

**Finance**  
**Course Number: 33:390:450**  
**Course Title: Financial Analysis, Planning, and Forecasting**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course presents an overview of short-term and long-term financial analysis, planning, and forecasting. Regression analysis, linear programming, and other computer techniques are developed and illustrated in alternative financial planning and forecasting analyses.

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## **COURSE MATERIALS**

- Textbooks
  - (1) *Financial Analysis, Planning, and Forecasting*, 3rd Edition, by C.F. Lee and J.C. Lee, World Scientific, 2016.
  - (2) *Introductory Econometrics (A Modern Approach)*, 6th or 7th ed., by J.M. Wooldridge, Cengage Learning, 2019.
  - (3) *Financial Modeling*, 4th Edition, Simon Benninga, MIT Press, 2014.
- Software: Microsoft Excel and R are the minimum software requirements for this course.

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## **PREREQUISITES**

Introduction to financial management, Statistical methods in business, Computer applications for business, Introduction to microeconomics, Principles of Accounting, Calculus I.

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## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

*I do NOT tolerate cheating.* Students are responsible for understanding the RU Academic Integrity Policy (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>)

I will strongly enforce this Policy and pursue *all* violations. On all examinations and assignments, students must sign the RU Honor Pledge, which states, “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this examination or assignment.” I will screen all written assignments through *SafeAssign* or *Turnitin*, plagiarism detection services that compare the work against a large database of past work. Don’t let cheating destroy your hard-earned opportunity to learn. See [business.rutgers.edu/ai](http://business.rutgers.edu/ai) for more details.

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## ATTENDANCE POLICY

The University is committed to a culture of academic engagement between students and faculty. Part of this commitment involves taking responsibility for attending your classes, workshops and exams, and informing your instructors when you cannot attend.

If you are absent from a class for any reason, please **email the instructor**.

All students are expected to bring a positive attitude to the classroom, and to respect the learning environment.

**Please notice that office hour time is reserved for students who have attended class; it is not for giving private classes to students who did not attend at the scheduled time, however good their reasons.**

I understand that you might have to miss a class or two during the semester. In this case, you are encouraged to obtain class notes from your peers, read the textbook and come to office hours to clarify any topics you have difficulty with. **If you miss three or more classes, the instructor reserves a right to lower your course grade by one letter grade. Not being on webcam/having a nonworking microphone counts as an absence that day.**

**Late arrivals and departures are considered as a missed class.**

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## PARTICIPATION AND STUDENTS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

**You are expected to actively participate in the course.**

The most active participants in class and Webex chat room (those who ask relevant (non-administrative) questions and provide good answers) will get a bonus at the end of the course.

Students should let me know if the course is going too fast or too slow. Students should read the assigned portions of the notes and the textbook, do assigned homework following the homework requirements, and let me know if they find the homework too easy or too difficult.

**All students are strongly encouraged to come to office hours.** This is an opportunity to review difficult material with me, discuss specific homework problems, or to delve more deeply into material that we don't have time to cover.

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## ACTIVE CLASS PARTICIPATION

Active class participation includes 1) answering questions posed by the instructor in class, 2) asking related (non administrative) questions in class, 3) correcting any possible mistakes you find in class notes, the instructor and other students' statements, etc. Asking and answering questions can be done via Chat on Webex. If a student is absent (which includes not being on webcam and/or not having a working microphone), the participation for that day will automatically be graded as 0.

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## TIME COMMITMENT

This is a challenging course. Mastering the material of this course requires time. Successful students in the past reported that they've consistently spent at least 7 hours per week to review the material and solve problems, and more than that before major exams.

| ... There have been many studies of elite performers - concert violinists, chess grand masters, professional ice-skaters, mathematicians, and so forth - and the difference researchers find between them and lesser performers is the amount of deliberate practice accumulated. Indeed, the most important talent may be || the talent for practice itself || Gawande A., "The Learning Curve", The New Yorker, || January 28, 2002, p.52-61.

If you are just looking to fill a slot in your schedule or looking for a "light elective", you should not be taking this course.

**I want you to do well in this class. Your approach should be learning concepts thoroughly and practicing with a variety of problems. You are warmly invited to ask questions in class and during office hours. Feel free to let me know if you have any problems with the class and express your concerns during the semester. Your feedback is always welcome!**

**CAUTION:** The information in this syllabus is subject to change, as announced in class or via email/Canvas. No major changes are anticipated, but you are expected to attend class and check email regularly.

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## HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Homework sets will be given as a group task once a week starting from the second week of the course. The groups will be set up by the instructor. Homework solutions should be done according to the posted requirements and uploaded by one group member to Canvas.

You are strongly encouraged to discuss class material with me or with other students. Please come to office hours whenever you have questions about the material! **You are not allowed to collaborate with other groups on homework sets that are graded. Any similarities in the solutions will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity as a potential cheating case.**

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## GRADING SCHEME

There are following graded items in this course with the corresponding weight distribution:

- Active class participation ..... 5%
- Homework sets.....50%
- Final Project.....45%.

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## FINAL PROJECT

The final project will be done in groups and will be assigned two weeks before the start of the finals week. The groups will be set up by the instructor.

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## GRADING POLICIES

There are no opportunities for extra credit except the ones provided in class.

Weighted average of graded items	Corresponding grade
[90, + ∞)	A
[80, 90)	B+
[70, 80)	B
[60, 70)	C+
[50, 60)	C
[40, 50)	D
[0, 40)	F

- All (partial) scores received throughout the course will be added to the *Gradebook* on Canvas.

- Your partial scores/final grades are not subject to negotiation. If you feel I have made an error, submit your written argument to me within one week of receiving your grade/score. Clarify the precise error I made and provide all supporting documentation. If I have made an error, I will gladly correct it. But I will adjust grades only if I have made an error.
- None of the scores will be rounded.

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## SUPPORT SERVICES

If you need accommodation for a *disability*, obtain a Letter of Accommodation from the Office of Disability Services. The Office of Disability Services at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, provides student-centered and student-inclusive programming in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1998, and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination. More information can be found at [ods.rutgers.edu](http://ods.rutgers.edu).

[Rutgers University-New Brunswick ODS phone (848)445-6800 or email [dsoffice@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:dsoffice@echo.rutgers.edu)]

[Rutgers University-Newark ODS phone (973)353-5375 or email [ods@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:ods@newark.rutgers.edu)]

If you are *pregnant*, the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy.

[Rutgers University-New Brunswick Title IX Coordinator phone (848)932-8200 or email [jackie.moran@rutgers.edu](mailto:jackie.moran@rutgers.edu)]

[Rutgers University-Newark Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance phone (973)353-1906 or email [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu)]

If you seek *religious accommodations*, the Office of the Dean of Students is available to verify absences for religious observance, as needed.

[Rutgers University-New Brunswick Dean of Students phone (848)932-2300 or email [deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu)]

[Rutgers University-Newark Dean of Students phone (973)353-5063 or email [DeanofStudents@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:DeanofStudents@newark.rutgers.edu)]

If you have experienced any form of *gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment*, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides help and support. More information can be found at <http://vpva.rutgers.edu/>.

[Rutgers University-New Brunswick incident report link: <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/concern/>. You may contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance at (848)932-1181]

[Rutgers University-Newark incident report link: [https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?RutgersUniv&layout\\_id=7](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?RutgersUniv&layout_id=7) . You may also contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973)353-1906 or email at [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu). If you wish to speak with a staff member who is confidential and does **not** have a reporting responsibility, you may contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance at (973)353-1918 or email [run.vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run.vpva@rutgers.edu)]

If students who have experienced a temporary condition or injury that is adversely affecting their ability to fully participate, you should submit a request via <https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu> .

If you are a military **veteran** or are on active military duty, you can obtain support through the Office of Veteran and Military Programs and Services. <http://veterans.rutgers.edu/>

If you are in need of **mental health** services, please use our readily available services.

[Rutgers University-Newark Counseling Center: <http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/>]

[Rutgers Counseling and Psychological Services–New Brunswick: <http://rhscaps.rutgers.edu/>]

If you are in need of **physical health** services, please use our readily available services.

[Rutgers Health Services – Newark: <http://health.newark.rutgers.edu/>]

[Rutgers Health Services – New Brunswick: <http://health.rutgers.edu/>]

If you are in need of **legal** services, please use our readily available services: <http://rusls.rutgers.edu/>

Students experiencing difficulty in courses due to **English as a second language (ESL)** should contact the Program in American Language Studies for supports.

[Rutgers–Newark: [PALS@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:PALS@newark.rutgers.edu)]

[Rutgers–New Brunswick: [eslpals@english.rutgers.edu](mailto:eslpals@english.rutgers.edu)]

If you are in need of additional *academic assistance*, please use our readily available services.

[Rutgers University-Newark Learning Center: <http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/rlc>

[Rutgers University-Newark Writing Center: <http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter>]

[Rutgers University-New Brunswick Learning Center: <https://rlc.rutgers.edu/>]

[Optional items that many faculty include:

- Students must sign, date, and return a statement declaring that they understand the RU Academic Integrity Policy.

- Students must sign, date, and return a statement declaring that they understand this syllabus.]