



NYU

**ROBERT F. WAGNER GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

PADM-GP.2147.001

CORPORATE FINANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY

Spring 2023

Instructor Information

- Professor Jerry Abrahams
- Email: jha3@nyu.edu
- Office Hour: Tuesdays 12:00 – 4:00 PM or by appointment

Course Information

- Class Meeting Times: Tuesdays, 4:55 – 6:35 PM
- Class Location: 60 Fifth Avenue, Room 110 Loc: Washington Square

Course Prerequisites

- CORE-GP.1018
- CORE-GP.1021

Note that while Accounting is not a prerequisite, students are required to complete the Accounting Primer (and accompanying Accounting I Problem Set) in the Online Text before the third week of the semester. [See Accounting I Primer section of Syllabus]

Course Description

This course introduces students to the main areas of corporate finance and how they relate to policy issues and discussions. The course covers topics in the three main areas of corporate finance: 1) capital structure (financing choices), 2) valuation (project and firm valuation) and 3) corporate governance (optimal governance structures). Where relevant, we will analyze how public policy, through taxes and regulation, affect these aspects of corporate finance. The course will additionally explore how key economic events have shaped public policy and influenced corporate financial practices. Case analysis will be used to enable students to understand practical application of the corporate finance theory introduced in the course and will also incorporate discussion of corporate finance in the context of social enterprises and the global economy.

Course Format

This course is designed for your self-study of the theoretical material as introduced in your online textbook. Note that we will not cover all chapters. Each class has a video of Professor Taitel's lecture incorporating slides on the theoretical material. The topical scope of the Professor's slides and accompanying recorded lectures along with the cases discussed in live classes represent the primary material which you are expected to learn for exams. Note that in many cases this material is narrower than the subject matter covered in the textbook. The live classes will primarily focus on the application of the theory as explored through relevant real-world cases which have been curated for each topic. As a result, having watched the Professor's recorded lectures, completed one cursory reading of the assigned text chapters and having thoroughly read the case(s) assigned for the week is *critical* to your getting the most out of the live sessions. Each week homework problems are assigned and in many weeks mini video-based quizzes are also required to strengthen concept learning. In addition, discussion questions are posed for each case and these must be answered through informal discussion forum postings (one to two paragraphs) before the live or synchronous session. Please note that you may be called on in class to discuss your postings and other aspects of the assigned cases. Also keep in mind that most weeks, additional practice problems are assigned as optional. Many of these practice problems may relate to material outside of the scope of the narrower lectures so use your discretion as to which practice problems to spend time mastering.

Course and Learning Objectives

Course Learning Objective Covered	Corresponding Assignment Title
Understand core concepts and mechanics of corporate finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Problem Sets for Chapters 1,2,5,6,7,9,10,11, 12, 13, 14 and 15▪ Midterm and Final Exam
Develop ability to apply corporate finance concepts to management and decision making	Nike and Disneyland Case Memos, Weekly Case Discussion Postings
Learn to assess public policy implications on corporate finance considerations	Policy Paper

Required Readings

Required Text:

Corporate Finance: A Focused Approach, 6th Edition, Michael C. Ehrhardt and Eugene F. Brigham. The online version of the text is **required** as it is integrated with online activity assignments. It can be accessed using the Cengage Access tab in the Course Welcome menu of NYU Brightspace.

Note that the **cost of the license** for single-term access will be added as a “book charge” to your bursar bill at a *savings* over the publisher’s list price.

Note: If you choose to NOT participate, you will be unable to complete the activities using the Cengage platform (mindtap) and will not get the discounted price for the e-textbook and *Cengage Unlimited*. You will also pay the full price for the text book. You need to participate in order to complete the classwork in Corporate Finance and Public Policy.

Required Case Packet:

The text is supplemented with a packet of cases to be acquired at:
<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/1005689> **Course Packet**

Assessment Assignments and Evaluation

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Active Class Participation including live or synchronous classes and asynchronous Discussion Questions: 20%

Two Case Memos (as assigned): 10%

Homework Questions: 10%

- You can skip **one** homework problem set, but all are recommended to be completed. You are required to *show all work*.
- Assigned case questions are mandatory.

Policy Paper: 20%

Mid-term: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

All students benefit from high levels of participation, so you are expected to do readings (particularly of cases) prior to class, attend class, and contribute to the discussion. Case discussion forum questions help you think in advance about potential points you wish to contribute in the live class.

Late Submission Policy for Assignments

Extensions will be granted only in case of emergency, out of respect to those who abide by deadlines despite equally hectic schedules. Late submissions without approved extensions will be penalized up to 20% per 24-hour period.

Policy Paper

Identify a government policy enacted over the last decade or under consideration that has had (or will have) an impact on corporate finance in the country of your choice. The policy can be

either US or non-US related. In selecting a relevant policy, you may want to consider, in particular, factors beyond management control that influence cost of capital such as:

1. Interest Rates
2. Market Risk Premiums
3. Tax Rates

Your paper should be no more than 5 pages in length, double spaced, and cover the following.

- a) Executive Summary,
- b) Description of the Policy enacted or under consideration,
- c) History of Policy including economic circumstances leading to its consideration,
- d) Specific ways in which the policy's enactment has or could impact corporate finance (e.g., Security Market Line and Capital Asset Pricing Model, Yield Curve, Weighted Average Cost of Capital calculations, capital structure decisions, etc.).

Students will have an opportunity to volunteer to present their policy papers which will be counted toward class participation.

Accounting I Primer

I have enabled in your online text an Accounting I tutorial and related problem set. This can be accessed in the Welcome menu of Brightspace under the tab "Preparing for Finance – Accounting I". Some of you may have prior knowledge of accounting and for those this will be a refresher. For others, the material will be new, but this self-guided and self-graded tutorial will prepare you for the accounting terminology and mechanics applied in Corporate Finance. In particular, this teaching problem set refreshes your knowledge of basic accounting and financial statements. Topics include balance sheets, inventory valuation, income statements, depreciation calculation, earnings per share, statements of cash flows, effects of accounting transactions, and common-size financial statements. You can begin this problem set in advance of the course's start date with a deadline to complete it along with the self-graded tests (of which you can make multiple attempts) no later than the third week of the semester.

Overview of the Semester

Deliverables due by 5 PM on the day of class unless another date is noted.

Week	Date	Topic	Deliverable
Class 1	1/24	Overview of the Course and the Financial Environment	Quiz Concept Clip and Discussion Question Post (Class 1) Accounting I Problem Set (initiate for completion by Class 3)
Class 2	1/31	Financial Statements, Cash Flow, and Taxes Case: American Greetings	Quiz Concept Clips, Discussion Question Post, Mini Case: Chapter 1 – questions a, d, e, f and g
Class 3	2/7	Time Value of Money Bonds, Bond Valuation, and Interest Rates Case: Note on Bond Valuation and Returns; American Greetings (continued)	Quiz Concept Clips, Discussion Question Post, Chapter 2 Problem 2-12 (a - e) Chapter 3 Problems 3-1 through 3-10

Week	Date	Topic	Deliverable
Class 4	2/14	Risk, Return, and the Capital Asset Pricing Model Cases: Applying the Capital Asset Pricing Model; Marriott Corp.: The Cost of Capital (Abridged); Eaton Corporation (Abridged) American Greetings (continued)	Quiz Concept Clip, Discussion Questions Post, Chapter 5 Problems 5-1, 5-2, 5-7, 5-8, 5-9 (a) Problems 2 and 3 in Note on Bond Valuation Case
Class 5	2/21	Valuation of Stocks and The Cost of Capital Cases: Nike, Inc, Marriott Corp. (continued): American Greetings (continued)	Chapter 6 Problems 6-2, 6-3, 6-6, 6-7, 6-8 Nike Case One-Page Memo
Class 6	2/28	Capital Structure Decisions Case: Hospital Corp. of America (A), American Greetings (continued)	Quiz Concept Clip, Discussion Question Post, Chapter 7 Problems 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, 7-14, 7-15 Chapter 9 Problems 9-8 and 9-10
Class 7	3/7	Mid-Term Exam Review	Chapter 15 Problem 15-8 (a,b and c) Proposed Policy Paper Topic
	3/14	Spring Break	
Class 8	3/21	The Basics of Capital Budgeting: Evaluating Cash Flows Case: Target Corporation	Midterm (submit date/time TBA) Quiz Concept Clips, Discussion Question Post
Class 9	3/28	Cash Flow Estimation and Risk Analysis; the Social Enterprise Context Case: Female Health Company	Quiz Concept Clip, Discussion Question Post, Chapter 10 Problems 10-7, 10-9, 10-13 (a-c)
Class 10	4/4	Corporate Valuation and Financial Planning; the Social Enterprise Context (cont.) Case: Honest Tea	Policy Paper Due Discussion Question Post, Chapter 11 Problems 11-7 and 11-9
Class 11	4/11	Agency Conflicts and Corporate Governance Cases: The Sarbanes-Oxley Act; Barnes & Noble, Inc.: The Yucaipa Proxy Challenge	Discussion Question Posts, Chapter 12 Problems 12-1 and 12-6
Class 12	4/18	Distributions to Shareholders: Dividends and Repurchases Case: Financial Policy at Apple, 2013 (A)	Discussion Question Post, Chapter 13 Questions 13-1 through 13-5
Class 13	4/25	Corporate Finance in a Global Context Case: Tokyo Disneyland and the Disney Sea Park	Quiz Concept Clip, Chapter 14 Problems 14-3, 14-4 Tokyo Disneyland One-Page Memo
Class 14	5/2	Final Exam	

Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Points
A	4.0 points
A-	3.7 points
B+	3.3 points
B	3.0 points
B-	2.7 points
C+	2.3 points
C	2.0 points
C-	1.7 points
F	0.0 points

Student grades will be assigned according to the following criteria:

- (A) Excellent: Exceptional work for a graduate student. Work at this level is unusually thorough, well-reasoned, creative, methodologically sophisticated, and well written. Work is of exceptional, professional quality.
- (A-) Very good: Very strong work for a graduate student. Work at this level shows signs of creativity, is thorough and well-reasoned, indicates strong understanding of appropriate methodological or analytical approaches, and meets professional standards.
- (B+) Good: Sound work for a graduate student; well-reasoned and thorough, methodologically sound. This is the graduate student grade that indicates the student has fully accomplished the basic objectives of the course.
- (B) Adequate: Competent work for a graduate student even though some weaknesses are evident. Demonstrates competency in the key course objectives but shows some indication that understanding of some important issues is less than complete. Methodological or analytical approaches used are adequate but student has not been thorough or has shown other weaknesses or limitations.

- (B-) Borderline: Weak work for a graduate student; meets the minimal expectations for a graduate student in the course. Understanding of salient issues is somewhat incomplete. Methodological or analytical work performed in the course is minimally adequate. Overall performance, if consistent in graduate courses, would not suffice to sustain graduate status in “good standing.”
- (C/-/+) Deficient: Inadequate work for a graduate student; does not meet the minimal expectations for a graduate student in the course. Work is inadequately developed or flawed by numerous errors and misunderstanding of important issues. Methodological or analytical work performed is weak and fails to demonstrate knowledge or technical competence expected of graduate students.
- (F) Fail: Work fails to meet even minimal expectations for course credit for a graduate student. Performance has been consistently weak in methodology and understanding, with serious limits in many areas. Weaknesses or limits are pervasive.

Detailed Course Overview

WEEK 1 (Jan 24): OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE AND THE FINANCIAL ENVIRONMENT

In this Lesson you will learn the principal drivers of corporate finance and their interrelationship with Public Policy. The live session will include a discussion on course logistics and provide a course and case overview as well as an opportunity to debate corporate purpose.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete **Before** Week 1 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Financial Management and Financial Environment

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 1

Read in Case Packet: n/a

Read in NYU Brightspace: Corporate Purpose Cartoon and Business Roundtable Article

Required Activities: Complete **Before** Week 1 Live Session

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Intrinsic Value vs. Market Price

Discussion Questions: Due **Before** Week 1 Live Session

How do you feel about shareholder wealth maximization in the context of this cartoon? How do the current US experiences relative to both the pandemic and racial justice influence your thinking? (Related to Cartoon and Business Purpose Article on NYU Brightspace)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 1 Live Session but Before Week 2 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

MiniCase Chapter 1- Questions a,d,e,f and g

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 1 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 1 Practice Problems

WEEK 2 (Jan 31): Financial Statements, Cash Flow and Taxes

In this Lesson including how to interpret and analyze Financial Statements. The live session will include a discussion on financial ratios through analysis of the American Greetings case and in-class mini cases on Financial Analysis and Free Cash Flow.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 2 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Financial Statements, Cash Flow and Taxes

Read in Online Textbook: Chapters 2 and 3

Read in Case Packet: American Greetings

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 2 Live Session

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Retained Earnings (Chapter 2)

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Liquid Assets (Chapter 3)

Complete Accounting I Problem Set in Online Text (see Accounting I Primer above)

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 2 Live Session

Do you have a "bullish" or "bearish" view of American Greetings from reading the case and why? (Related to American Greetings case in Case Packet)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 2 Live Session but Before Week 3 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 2 Problem 2-12 (a-e); Chapter 3 Problems 3-1 through 3-10

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 2 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapters 2 and 3 Practice Problems

WEEK 3 (Feb 7): Time Value of Money, Bonds, Bond Valuation and Interest Rates

In this Lesson you will learn how to value Bonds as a determinant of a Corporation's cost of debt. The live session will include a discussion of Bond Valuation through analysis of the American Greetings case, a history timeline plotting challenge of Corporate Tax policy and an in-class contest of bond valuation done through spreadsheet vs. calculator approaches.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 3 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Bonds, Bond Valuation, and Interest Rates

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 5

Read in Case Packet: Note on Bond Valuation and Returns

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 3 Live Session

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Coupon Payment and Coupon Rate

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Bond Premium and Bond Discount Rate

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Term Structure of Interest Rates

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 3 Live Session

Under what circumstances would a corporate issuer of bond financing considering "calling their bonds"? (Related to Note on Bond Valuation and Returns reading in Case Packet)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 3 Live Session but Before Week 4 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 5 Problems 5-1, 5-2, 5-7, 5-8 and 5-9 a; Problems 2 and 3 in Note on Bond Valuation Case

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 3 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 5 Practice Problems

WEEK 4 (Feb 14): Risk, Return and the Capital Asset Pricing Model September 27, 2022/4:55 PM

In this Lesson you will learn how to evaluate both risk and return to determine a Corporation's cost of equity. The live session will include a discussion of the Capital Asset Pricing Model through continued analysis of the American Greetings case and the Marriott Corp. case. We will also discuss the wide dispersion of approaches regarding Applying the Capital Asset Pricing

Model which is the subject of one of your Case Packet readings. There will also be a setup of your first written case assignment – Nike Corporation.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 4 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Risk and Return & The Capital Asset Pricing Model

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 6

Read in Case Packet: Marriott Corp. and Applying the Capital Asset Pricing Model (Abridged) and Eaton Corporation: Portfolio Transformation and The Cost of Capital (Abridged)

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 4 Live Session

Online Text Quiz ConceptClip – Expected Rate of Return

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 4 Live Session

Are the four components of Marriott's financial strategy consistent with its growth objective? Why or why not? (Related to Marriott Corp. case in Case Packet) or should Eaton sell its hydraulics division? Why or why not? (Related to Eaton Corporation case in Case Packet)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 4 Live Session but Before Week 5 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 6 Problems 6-2, 6-3, 6-6, 6-7, 6-8

Nike One Page Double Spaced Memorandum answering the following question: Based on your review of Joanna Cohen's memorandum in Exhibit 5 of the Nike, Inc. Cost of Capital Case indicate whether or not you agree with the methodology used by Joanna in her calculation of cost of debt as a component of the Weighted Average Cost of Capital. If you believe the calculation should be challenged state the theoretical reason(s) for the challenge and offer a new calculation for the cost of debt (calculations can be on a separate page if necessary).

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 5 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 6 Practice Problems

WEEK 5 (Feb 21): Valuation of Stocks and the Cost of Capital

In this Lesson you will learn how to calculate a Corporation's Cost of Capital and determine the intrinsic value of a firm. The live session will include a discussion of the calculation of Cost of Capital through continued analysis of the American Greetings and Marriott Corp. cases and discussion of the Nike, Inc. case.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 5 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lectures on The Cost of Capital

Read in Online Textbook: Chapters 7 and 9

Read in Case Packet: Nike, Inc. Case

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 5 Live Session

n/a

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 5 Live Session

n/a

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 5 Live Session but Before Week 6 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 7 – Problems 7-8, 7-9, 7-10, 7-14, 7-15; Chapter 9 – Problems 9-8 and 9-10

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 5 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapters 7 and 9 Practice Problems

WEEK 6 (Feb 28): Capital Structure Decisions

In this Lesson you will learn how to determine the optimal mix of debt and equity a Corporation should use relative to optimizing its valuation. The live session will include a wrap-up of American Greetings where all aspects of Corporate Valuation will come together. We will also discuss the theory of capital structure through the lens of the Hospital Corporation of America Case and have a discussion/calculation sessions on analyzing Value of Operations.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 6 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lectures on Capital Structure Decisions

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 15

Read in Case Packet: Hospital Corp. of America

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 6 Live Session

Online Text Quiz: ConceptClip - Capital Structure

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 6 Live Session

Which of the several financing alternatives would you recommend and why? (No quantitative analysis required)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 6 Live Session but Before Week 7 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 15 – Problem 15-8 (a, b and c)

Submit a topic in one paragraph double spaced that you have chosen for your Policy Paper. The submission should include a couple of sentences regarding the Policy (and note the related country). Some topic suggestions include, but are not limited to: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Flexibility Act, Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017, The Troubled Asset Relief Program of 2008 (TARP), The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Budget Control Act of 2011, Affordable Care Act, Tax Reform Act of 1986, United States-Canada-Mexico Act (USMCA), North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA)

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 6 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 15 Practice Problems

WEEK 7 (Mar 7): Midterm Review

In this Lesson you will learn how to synthesize the concepts of Valuation and Capital Structure to master a mid-term assessment. The live session will include a review of concepts in preparation of your midterm including the Financial Environment, Financial Statements, Cash Flow and Taxes, Time Value of Money, Bonds, Bond Valuation, and Interest Rates, Risk, Return, and the Capital Asset Pricing Model, Valuation of Stocks and the Cost of Capital and Capital Structure Decisions.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 7 Live Session

Watch Video: n/a

Read in Online Textbook: n/a

Read in Case Packet: n/a

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 7 Live Session

Online Text Flash Cards from Chapters assigned to date

Practice Test (NYU Brightspace)

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 7 Live Session

n/a

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 7 Live Session but Before Week 8 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

The time period to complete the Midterm Exam will be announced.

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 7 Live Session (no submission)

n/a

WEEK 8 (Mar 21): The Basics of Capital Budgeting: Evaluating Cash Flows

In this Lesson you will learn Capital Budgeting techniques Corporations can adopt to assure value optimization. The live session will include a review of your midterm, an epilogue on American Greetings and a discussion of Capital Budgeting in the context of the approach adopted by the retailer Target.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 8 Live Session

Watch Video: The Basics of Capital Budgeting: Evaluating Cash Flows

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 10

Read in Case Packet: Target Corporation

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 8 Live Session

Online Text Quiz: ConceptClip - Capital Budgeting

Online Text Quiz: ConceptClip - Mutually Exclusive v Independent Projects

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 8 Live Session

What is your critique (positive or negative) of Target's capital-budgeting system?

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 8 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 10 Practice Problems

WEEK 9 (Mar 28): Cash Flow Estimation and Risk Analysis; The Social Enterprise Context

In this Lesson you will learn cash flow forecasting techniques and their application to both mature corporations and earlier stage social enterprises. The live session will include a discussion of the Female Health Company case and cash flow estimation through the lens of a Social Enterprise. We will also conclude Capital Budgeting with a mini-case.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 9 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Cash Flow Estimation and Risk Analysis

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 11

Read in Case Packet: Female Health Company

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 9 Live Session

Online Text Quiz: ConceptClip - Project Stand-Alone Risk

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 9 Live Session

What do you think the company should do, moving forward, to increase shareholder value?

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 9 Live Session but Before Week 10 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 11- Problems 11 -7 and 11-9

Policy Paper: Identify a government policy enacted over the last decade or under consideration that has had (or will have) an impact on corporate finance in the country of your choice. The policy can be either US or non-US related. In selecting a relevant policy, you may want to consider, in particular, four factors beyond management control that influence cost of capital: Interest Rates, Credit Crisis, Market Risk Premiums, Tax Rates. Your paper should be no more than 5 pages (double space preferred) in length, and cover the following. a) Executive Summary, b) Description of the Policy enacted or under consideration, c) History of Policy's adoption including economic circumstances leading to its consideration, d) specific ways in which the policy's enactment has or could impact corporate finance (e.g., Security Market Line and Capital Asset Pricing Model, Yield Curve, Weighted Average Cost of Capital calculations, capital structure decisions, etc.).

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 9 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 11 Practice Problems

WEEK 10 (Apr 4): Corporate Valuation and Financial Planning; The Social Enterprise Context (cont.)

In this Lesson you will learn cash flow forecasting techniques and their application to both mature corporations and earlier stage social enterprises. The live session will include a discussion of the Female Health Company case and cash flow estimation through the lens of a Social Enterprise. We will also conclude Capital Budgeting with a mini-case.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 10 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Corporate Valuation and Financial Planning; Honest Tea Videos

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 12

Read in Case Packet: Honest Tea

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 10 Live Session

n/a

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 10 Live Session

Do you consider Honest Tea to be a social enterprise? Why or Why not? What do they need to do to be successful in the future?

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 10 Live Session but Before Week 11 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 12 - Problems 12-1 and 12-6

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 10 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 12 Practice Problems

WEEK 11 (Apr 11): Agency Conflicts and Corporate Governance

In this Lesson you will learn the drivers of Agency theory relative to good Corporate Governance and the Public Policy impact on these practices. The live session will include a discussion of Corporate Governance policy and practice through discussion of the Sarbanes-Oxley policy case and the Barnes and Noble proxy case.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 11 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Agency Conflicts and Corporate Governance; Sarbanes-Oxley Video; Dodd-Frank Video

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 13

Read in Case Packet: Sarbanes-Oxley; Barnes & Noble cases

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 11 Live Session

n/a

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 11 Live Session

Why is it important to have independent directors? (Consider both the Sarbanes-Oxley and Barnes & Noble cases in your response)

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 11 Live Session but Before Week 12 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 13 - Questions 13-1 through 13-5

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 11 Live Session (no submission)

n/a

WEEK 12 (Apr 18): Distributions to Shareholders; Dividends and Repurchases

In this Lesson you will learn how to establish cash distribution plans including dividends and stock repurchases and Public Policy implications on such practices. The live session will include a discussion of dividend and repurchase policy through discussion of the Apple case and a mini-case on the differences in financial impact of Dividend payments and Stock Repurchases. This class will also set up the written case assignment for the Tokyo Disneyland case.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 12 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Distributions to Shareholders; Dividends and Repurchases

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 14

Read in Case Packet: Financial Policy at Apple, 2013 (A)

Read in NYU Brightspace: Press Articles on Stock Repurchases

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 12 Live Session

n/a

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 12 Live Session

What specific attributes of Apple's operational performance help explain its excellent stock performance?

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 12 Live Session but Before Week 13 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

Chapter 14 - Problems 14-3 and 14-4

Tokyo Disneyland Case Write-Up - After reading the case, answer How is Agency Theory in Japan different from western standards? Do you believe one is preferential over the other and why? (one page, double spaced typed)

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 12 Live Session (no submission)

Online Text Chapter 14 Practice Problems

Slides for Voluntary Policy Paper Presentation using VoiceThread (see instructions in Brightspace)

WEEK 13 (Apr 25): Corporate Finance in a Global Context

In this Lesson you will learn how to apply corporate finance theory and global public policy in a multinational corporate context. The live session will include a discussion of global considerations in Corporate Finance with a discussion of the Tokyo Disneyland case. We will also begin the voluntary Policy Paper presentations during this session.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 13 Live Session

Watch Video: Professor Lecture on Corporate Finance and the Global Context

Read in Online Textbook: Chapter 17

Read in Case Packet: Corporate Finance and the Global Context

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 13 Live Session

Online Text Quiz: ConceptClip - Exchange Rate Risk

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 13 Live Session

n/a

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 13 Live Session but Before Week 14 Live Session (submit on NYU Brightspace)

n/a

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 13 Live Session (no submission)

n/a

WEEK 14 (May 2): Final Exam

In this Lesson you will synthesize your understanding of Valuation, Capital Structure, Capital Budgeting and Corporate Governance to master a final exam on these topics.

Required Reading/Watching: Complete Before Week 14 Live Session

Watch Video: n/a

Read in Online Textbook: n/a

Read in Case Packet: n/a

Read in NYU Brightspace: n/a

Required Activities: Complete Before Week 14 Live Session

Online Text Flash Cards from all Chapters assigned to date

Practice Test (NYU Brightspace)

Discussion Questions: Due Before Week 14 Live Session

n/a

Assignments to Submit: Complete After Week 14 Live Session

n/a

Optional Activities: Complete Before or After Week 14 Live Session (no submission)

n/a

NYU Brightspace

All announcements, resources, and assignments will be delivered through the NYU Brightspace site. I may modify assignments, readings, due dates, and other aspects of the course as we go through the term with advance notice provided as soon as possible through the course website.

Technology Support

Students have 24/7 support to NYU's IT services. Explore the [NYU servicelink knowledgebase](#) for troubleshooting and student guides for all NYU-supported tools (like NYU Brightspace, Zoom, etc). Contact askIT@nyu.edu or 1-212-998-3333 (24/7) for technology assistance, or you may contact [Zoom's 24/7 technical support](#) (this includes a chat function), or Review [Zoom's support resources](#).

Don't forget, your peers are another source of support. You could ask a friend or classmate for help or tips.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a vital component of Wagner and NYU. All students enrolled in this class are required to read and abide by [Wagner's Academic Code](#). All Wagner students have already read and signed the [Wagner Academic Oath](#). Plagiarism of any form will not be tolerated and students in this class are expected to report violations to me. If any student in this class is unsure about what is expected of you and how to abide by the academic code, you should consult with me.

Henry and Lucy Moses Center for Student Accessibility

Academic accommodations are available for students with disabilities. Please visit the [Moses Center for Student Accessibility website](#) and click the "Get Started" button. You can also call or email (212-998-4980 or mosescsa@nyu.edu) for information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are strongly advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance.

NYU's Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays

[NYU's Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#) states that members of any religious group may, without penalty, absent themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Please notify me in advance of religious holidays that might coincide with exams to schedule mutually acceptable alternatives.

NYU's Wellness Exchange

[NYU's Wellness Exchange](#) has extensive student health and mental health resources. A private hotline (212-443-9999) is available 24/7 that connects students with a professional who can help them address day-to-day challenges as well as other health-related concerns.

Student Resources

Wagner offers many [quantitative](#) and [writing](#) resources as well as [skills workshops](#). The library offers a variety of [data services](#) to students.

Class Policies

I will generally answer emails within 48 hours of receipt. Please feel free to text me if I fail to respond timely to an email or there is an emergency.

Note Wagner's [incomplete policy](#) and [course withdrawal policy](#).