mundane and commonplace and partially support the effectiveness of the presentation. Language in presentation is appropriate to audience.	Language choices are unclear and minimally support the effectiveness of the presentation. Language in presentation is not appropriate to audience.	
Visual or Supportive Material	Effective slides (e.g. coherent, logical progression, well organized, include main points not details, “tell a story”)	Slides clearly aid the speaker in telling a coherent story	For the most part slides are helpful in telling the story with only a few glaring problems	Slides interfere with the story	
Questions and Answers	Well done Speaker answers questions knowledgeably, thoroughly, and concisely; process is handled smoothly	Acceptable Speaker has some difficulty answering questions concisely; some problems responding to some questions	Some Weaknesses Speaker is thrown off balance by questions; has difficulty responding to some questioners	Problematic Speaker is unable to answer questions; loses control of the process	

		(e.g., hostile questions, aggressive questions)			
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