

Syllabus

Math 362

Spring '21

Text: **Mathematics of Investment and Credit**, 6th edition by Broverman

Instructor: Jed Herman

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Office Hours: M 4:00 – 4:50, WTh 2:00-2:50, Th 12:00 – 12:50

or by appointment (all office hours are via zoom)

Class times & room: MTh 3:00 – 3:50 in Science B 338*

and T 3:00 – 3:50 virtually via zoom

* some students will be attending virtually every day

Learning Objectives

- Students will understand the mathematics of investment, including annuities, amortization and bonds
- Students will become familiar with much of the material for the actuarial Exam FM
- Students will be exposed to more advanced topics, such as forward rates of interest, duration and immunization, and investment in mutual funds, CD's, and money market funds

Calculators

A calculator will be required for this course. It might be one of the calculators that used to be allowed on the Actuarial Exam FM (the list changes periodically, you should check)

BA-35

TI-30Xa

BA II Plus*

TI-30XIIS*

BA II Plus Professional Edition*

TI-30XIIB*

TI-30XS MultiView*

TI-30XB MultiView*

* For these calculators, your computer memory must be cleared. In some cases, clearing the memory will reset the calculator to factory settings.

Calculator instructions cannot be brought into an SOA exam room. You may bring multiple approved calculators to the exam. For the course, I will not require that you use one of these calculators, but it might be helpful for exam preparation.

Academic Misconduct Policy

I expect you to complete the coursework for this course. Failure to complete an assignment will result in zero points awarded. Also see the following link:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsChap14.pdf>

Student Rights and Responsibilities

You have certain rights and responsibilities. For more information, see the following link: <http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rightsCommBillRights.pdf>

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Grading

Grading will be based on an overall percentage score, using the following scale:

90%+ A- or better	80%-89.9% B-, B or B+
70%-79.9% C-, C or C+	60%-69.9% D-, D or D+
<60% F	

I reserve the right to adjust the final percentage +/- up to about 2%, based on my assessment of your effort and/or participation in the class and course in general.

To get your overall score, you will be graded on the following:

Homework	1/6
Bi-weekly (online) quizzes	1/6
4* total exams (counting final)	<u>4/6</u>
Total	100%

Note: you cannot simply add your points together for each activity – a homework point and an exam point are not worth the same part of your grade.

Weekly Homework

Written homework assignments will be due (nearly) every week, because people learn best by *doing* rather than watching other do. Homework will generally be due on Tuesdays. You will turn it in on Canvas, either typed or handwritten (NEATLY) and scanned.

Bi-weekly Quizzes

Since this course is designed to prepare you for the FM Exam, there will be multiple choice quizzes every other week, with problems taken from past SOA exams. These tests are very challenging, but they will not be graded as aggressively as the SOA exams are graded. The exams will be on Canvas.

Extra Credit: there will be weekly Canvas discussion board topic listed for quizzes and homework. If you post a question or an answer to a question on this board, you will receive extra credit for that assignment (+1 point out of 10). Your SUBJECT LINE should include the problem number, and your MESSAGE should include a restatement (full or partial) of the problem. This way, other students will be able to read and learn from the postings.

To be eligible for the extra credit, your posting must have content – a posting such as “I agree” or “That doesn’t seem right” does not earn any extra credit on homework.

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Exams

There will be four exams and a final, marked on the schedule, below. Note that the actual dates of the exams may vary slightly. Regardless of day, all exams will be virtual – you will download the exam from Canvas, work on it, then upload your work there (all in the allotted time).

Your lowest exam score (in-class or final) will be dropped. This means one of two things:

- 1) you can bomb one test and still do fine in the class, or
- 2) if you are happy with your grade on the last day of class, you can skip the final (as a reward for consistently good work).

Attendance:

You are expected to regularly attend class. When circumstances arise to prevent you from coming to class, you should let your instructor know (email is a great way to do so). Missing exams and/or paper deadlines will only be allowed in the most dire of circumstances and WILL require ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION as to the reason for the absence.

Schedule (subject to modification):

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Chapter 1 Exam 1 on Monday, 2/15	about 3 weeks	
Chapter 2 Exam 2 on Tuesday, 3/9	about 4 weeks	<i>not 2.4.2, 2.4.3</i>
Chapter 3 3/22 – 3/26	about 1 1/2 weeks SPRING BREAK	<i>not 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.4</i>
Chapter 4 Exam 3 on Tuesday, 4/6	about 1 1/2 weeks	
Chapter 5	about 2 weeks	<i>not 5.1.4, 5.3.2</i>
Chapter 6 Exam 4 on Thursday, 4/30	about 1 week	<i>only 6.1, 6.3</i>
Chapters 7, 8 Cumulative Final on Wednesday, May 19 at 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm*	about 2 weeks	<i>not 7.3, 8.2, 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 8.4.3 – 8.4.6</i>

* time slot will be slightly larger than this to account for the virtual nature of the exam; please let me know if you have exams right before or right after this one