

BUS 147 – Introduction to Finance

I. BUS 147 – Introduction to Finance – 3 Semester Hours

II. Course Description

This course is a survey of monetary and credit systems. Topics include the role of the Federal Reserve System, sources of capital including forms of long-term corporate financing and consumer credit in the financial structure of our economy.

III. Prerequisite

None

IV. Textbook

Textbook: Finance: Introduction to Institutions, Investments & Management. Current Edition
Publisher: Southwestern
Authors: Melicher/Norton

V. Course Objectives

1. The student will understand the financial system in the United States.
2. The student will understand business demand for funds both short-term and long-term.
3. The student will understand financing by the consumer.
4. The student will understand financing by the government.
5. The student will understand monetary, fiscal, and debt management policies.

VI. Course Outline of Topics

1. The student will define/explain the following:
 - a) money supply
 - b) monetary standards
 - c) expansion/contractions of money supply
 - d) savings/investment process
2. The student will outline the history and laws dealing with commercial banking.
3. The student will outline and define the Federal Reserve System.
4. The student will understand business demand for funds both short-term and long-term.
 - a) list and define sources of short-term funds.
 - b) explain policies affecting short-term loans.
 - c) list and define sources of long-term funds.
 - d) explain policies affecting long-term funds.
5. The student will understand financing by the consumer.
 - a) list reasons for consumer loan.
 - b) list/define sources of consumer loans.
 - c) explain sources and uses of real estate loans.
 - d) understand financing by the government.
6. The student will explain the role of government as it pertains to state, local, and federal needs for money.
7. The student will contrast the budgetary restrictions between federal, state, and local funds.
8. The student will discuss the IMF and its relationship to International finance.
9. The student will understand monetary, fiscal, and debt management policies.
 - a) define/explain the Federal Reserve monetary and credit control policy.
 - b) explain the role of interest rates on monetary policy.
 - c) trace the historical role of government on monetary and fiscal policy.
 - d) discuss in detail international trade and balance of payments.

VII. Evaluation and Assessment

Evaluation and assessment will be determined by the instructor and specified on the instructor's class syllabus. Grades will be based upon following scale: A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VIII. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

IX. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

The College and the Alabama State Board of Education are committed to providing both employment and educational environments free of harassment or discrimination related to an individual's race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Such harassment is a violation of State Board of Education policy. Any practice or behavior that constitutes harassment or discrimination will not be tolerated.

X. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College. The ADA Accommodations Office is in FSC 305 (205-856-7731).