

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Business
FINC 625
Entrepreneurship Finance
3 Credit Hours
8 weeks
Prerequisite: None

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Course Description (Catalog)

This course is designed to provide the student with the ability to analyze the various processes and sources of seed and venture capital for funding a new enterprise – debt and equity. Planning for the funding aspect of a new venture is critical and this course will address the alternative sources of funds for carrying out the mission of the venture.

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Course Scope

The primary goal of the Entrepreneurship Finance course is to help students achieve a better understanding about venture capitalism and funding sources.

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Learning Objectives

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- LO-1.** Synthesize the manner in which new business ventures are planned and organized.
- LO-2.** Argue the potential challenges faced by entrepreneurial initiatives.
- LO-3.** Assess the necessary steps for measuring new business venture performance.
- LO-4.** Evaluate the role of metrics for entrepreneurship-based initiatives.
- LO-5.** Justify the importance of developing a well-planned and written business plan.
- LO-6.** Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of key components within business plans.
- LO-7.** Judge whether proactive management control systems can truly impact the likelihood for new business venture success.
- LO-8.** Synthesize the risks involved with capital research and valuation.
- LO-9.** Argue the benefits gained from receiving capital investments and positive valuations.
- LO-10.** Assess how securities considerations can impact entrepreneurial initiatives.
- LO-11.** Evaluate the key concepts involved with the planning and management of securities.

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Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course resources and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due each week as noted and include forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum), examinations, and individual assignments submitted for review by the Faculty Member. Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Resources

1. Journal Articles

Harms, R., Kraus, S., & Reschke, C. (2007). Configurations of new ventures in entrepreneurship research: Contributions and research gaps. *Management Research News*, 30(9), pp. 661 – 664.

Fung, H., Xu, X., & Zhang, Q. (2007). On the financial performance of private enterprises in China. *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship*, 12(4), pp. 399 – 415.

Ottenheimer, J. (1999). How are we doing: Measuring performance one process at a time. *Journal of Accountancy*, 187(2), pp. 35 – 39.

Mainprize, B., & Hindle, K. (2007). The benefit: A well-written entrepreneurial business plan is to an entrepreneur what a midwife is to an expecting mother. *The Journal of Private Equity*, 11(1), pp. 40 – 54.

Fiet, J., & Patel, P. (2006). Evaluating the wealth-creating potential of business plans. *The Journal of Private Equity*, 10(1), pp. 18 – 34.

Davila, A., & Foster, G. (2007). Management control systems in early stage start-up companies. *The Accounting Review*, 82(4), pp. 907 – 938.

Mitchell, P. (2008). U.S. credit crunch impacts biotech across the globe. *Nature Biotechnology*, 26(4), pp. 359 – 362.

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DeCleyne, S., & Braet, J. (2007). The due diligence process: Guiding principles for early stage innovative products and venture capital investments. *The Journal of Private Equity*, 10(3), pp. 43 – 53.

Holmes, J. (1997). Joint securities industry committee releases interim report on conflicts of interest in emerging company markets. *Financial Regulation Report*, May, pp. 20 – 25.

Rock, E. (2002). Coming to America: Venture capital, corporate identity, and U.S. securities law. SSRN Working Paper Series, May, pp. 1 – 28.

2. Comprehensive Lecture Notes
3. PowerPoint Presentations of Chapters
4. Online Research Library

Websites

Site Name	Website URL/Address
American Psychological Association (APA)	http://www.apastyle.org/
Purdue Online Writing Lab	http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
Turnitin	http://www.turnitin.com

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Evaluation Procedures

The grade scale for each of the evaluation procedures is below:

Component	Points	Percentage
Discussion Board Assignments	100 points each	24%
Midterm Exam (Week 4)	100 points	16%
Five Weekly Assignments (Weeks 1,2,3,6,7)	100 points each	15%
Research Paper (by Week 5)	100 points	20%
Final Examination	100 points	25%

Forums

Please join the forums during weekly sessions. Students must post a main response to the weekly discussion question by Day 3, and at ***least two replies to other students by Day 7***. Active participation is required by replying to classmates during the week of discussion. Therefore, replies after the end of the each week ***will not*** be graded. The forums are for student interaction and submitting input after the end of the week serves no learning objectives and does not constitute as participation. **Students should demonstrate their own knowledge in the forums and avoid copying and pasting from web sites.** Responses will be graded directly from the Forums.

Your grade earned on the discussion boards will be based on the following Discussion Board Criteria:

Forums Guidelines Criteria	Requirements
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Quality Guidelines (50%):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All discussion questions are answered completely. • Responses are original in content with a minimum of one external reference. • All posts demonstrated analysis of the topic. • Responses to classmates are significant and advanced the discussion.
Participation Guidelines (30%):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main response is posted by Day 3. • Main response is no less than 250-300 words. • Reply to at least two of their classmates by Day 7. • Responses to classmates are at least 100-150 words.
Clarity, Organization & Professionalism Guidelines (20%):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses were organized and logical. • No spelling or grammatical errors. • References were used and cited properly. • Appropriate language, respect and consideration toward peers/instructor.

Writing Assignments

The writing assignments will demonstrate writing across the curriculum responding to the selected topic. Please name your assignment file as 'lastnamefirstinitial-FINC625-Wk#"', and submit **by midnight, Day 7**.

You are required to have your writing assignment reviewed by Turnitin before you submit it to the professor. Please review the Turnitin section at the end of the Syllabus. Additional setup and use instructions are available in Resources.

Your assignment will be evaluated according to the following Writing Assignment Grading Criteria:

Guidelines	Writing Assignment Grading Criteria
Content (60%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response demonstrate a clear understanding of the key elements of assignment questions. • Responses thoroughly cover the elements in a substantive manner. • Response demonstrates critical thinking and analysis. • Content is complete and accurate. • Introduction and conclusion provides adequate information on the given topic.
Organization (20%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper structure is clear and easy to follow. • Ideas flow in a logical sequence. • Introduction provides a sound introduction to the topic and previews major points. • Paragraph transitions are logical and support the flow of thought throughout the paper. • The conclusion thoroughly reviews the major points.
Writing Style, Grammar, APA Format (20%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences are well constructed, complete, clear, and concise. • Words used are specific and unambiguous. • The tone is appropriate to the content and assignment. • Grammar, spelling and punctuation are correct. • APA guidelines (6th edition) are followed, such as headers, citations, references, etc.

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- Effective use of aids, such as sections, summaries, table of contents, indices, and appendices (if appropriate)

Mid-term Exam and Final Exam

Both exams are located under the exam tab. The mid-term exam must be completed by the end of week four and the exam must be submitted by Day 7, Week 8 by 11:59 p.m. EST.

Submission of assignments and grading

Be sure to turn in assignments and exams as scheduled. Assignments will be graded within five days after the end of the week, according to APUS policy. If your assignment is submitted after the weekly grading, it will be graded during the next grading period for our class. It is preferred that students refers to the 8-Week Course Outline for a weekly schedule of assignments and their due date. **Assignments submitted three days after their due date will be assessed a 10% late penalty.**

Refer to the Student Handbook for policies relevant to academic honesty and other procedures and policies related to this course. Refer to Online Resource Center for any research assistance. Plagiarized papers or incidents of academic dishonesty will receive an F.

APUS Grading System

Grade	Quality Points/ Grading Percent
A	4.0/ 100 - 94
A-	3.67/ 93 - 90
B+	3.33/ 89 - 87
B	3.0/ 86 - 84
B-	2.67/ 83 - 80
C+	2.33/ 79 - 77
C	2.0/ 76 - 73
C-	1.67/ 72 - 70
D+	1.33/ 69 - 67
D	1.0/ 66 - 64
D-	.67/ 63 - 60
F	0.0/ 59 - 0

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8-Week Course Outline

Week	Topic(s)	Learning Objective(s)	Reading(s)	Assignment(s)
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1	The Fundamentals	LO 1. Synthesize the manner in which new business ventures are planned and organized. LO 2. Argue the potential challenges faced by entrepreneurial initiatives.	Harms, Entrepreneurship research	Assignment 1 Introduction Forum Post Research Paper Topic
2	Measuring Performance	LO 3. Assess the necessary steps for measuring new business venture performance. LO 4. Evaluate the role of metrics for entrepreneurship-based initiatives.	Fung, Financial performance Ottenheimer, Measuring performance	Assignment 2 Forum Post
3	Business Plans	LO 5. Justify the importance of developing a well-planned and written business plan. LO 6. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of key components within business plans.	Mainprize, The benefit Fiet, Evaluating potential	Assignment 3 Forum Post
4	Midterm Exam	LO 1. Synthesize the manner in which new business ventures are planned and organized. LO 2. Argue the potential challenges faced by entrepreneurial initiatives. LO 3. Assess the necessary steps for measuring new business venture performance. LO 4. Evaluate the role of metrics for entrepreneurship-based initiatives. LO 5. Justify the importance of developing a well-planned and written business plan. LO 6. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of key components within business plans.	Harms, Entrepreneurship research Fung, Financial performance Ottenheimer, Measuring performance Mainprize, The benefit Fiet, Evaluating potential	Midterm Exam
5	Management Control Systems	LO 1. Synthesize the manner in which new business ventures are planned and organized. LO 2. Argue the potential challenges faced by	Davila, Management control APUS Library: Additional readings based on	Research Paper

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		<p>entrepreneurial initiatives.</p> <p>LO 3. Assess the necessary steps for measuring new business venture performance.</p> <p>LO 4. Evaluate the role of metrics for entrepreneurship-based initiatives.</p> <p>LO 5. Justify the importance of developing a well-planned and written business plan.</p> <p>LO 6. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of key components within business plans.</p> <p>LO 7. Judge whether proactive management control systems can truly impact the likelihood for new business venture success.</p>	research for one's paper	
6	Capital Valuation	<p>LO 8. Synthesize the risks involved with capital research and valuation.</p> <p>LO 9. Argue the benefits gained from receiving capital investments and positive valuations.</p>	<p>Mitchell, U.S. credit crunch</p> <p>DeCleyn, Due diligence</p>	Assignment 4 Forum Post
7	Security Considerations	<p>LO 10. Assess how securities considerations can impact entrepreneurial initiatives.</p> <p>LO 11. Evaluate the key concepts involved with the planning and management of securities.</p>	<p>Holmes, Joint securities</p> <p>Rock, Coming to America</p>	Assignment 5 Forum Post
8	Final Exam	<p>LO 1. Synthesize the manner in which new business ventures are planned and organized.</p> <p>LO 2. Argue the potential challenges faced by entrepreneurial initiatives.</p> <p>LO 3. Assess the necessary steps for measuring new business venture performance.</p> <p>LO 4. Evaluate the role of metrics for entrepreneurship-based initiatives.</p>	Review all course materials in preparation for the final examination	Final Exam

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		<p>LO 5. Justify the importance of developing a well-planned and written business plan.</p> <p>LO 6. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of key components within business plans.</p> <p>LO 7. Judge whether proactive management control systems can truly impact the likelihood for new business venture success.</p> <p>LO 8. Synthesize the risks involved with capital research and valuation.</p> <p>LO 9. Argue the benefits gained from receiving capital investments and positive valuations.</p> <p>LO 10. Assess how securities considerations can impact entrepreneurial initiatives.</p> <p>LO 11. Evaluate the key concepts involved with the planning and management of securities.</p>		
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Polices

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)

[Plagiarism Policy](#)

[Extension Process and Policy](#)

[Disability Accommodations](#)

Citation and Reference Style

Note: Students will follow the APA 6th edition as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA 6th edition.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I

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understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact your instructor before the due date to discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate - both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting - basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the fun and excitement of learning, and that does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the discussion of others.

Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and – especially - satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoicons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺, etc.

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

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Academic Services

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and are generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collections of our professors’ publications, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the Online Library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian and Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](http://tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-on-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

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The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. These are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., ACCT100) or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, let us know by emailing the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

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Turnitin.com

You are required to have your writing assignment reviewed by Turnitin before you submit it to the professor. Please review the **RESOURCES** link for Turnitin Instructions.

Turnitin.com is an excellent resource to check the content and quality of writing assignments and to avoid plagiarism. Students are required to create an account and submit all writing assignments to [Turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com). An Originality Report will be generated upon paper submission, which must be submitted with your assignment. **Writing Assignments will not be graded if the Originality Report is not submitted to the assignment drop box with the assignment.** Your instructor will provide you with a course ID and password to enroll in the class.

The Originality report does not actually recommend changes. It does point out where you may need to add a citation or quotation marks (if not already cited). Once you use it a few times, you will appreciate this tool, as it will assist you in improving quality and content, as well as avoid plagiarism. Your goal is to keep direct quotations to a minimum and to make sure that you do not just cut and paste material. Ensure that all your references are cited. **A report less than 25% similarity index is acceptable for undergraduate level work.**

Turnitin access codes

class ID: **See course Announcement for details**

password:

Selected Bibliography

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