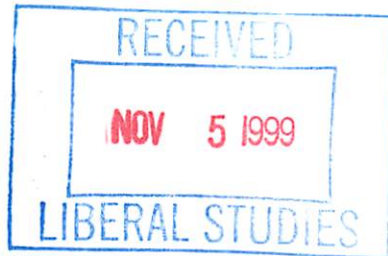


LSC Use Only
Number: _____
Submission Date: _____
Action-Date: _____



01-9c
00-12d
99-49c
UWUCC USE Only
Number: _____
Submission Date: App 4/9/02
Action-Date: Senate App 5/7/02

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

I. CONTACT

Contact Person ~~Karen Duhalta~~ Robert Boldin Phone 5767
Department Finance and Legal Studies

II. PROPOSAL TYPE (Check All Appropriate Lines)

- COURSE** Fund of Finance
Suggested 20 character title
- New Course*** _____
Course Number and Full Title
- Course Revision** FI310 - Fundamentals of Finance
Course Number and Full Title
- Liberal Studies Approval+** _____
for new or existing course Course Number and Full Title
- Course Deletion** _____
Course Number and Full Title
- Number and/or Title Change** Finance I
Old Number and/or Full Old Title
Fundamentals of Finance
New Number and/or Full New Title
- Course or Catalog Description Change** _____
Course Number and Full Title
- PROGRAM:** _____ Major _____ Minor _____ Track
- New Program*** _____
Program Name
- Program Revision*** _____
Program Name
- Program Deletion*** _____
Program Name
- Title Change** _____
Old Program Name

III. Approvals (signatures and date)

Karen Duhalta Department Curriculum Committee
Robert Boldin Department Chair
Karen Duhalta College Curriculum Committee
Sahel Cana College Dean
_____ + Director of Liberal Studies (where applicable)
_____ *Provost (where applicable)



II. Description of Curriculum Change

A. Catalog Description

1. Current Catalog Description

FIN 310	Finance I	3 class hours 0 lab hours 3 semester hours (3c-01-3sh)
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Prerequisites for business majors: ACCT 202, MATH 214

Prerequisites for non-business majors: ACCT202, MATH 214 or 217 (MATH 214 recommended)

The study of the methods of securing and managing funds on short, intermediate, and long-term bases. The financial analysis, planning, and control of a corporation. Also covered is working capital management.

2. Proposed Catalog Description

FIN 310	Fundamentals of Finance	3 class hours 0 lab hours 3 semester hours (3c-01-3sh)
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Prerequisites for business majors: ACCT 202, MATH 214

Prerequisites for non-business majors: ACCT 202, MATH 214 or 217 (MATH 214 recommended)

Study of valuation models, financial statement analysis and forecasting, capital budgeting methods, and working capital management. Also includes an introduction to risk and return, capital markets and institutions, and security valuation.

B. Summary of Proposed Changes:

1. Change course title
2. Change catalog description

C. Justification/Rationale for Change

While the course number will remain the same, the title is changed from Finance I to the more descriptive Fundamentals of Finance. It is believed that the new title and catalog description better conveys the nature of the course material and is consistent with an introductory financial management course at many other institutions.

Part III. Letters of Support

No letters of support are required.

Using EDGAR On The Internet To Teach Finance And Business Courses

Stanley D. Smith

This paper discusses EDGAR, a database of SEC-filings that can easily be accessed on the Internet for free, and its potential uses in teaching finance and business classes. An example of its use in a Principles of Finance class is given and modifications for other classes are discussed.

INTRODUCTION

Some people have characterized the Internet as the next revolution in information processing. As educators it is necessary for us to prepare our students for this future. This paper discusses EDGAR, an electronic database of filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), that can be accessed on the Internet. An example of its use in a Principles of Finance class is provided and modifications to the example to achieve other learning objectives are included. Concluding comments on the benefits of EDGAR and its usage in finance and business classes are given.

WHAT IS EDGAR?

EDGAR stands for Electronic Data Gathering and Retrieval Project, whereby publicly traded corporations electronically file many (but not all) forms to the SEC. The SEC has mandated by the end of calendar year 1995 that all publicly held companies must comply. EDGAR reports do not go back past January 1, 1994; however, some of the reports, e.g., 10K reports, will contain information on events and activities prior to 1994. Filings are available one or several business days after filing is made and the information is free. This information was found by accessing EDGAR at the following World Wide Web site at New York University: <http://edgar.stern.nyu.edu>.

To obtain the most current information about the sponsors of EDGAR and its products, one should contact the above site. Categories such as "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)" and "What is EDGAR?" are

informative. Examples of Frequently Asked Questions include, "How do I get a complete list of publicly traded companies that are filing with the SEC?" and "Do you have a table of filing type frequencies?" Other topics that are discussed in FAQ are custom retrieval tools, securities laws, other forms of access, insider activity forms, and indices.

THE PRINCIPLES OF FINANCE CLASS: AN EXAMPLE

As educators we try to develop interesting and productive learning experiences. The following discussion is based on the author's experience in the fall semester of 1995. The Term Project in Table 1 is based on that experience and represents the assignment that was made in a Principles of Finance class the following semester. This project accomplishes at least four objectives:

1. students analyze current financial information on a real company of their choice;
2. students become familiar with the ease of using the Internet;
3. students use written communication skills; and
4. students use computer skills, i.e., word processing and accessing data.

The Term Project assignment is presented in the Appendix and is self-descriptive. There are two due dates. The first due date is to provide the financial statements with an analysis of any missing information needed to calculate the financial ratios. The students had varying levels of ability in interpreting "real" statements that are not formatted exactly in the traditional framework used in most finance textbooks. The second due date is the paper completion. The assignment is designed to ease the selection of a company and information access. The paper format is designed to force the students to present only the most important information.

SunTrust Chair of Banking, College of Business Administration, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL 32816-1400

This Project can be easily modified to achieve different learning objectives. One could analyze more than one company from the same industry or different industries, e.g., banks, insurance companies, or non-financial companies such as retailing, transportation or manufacturing industries. One could assign groups to analyze one or more companies. Oral presentations could be added to the written analyses. The "business descriptions" of the 10K reports could be used to analyze a company's competitive situation.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

After the students completed their projects, I discussed the modifications that have been incorporated into the Project in Table 1 with them. Their comments indicated that they thought the most beneficial aspect was the knowledge and ability to obtain the aforementioned types of information with the ease of the Internet. They felt they had a valuable tool that they could use in a variety of situations in the future and they had an advantage over others who were not familiar with EDGAR and the Internet. If one believes that the Internet is the next revolution in information processing, then this project provides a very valuable lesson. The other three objectives noted earlier are also valuable learning experiences. As an instructor, I particularly like the flexibility to adapt this project to future Principles of Finance classes and other finance and business classes using the latest information.

APPENDIX

Term Project (Spring 1996) For FINN 3043, Financial Management Theory & Practice

Each student is required to perform a financial analysis of a publicly-traded company that is required to file a 10K (annual) report. The report must use EDGAR, a program to access a database of SEC-required filings on the Internet. Relevant items of the 10K report may be copied to a word processing file that can be used to develop the paper.

Each student must select a different company. A sign up sheet will be provided by the instructor and the students will be allowed to select companies on a first come-first serve basis. A list of 10k filers may be found at the following address: "http://edgar.stern.nyu.edu/examples/mas_10k.html".

Information on using Netscape to access addresses follows.

Copies of the income statement and balance sheet for the company and an analysis of missing information, i.e., information needed to calculate the financial

ratios, are due on _____. The instructor will meet with you individually to review any missing information. The report is due on _____ and will be based on Chapter 3, Evaluating Financial Performance, in the text. Penalties for turning in the copies of the financial information or the paper late will be (the number of school days late)², e.g., two days late would be a penalty of (2)² = 4 points. School days are defined as Monday to Friday when the University is open. The penalty will be subtracted after the paper is graded on a normal basis. Do not start your search or the paper late.

FORMAT OF THE PAPER

A Financial Analysis of Company Name/Ticker Symbol/Exchange

by Student Name

Date

- I. Chief Executive Officer and Company Address
- II. Description of business (maximum of one page)
- III. Analysis of financial ratios for last 2-3 years (maximum of two pages)
 - A. Liquidity
 - B. Efficiency
 - C. Leverage
 - D. Profitability
- IV. Important recent or potential developments related to the company (maximum of one page; see 8K (current event reports) and 10Q (quarterly reports) and news sources). Other electronic news sources in the Library include ABI/Inform (enter company, e.g., co(name) and da(year)) and Newspaper Abstracts. Some companies will have home pages that can be accessed at "<http://www.companyname.com>".
- V. Analysis of company's prospects for future (maximum of one page)

Appendix A— Financial ratios for at least the last two years

Appendix B— Stock price information—from the *Wall Street Journal* or other source, present for a recent date (give the date) the closing price, the 52-week high and low stock prices, dividend, price/earnings ratio, and dividend yield. From the *Wall Street Journal*, page C1 in the Markets Diary for the same date, present for the S&P 500 Index the close price, the 12-month high and the 12-month low. Using the highs and lows for the stock and the Index, compare the current performance of the stock with the performance of the Index.

Appendix C— Balance sheets and income statements for at least the last two years

The paper must use correct grammar and spelling, be typed and double-spaced (except financial tables), and should not have a cover or cover page. The report will

be limited to the page maximums noted above plus the appendices. Use one-inch margins and a font size of 12 for the paper. The material from EDGAR may be presented in the appendices in Courier 8 or 10 font size as copied from EDGAR. Points will be penalized for violations of the above format.

USE OF NETSCAPE TO RETRIEVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION FROM EDGAR

Netscape is an Internet browser that is available in the general access labs of the University.

Double click on Netscape icon.

Enter address:

"<http://edgar.stern.nyu.edu>" <enter>

"Get Corporate SEC Filings Using NYU" (click)

Go down page to "Company Search" (click)

Enter company name

Go down page and (click) on "Retrieve Filings"

Report forms, e.g., 10K (annual reports), 10Q (quarterly reports), and 8K (current event reports), with descriptions are listed in reverse chronological order.

(Click) on corporate name next to desired report with latest date.

You should be in desired report now.

To copy material to word processor:

Highlight material - edit - copy

ALT & TAB to program manager and open WordPerfect or Word

edit - paste material in new document

ALT & TAB back to Netscape and release TAB, then ALT

Repeat above steps with new material to add to your document

Notes: (1) To highlight parts of 10K report on a non-MAC machine, hold left click of mouse down while going down pages with space bar. Move arrow around to highlight. (2) Save material to a disk. When editing the tables in your word processor, you might try Courier 8 or 10 font. This may arrange the tables in a format that prevents wraparound.

SOUTHERN FINANCE ASSOCIATION

The Southern Finance Association (SFA) is pleased to support the *Journal of Financial Education* in its mission of advancing financial education through the publication of educational research and innovative teaching methods.

Join the SFA as it provides attractive settings for our membership meetings at unique locations that are generally "off the beaten track." We look forward to the 1996 SFA meeting planned for November 20-23 at Marriott's Casa Marina in Key West, Florida; and the 1997 meeting at the Hyatt on the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland. Discussions are continuing to hold the 1998 meeting on Marco Island, Florida. Join the SFA and plan to attend these meetings for professional development in a more relaxed environment.

For more information, please contact:

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