COURSE NUMBER: FIN 334W.06

COURSE TITLE: Financial Institutions & Markets

INSTRUCTOR: Daryl Bohls, General Business and Finance

HOURS After class

E-MAIL: DDB005@SHSU.edu

OFFICE PHONE: (281) 894-3203

CLASS HOURS: MONDAYS 6:00 - 8:40 P.M.


SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS: Access to *The Wall Street Journal* is recommended.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE: The 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: The 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: University Center (Woodlands) Room 208 Monday 6:00 – 8:40 p.m. with first class meeting January 28, 2008 and final exam on Monday, May 12, 2009, At 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. *Subject to University Testing Schedule.*
TEACHING METHOD: Lecture, problem analysis, research, presentations, and class discussion.

COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS:
There will be two unit exams and a comprehensive final exam. Weighting will be as follows:
Exam 1 20%
Exam 2 20%
Writing Assignment & Oral Presentation 20%
Pop Quiz Grades (can drop 2 lowest) 20%
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. Each student will be allowed to drop their two lowest pop quiz grades. 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 adversely affect 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 RESOURCES: Sam Houston Writing Center, located in Wilson 114, is open from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Monday- Thursday, 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Friday and 2:00 p.m. until 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, Spring, 2008.

_________________________________________  __________________   ___________________
Print Name                              Date                      Signature
Term Paper Instructions  
FIN 334.06  
January 2008

As set out in your class schedules, each student will make a written and an oral presentation. The subject for all topics must be e-mailed to me by Friday, February 1, 2008, no more than 2 students per topic. The turn-in date for the written research paper is March 24, 2008 for Group 1 and April 24, 2008 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 instructors.

2. Your paper should be double-spaced with a 1 inch margin on all four (4) sides and be a minimum of eight typewritten pages and a maximum of twelve typewritten pages. The font should be Time New Roman 12-pitch. Include an abstract plus an executive summary.

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. Use MLA format to cite references.

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 that 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 20% 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  
2. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Insurance Companies  
3. Competition Between Commercial Banks and Pension Funds  
4. The Federal Reserve’s Role in the Economy  
5. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency’s Role in Regulation  
6. The Federal Deposit Insurance Company as a Financial Institution Regulator  
7. The Trend in Bank Regulation During the Last Half of the Twentieth Century  
8. Comparison Between The Federal Reserve and Foreign Central Banks  
9. The Importance of Personal Retirement Planning
10. The New York Stock Exchange
11. The Over the Counter Market System
12. The Federal Reserve’s Tools for Monetary Control
13. The Function of the Money Market
14. The Function of the Capital Market
15. The Effect of the Secondary Market on Interest Rates
16. The Importance of International Markets on our Economy
17. Comparison of United States Banking versus Foreign Banks
18. Role of the Investment Banking in the Financial System
19. The Use of Bonds to Fund Corporate Needs
20. The Use of Equities to Fund Corporate Needs