

**Monfort College of Business**  
**Semester Course Syllabus**

**(2009-2010)**

COURSE PREFIX/TITLE: BAFN 495—Special Topics in Finance (Current Financial Topics)Sem. Hrs. 3  
Ed. Cap. 25

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Consent of instructor. Business majors only. Juniors or above. This seminar course explores advanced topics in finance. S/U or letter graded. Repeatable, maximum of six credits.

PREREQUISITES: Consent of instructor. Business majors only. Juniors or above.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide the seminar participants with an understanding of one of the most significant news stories in the financial press which appear during the semester.
2. Students will, individually, and in small groups, select, study and analyze a major financial topic.
3. Upon successful completion of the course, seminar participants should be able to:
  - a. Identify the most important trends in finance.
  - b. Research and write a high-quality report on the major topic.
  - c. Present the results of their research to the campus on Research Day.
  - d. Work and interact well in a small group environment.

COURSE TOPICS:

Approx.  
50 Min.  
Periods

Topics Covered

Description

20

Current Events

Each class day we will discuss news events which affect the securities industry. Class members are expected to read *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, *The Financial Times* and *Business Week*.

15

Guest Lecturers

Several present or former professionals in some aspect of the financial industry may be invited to lecture to the class either in person or via loudspeaker telephone.

10

Readings

Various articles by practitioners, academics and governmental officials will be discussed in class. In addition, background readings may be assigned.

45

Total

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Grading will be based on class participation (30%), attendance (20%), preparation for class, ability to work well with others, and project quality (50%).

TYPE OF GRADING: S/U or letter graded.

SUGGESTED TEXT AND/OR SUPPLEMENTS: There are no required texts for this course. However, handouts will be given on the various subjects covered. There will be a \$50/student charge to cover the cost of copying these handouts.

ASSESSMENT STATEMENT: The Monfort College of Business may collect data in this course that will be used to assess student progress toward our program learning goals and objectives. Individual student performance information will be kept confidential; however, this data may be disseminated in an aggregate form to professional groups and through research publications. If you do not wish your performance in this class to be included in research about overall student performance (beyond the accreditation process), please inform your instructor in writing of this intent.

COMPUTER UTILIZATION: Students are encouraged to use the College's computing facilities to complete their assignments. The student computer labs in Kepner Hall provide support for word processors, spreadsheets, databases, writing-style checkers, and presentation graphics. Internet and e-mail access are available in the labs. Student consultants are on duty at the labs to assist with these applications.

LIBRARY UTILIZATION: Students are expected to discuss information contained in current financial business news, using primarily *The Wall Street Journal*, *Business Week*, the *Federal Reserve Bulletin* and other Federal Reserve publications. Students are also given research assignments requiring the use of these and other publications from the library.

GLOBAL DIMENSION COVERAGE: Students will evaluate global finance issues as they relate to the class topic.

ETHICAL DIMENSION COVERAGE: Students are encouraged to consider ethical dimensions as they complete their outside readings and assignments.

DISABILITY STATEMENT: Any student requesting disability accommodation for this class must inform the instructor giving appropriate notice. Students are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services at (970) 351-2289 to certify documentation of disability and to ensure appropriate accommodations are implemented in a timely manner.

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES:

Each student is required to review and become familiar with the following classroom technology guidelines: <http://www.mcb.unco.edu/Technology/Classroom%20Technology%20Guidelines.pdf>

Food is not allowed in classrooms. Only drinks in a container with a screw top lid are allowed.

KENNETH W. MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STATEMENT

with the highest standards of academic honesty. Cheating, plagiarism, illegitimate possession and disposition of examinations, alteration, forgery, or falsification of official records and documents, and similar acts or the attempt to engage in such acts are grounds for disciplinary action. This action can include the following in addition to any University disciplinary action:

1. A failing grade for a particular assignment.
2. A failing grade for a particular course.
3. Suspension from the College of Business Administration.
4. Expulsion from the College of Business Administration.

Students are expected to complete all prerequisites for a business class prior to the first day of class. Students may not concurrently enroll in a class and its prerequisite(s) unless it is expressly stated in the bulletin that the class is a co-requisite. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the Director of the School offering the class.

Students must submit original works for assignments required in this class. This includes term papers, cases and other course requirements. A student who submits a work that was previously submitted to another class without prior approval from the instructor is in violation of this policy. A student who violates this policy may receive a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the class, and face termination of his/her business degree program.

#### MONFORT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS STUDENT CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

Monfort College of Business students represent the professional and academic interests of the entire MCB & UNC communities. Accordingly, MCB expects all students to behave in a professional manner and adhere to high ethical standards in every business class and in every activity connected with the Monfort College of Business. This professional behavior is required not only in the classroom but also in all MCB-related interactions such as e-mails, conferences and use of technology.

MCB students should exhibit respectful behavior in classes. This behavior includes arriving on time to class, staying in class until the lecture ends, having the discipline to stay engaged in class, turning-off or silencing cell phones and pagers while in class, refraining from text-messaging, and avoiding coming to class wearing clothing that is unduly provocative or has written messages that are rude, insensitive or obscene. MCB students should engage in respectful behavior in all activities where they act directly or indirectly as a representative of the MCB. Respectful behavior creates a more desirable, civilized, and productive learning environment, and it models behavior that is both productive and pleasant when students transition from the classroom to the workplace.

MCB students should master and apply the fundamental skill of preparing and sending class or university related e-mails that are properly written, show professionalism and communicate a clear message. E-mails containing profanity, spelling mistakes, punctuation errors, or poor composition evidence sloppiness and show disrespect to the recipient. MCB students should use proper forms of address when communicating orally or in writing with faculty or staff (i.e., Dr. Smith, Professor Jones, Ms. Abbot, etc.). If a student does not know how to address a faculty member, he or she should ask.

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This code of professional conduct complements, but does not replace, the Honor Code of the Monfort College of Business or the Honor Code of the University.

Last Updated:

By:

Rolled over: September 1, 2009

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