COURSE NUMBER: FIN 334W.06
COURSE TITLE: Financial Institutions & Markets
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Joe James, Department Chair, General Business and Finance
OFFICE: S-H 201
E-MAIL: FIN_JFJ@SHSU.EDU
PHONE: (936) 294-1278
OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday 9:30 - 11:00 A.M.
Other times by appointment.
SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS: Access to The Wall Street Journal is recommended.
DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: This course will explore the structure of the financial system with emphasis on the role, operations, and regulations of financial institutions and markets, including international. The nature, participants, instruments, and relationships of the money and capital markets will be examined.
OBJECTIVES: This course provides a socioeconomic view of the role of the financial sector and its three components:
1. The financial institutions which create and trade financial instruments.
2. The financial markets in which the supply and demand schedules of market participants are reconciled through the pricing mechanisms.
3. The financial instruments which document the exchange of resources over time.
Students are introduced to the economic and political environment of finance and examine the organization, operations, and regulation of financial institutions and markets, using both descriptive and analytical methods. Current regional, national and global issues are synthesized to develop an international perspective. Economic principles and basic mathematical and statistical techniques are used to analyze current problems.
PREREQUISITES: Junior Standing.
CLASS MEETINGS: SHB 106 Monday and Wednesday 2:00 - 3:20 P.M. with first class meeting on August 20, 2007 and final exam on Monday, December 10, 2007, at 5:00 P.M. in SH 106. Subject to University Testing Schedule.
TEACHING METHOD: Lecture, problem analysis, research, presentations, and class discussion.
COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:
There will be three unit exams and a comprehensive final exam. Weighting will be as follows:

Exam 1 10%*
Exam 2 10*
Exam 3 10*
Writing Assignment 25%
Homework/Quiz Grades 25%
Final Exam 20%
Note the attendance policy and its effect on your grade.

*NOTE: EXAMS WILL BE GRADED AND RETURNED TO THE STUDENTS FOR REVIEW, NORMALLY THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD AFTER THE EXAM. THE EXAMS WILL THEN BE TAKEN BACK UP TO RECORD THE GRADES. IF THE EXAM LEAVES THE CLASSROOM, A GRADE OF ZERO WILL BE ASSIGNED.

Grades in this course are determined by applying the following scale to a student's weighted average:

- > or = 89.5     A
- 79.5 - 89.499     B
- 69.5 - 79.499     C
- 59.5 - 69.499     D
- Below 59.5     F

MISSED EXAM/LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

No makeup exam will be given. If an exam is missed, a grade of zero (0) will be assigned for the exam. However, each student will be allowed to drop the lowest exam grade and the weight of that exam will be added to the weight for the final. If more than one exam is missed, a score of zero (0) will be retained for other missed exams. The final exam is comprehensive. Assignments must be turned in by the beginning of class on the due date. No late assignments will be accepted for credit.

Americans with Disabilities Act

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.
ATTENDANCE: Class attendance will be checked for each scheduled class. Perfect attendance will earn 3 bonus points added to the grade computation described above. Three class hours (2 classes) can be missed without a penalty. For each hour from the fourth through the eighth, 1 point will be subtracted for each hour missed. Absences totaling more than eight hours will result in a grade of F for the course. Late arrivals for class and early departure will be counted as ½ an absence (3/4 hour of absence).

OTHER COMMENTS: No food or beverages allowed in the classroom. Do not wear caps, hats, or other headgear in our classes. No one will be allowed to leave the classroom during an exam until the exam has been completed and returned to the proctor. Also, no student will be allowed to start the exam after the first person has completed the exam and departed the room. Beepers and cell phones are to be set so that they do not make an audible noise during class.

HELPFUL RESOURCE: Sam Houston Writing Center, located in Wilson 114, is open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday, and 2-7 p.m. on Sunday. Writing tutors will work with you one-on-one to help you generate a draft, organize a draft, or revise a draft of any assignment. Please drop by or call 936-294-3680 to schedule an appointment.
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the syllabus for FIN 334.06, Fall, 2007.

___________________   ____________    ______________
                  Print Name         Date          Signature
Term Paper Instructions  
FIN 334.06  
August 2007

As set out in your class schedules, each student will make a written and an oral presentation. The subject for all topics must be turned-in by September 5, 2007. The turn-in date for the written research paper is October 8 for Group 1 and October 29 for Group 2. Oral presentations will be made as indicated on the syllabus. Any paper turned-in late will receive a grade of F. Following-up on the oral instructions given you in class, this set of instructions will give you firm, written directions concerning the written and oral assignments.

1. The term papers should be written in good manuscript form, utilizing proper grammar, spelling and punctuation. The topics are to be pre-approved by the instructor.

2. Your paper should be double-spaced with a 1 inch margin and be a minimum of eight typewritten pages and a maximum of twelve typewritten pages. The font should be Times New Roman 12-pitch.

3. There must be a minimum of three research references. The FIN 334 text may not be used, and only two may be from the Internet. Wikipedia and other web blogs may not be used.

4. On the date your research paper is due, you will turn-in your research paper, and you will be prepared to deliver your oral presentation of the term paper to the class the following class day. The oral presentation will be no less than four minutes or more than five minutes. This presentation should clearly and concisely present the concepts advanced in your written presentation.

5. As you know, the combination of the term paper and the oral presentation will count 25% of your total final grade.

The following topics will be utilized unless approved in advance by the professor:

1. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Credit Unions. Robert White
2. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Insurance Companies Nathan Kibodeaux
3. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Pension Funds Billy Sheeley
4. The Federal Reserve’s Role in the Economy Justin Shackelford
5. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency’s Role in Regulation Hartman
6. The Federal Deposit Insurance Company as a Financial Institution Regulator  
   **John Johnson**

7. The Trend in Bank Regulation During the Last Half of the Twentieth Century  
   **Mirand Clay**

8. Comparison Between The Federal Reserve and Foreign Central Banks  
   **Stephanie Elassaad**

9. The Importance of Personal Retirement Planning.  
   **Krystle Smith**

10. The New York Stock Exchange  
    **Nathan Perry**

11. The Over the Counter Market System  
    **Otha Smith**

12. The Federal Reserve’s Tools for Monetary Control  
    **Latoya Jolivette**

13. The Function of the Money Market  
    **Ashley Smith**

14. The Function of the Capital Market  
    **Krystal Oberrender**

15. The Effect of the Secondary Market on Interest Rates  
    **Satoya Williams**

16. The Importance of International Markets on our Economy  
    **Aesha Muwwakkil**

17. Comparison of United States Banking versus Foreign Banks  
    **Daniel Bassett**

18. Role of Investment Banking in the Financial System  
    **Kody Bryan**

19. The Use of Bonds to Fund Corporate Needs

20. The Use of Equities to Fund Corporate Needs

21. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Credit Unions.  
    **C.J. Cardiff**

22. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Insurance Companies  
    **Myesha Devrow**

23. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Pension Funds

    **Joshua Meeker**

25. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency’s Role in Regulation

26. The Federal Deposit Insurance Company as a Financial Institution Regulator

27. The Trend in Bank Regulation During the Last Half of the Twentieth Century

28. Comparison Between The Federal Reserve and Foreign Central Banks  
    **Joe Boyd**

29. The Importance of Personal Retirement Planning.  
    **Rachel Gilliland**

30. The New York Stock Exchange  
    **Clay Tatum; Megan Daigle**

31. The Over the Counter Market System  
    **Joshua Brown**

32. The Federal Reserve’s Tools for Monetary Control  
    **Cade Lockwood**

33. The Function of the Money Market  
    **Tempest Mathews**

34. The Function of the Capital Market  
    **Ryan Stewart**

35. The Effect of the Secondary Market on Interest Rates  
    **Joshua Keller**

36. The Importance of International Markets on our Economy  
    **Sean Radabaugh**

37. Comparison of United States Banking versus Foreign Banks  
    **Clint Stansbury**

38. Role of Investment Banking in the Financial System

39. The Use of Bonds to Fund Corporate Needs  
    **Kendra Wright**

40. The Use of Equities to Fund Corporate Needs  
    **Matt Webb**