



**BUSFIN-3300 – 0050 (4581) online  
SYLLABUS  
Introduction to Insurance and Risk  
Spring 2026**

**Instructor:**

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Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 to 10:30 or by appointment  
Class time: Online

**Course Materials:**

**Required Text:**

**Principles of Risk Management & Insurance, 14th edition, Pearson, 2020**  
**George Rejda, Michael McNamara, and William Rabel**

Text is available through Carmen books

**Course Description:**

An introduction to insurance and insurance industry characteristics. General topics of study will include Fundamentals of risk, risk management, insurance contract analysis, and insurance company operations. The course will also include the basics of liability, legal principles, the personal auto policy, homeowner, and renter policies, flood insurance, personal umbrella insurance, annuities, and retirement plans.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

Some of the learning objective and course outcomes include the following:

- Explain and understand the historical definition of risk.
- Explain and understand the meaning of loss exposure.
- Be able to differentiate the distinct types of risk including, pure, speculative, diversifiable, non-diversifiable and systemic.
- Understand and use the principle of indemnity in hypothetical claim situations.
- Define and explain subrogation and the insurable interest.
- Know the legal requirements for a valid insurance contract.
- Discuss the basis of legal liability and the elements of negligence.
- Understand the various legal doctrines including *Res ipsa loquitur*, and 'last clear chance' rule.
- Discuss tort liability claim examples and developing insurance issues.
- Understand and discuss the various sections of the personal auto policy (PAP)

- Describe the various approaches to compensating accident victims.
- Describe methods of providing auto coverage to high-risk drivers
- Identify the eligible types of dwellings and major types of a homeowner policy.
- Discuss property coverages available in the standard homeowner policy.
- Understand the difference between open perils and named perils coverage.
- Understand the conditions in all homeowner policies.
- Discuss the personal liability coverage in Section II of the standard homeowner policy.

**Electronic Devices required:**

Laptops and calculators

**How this course works:**

This course is a 100% online course. It is encouraged that you review slide presentations in the modules and use the textbook for further clarification on the concepts being presented. I will record and post videos through Zoom. The schedule covers about one chapter each week, so it's important to stay up to date with the schedule. I will be available for a private zoom meeting or in-person office hours if needed. Please contact me to schedule a time.

**Quizzes:** The quizzes are scheduled for the end of each chapter. The purpose of these quizzes is to prepare you for the mid-term exams and to gauge your understanding of the material. The quizzes will cover the major topics of the chapter mostly from PowerPoints and items mentioned in the video recordings. The dates for the quizzes are firm but are subject to change. Any changes will be updated on the course calendar.

**Homework:** Must be submitted on or before the due date shown on the course calendar.

**Case / Essay questions:** Some of these assignments will be taken from the cases in the textbook or the application questions at the end of the chapter. When answering these questions, include a complete explanation for your answer. One-word answers will be graded as incorrect.

**Mid-Term and Final Exams:** Exams are designed to be completed without the use of any outside material, including notes, previous quizzes, or textbooks. Absence from exams will only be excused for the most serious of reasons and documented by an appropriately accredited professional (i.e., a medical doctor). If there is an issue with the date and time of the final exam (i.e., three exams in one day) please notify me in ADVANCE of the exam and I will try to accommodate you.

**Honorlock software will be required for all quizzes, exams, and assignments.**

## **Grading:**

The total number of points you earn divided by the total number of points possible (375) yields your **Total Percent Score**. This score is compared to the course grading scale (shown below) to determine your final letter grade. The University grading scale used in this course.

### **GRADING**

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY	POINTS POSSIBLE	PERCENTAGE of TOTAL
<b>Exams</b> (3 exams)	165	47%
<b>Quizzes</b> (best 10 quiz scores out of 11)	100	28%
<b>Case / Essay questions</b> (6 Topics)	60	17%
<b>Personal Risk Management assessment</b>	20	8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	350	100 %

The total number of points you earn for the semester, divided by the total number of points possible (350) yields your **Total Percent Score**. The percentage will not be rounded up (e.g. 92.27% is A-). This score is compared to the course grading scale (shown below) to determine your final letter grade. There is **no curve** used in determining final grades. If Extra Credit assignments are offered, they will be offered to the entire class, not to individual students.

<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Total Percent Score</u></b>
A	93% or better
A-	90% or better
B+	87% or better
B	83% or better
B-	80% or better
C+	77% or better
C	73% or better
C-	70% or better
D+	67% or better
D	60% or better
E	Less than 60%

The course calendar with all scheduled due dates is on the following page. There is also a copy of this calendar posted on Carmen in the Calendar /Syllabus module. I will update the module calendar with any changes.

The **Personal Risk Management Project** will be due towards the end of the semester, and the due date will be posted after the start of the semester.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic and assignment due dates</b>
<b>Week 1</b>  Jan. 12 - Jan. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course overview and expectations</li> <li>• Chapter 1 - Risk and It's treatment.</li> <li>• Chapter 2 – Insurance and Risk</li> <li>• Chapter 1 quiz – due 1/18/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b>  Jan. 19 – Jan 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal introduction essay – due 1/20/26</li> <li>• Chapter 2 – Insurance and Risk</li> <li>• Chapter 3 - Introduction to Risk Management</li> <li>• Chapter 2 quiz – due 1/25/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b>  Jan. 26 – Feb. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 5 Types of Insurers</li> <li>• Case discussion #1 – due 1/28/26</li> <li>• Chapter 3 quiz - due 1/29/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>  Feb. 2 – Feb. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 6 Insurance Company Operations</li> <li>• Chapter 5 &amp; 6 quiz - due 2/5/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b>  Feb. 9 – Feb. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 for Exam #1</li> <li>• Exam #1 – due 2/12/26</li> <li>• Personal Insurance claim experience essay – due 2/15/26</li> <li>• Begin reading Chapter 9 – Fundamental Legal Principles</li> </ul>
<b>Week 6</b>  Feb. 16 - Feb. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 9 – Fundamental Legal Principles</li> <li>• Case discussion #2 – 2/18/26</li> <li>• Chapter 9 quiz – 2/22/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b>  Feb. 23 - Mar. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 10 – Analysis of Insurance Contracts</li> <li>• Chapter 10 – due 3/1/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b>  Mar. 2 – Mar. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 11 – Life Insurance</li> <li>• Chapter 12 – Life Insurance Contract Provisions</li> <li>• Chapter 13 – Buying Life Insurance</li> <li>• Chapter 11 &amp; 12 quiz – due 3/8/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9</b>  Mar. 9 - Mar. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 14 – Annuities</li> <li>• Case discussion #3</li> <li>• Chapter 14 quiz – due 3/15/26</li> </ul>

<b>Week 10</b> Mar. 16 - Mar. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPRING BREAK – no classes</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11</b> Mar. 23 – Mar. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 for Exam #2</li> <li>• Exam #2 – due 3/27/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b> Mar. 30 – Apr. 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 19 – The Liability Risk</li> <li>• Chapter 19 quiz – due 4/2/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13</b> Apr. 6 – Apr. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 20 &amp; 21 - Auto Insurance</li> <li>• Case discussion #4 – due 4/8/26</li> <li>• Chapter 20 &amp; Chapter 21 quiz – due 4/12/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14</b> Apr. 13 – Apr. 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 22 – Homeowner – Section I</li> <li>• Chapter 23 – Homeowner - Section II</li> <li>• Chapter 22 quiz - due 4/16/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 15</b> Apr. 20 – Apr. 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-class case discussion assignment #5 – due 4/22/26</li> <li>• Chapter 23 quiz – 4/26/26</li> <li>• Review for final exam</li> <li>• Personal risk management assessment – due 4/26/26</li> </ul>
<b>Week 16</b> Apr. 27 – May 3 Final exam week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last day of the semester – 4/27/26</li> <li>• Final exam – due 4/30/26</li> </ul>

## **Course Technology:**

For help with passwords, university email, CarmenCanvas, or any other technology issue, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Usual support hours are available at [ocio.osu.edu/help/hours](http://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours), and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** [ocio.osu.edu/help](http://ocio.osu.edu/help)
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** [servicedesk@osu.edu](mailto:servicedesk@osu.edu)
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

### **Basic technical skills for online courses:**

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating CarmenCanvas (see the [Canvas Student Guide](#))

### **Required technology skills specific to the course:**

- [Getting Started with CarmenZoom](#)

**Required equipment:**

- Computer: Current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Calculator: Most students use a calculator app loaded onto their phone; apart from basic arithmetic calculations, an app should be able to handle compounding and discounting.
- Other: A mobile device (phone or tablet) or landline to use for BuckeyePass authentication

**Recommended equipment for Zoom calls:**

- Webcam: Built-in or external webcam, fully installed.
- Microphone: Built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone

**Required software:**

- [Microsoft Office 365](#): All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus through Microsoft's Student Advantage program. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found [at go.osu.edu/office365help](http://at.go.osu.edu/office365help).

**CarmenCanvas access:**

You will need to use [BuckeyePass](#) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in CarmenCanvas. To ensure you can always connect to CarmenCanvas, we recommend you take the following steps:

- Register several devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass – Adding a Device](#) help article for step-by-step instructions.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text-me-new-codes** button; you'll get ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the [Duo Mobile application](#) to all your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options satisfies your needs, contact the **IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357 (HELP)** and the IT support staff will help you with a solution.

**Policy on Late Assignment Submissions:**

Due dates for graded assignments are contained in the syllabus and posted on CarmenCanvas. If you fail to submit an assignment by the deadline, or you miss an assignment altogether, contact (email) the instructor as soon as possible with an explanation. If the explanation you provide is acceptable, you may be given an opportunity to make-up the work within a brief time following the original assignment due date, with no grading penalty (depending upon your explanation).

**Instructor Feedback and Response Expectations:**

You may contact the instructor at any time by email. You should clearly state the purpose of your email and limit the number of questions you ask in a single email message. Do not ask questions that can be answered simply by consulting the course syllabus or the course website or by contacting a classmate.

Call the **OSU Help Line (614-688-HELP)** with any CarmenCanvas questions.

With respect to turnaround time, the instructor will make every effort to grade posted written assignments and provide feedback within five calendar days of an assignment due date and

respond to student emails (sent through CarmenCanvas) within 12 hours of receipt during the week.

A Reading Assessment is graded automatically by CarmenCanvas when you submit one for grading. Scores are posted to the Course Grade Sheet page. You won't be able to determine which questions you missed; however, if you are concerned about your score, you should contact the instructor for assistance.

### **Religious accommodations:**

Religious accommodations: Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations regarding examinations and other academic requirements with respect to student's sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the Office of Institutional Equity

### **Weather or other short-term closing:**

Should in-person classes be canceled, I will notify you as to which alternative methods of teaching will be offered to ensure continuity of instruction for this class. Communication will be via [CarmenCanvas, email or other mode of communication].

### **Academic integrity:**

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the OSU Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments in fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidance established in the [University's Code of Student Conduct](#) and this syllabus may constitute [Academic Misconduct](#).

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subverts the educational process." Examples of such misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying work produced by another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so I strongly recommend you review the Code of Student Conduct and specifically, those sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, in accordance with university rules, I am required to report suspicious activity to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If the COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), sanctions for misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have questions about this policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please feel free to contact me.

### **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):**

Unless I specifically mention otherwise (and in writing), the use of any AI-generated content in any deliverables in this course will be considered academic misconduct and will be acted on as such. Writing assignments will be turned in online and I will be using Turnitin and other applications that have AI detection algorithms. You need to complete the assignments using your own brain and your own thinking...which will lead to more of your own learning!

### **Disability Services:**

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible for students. In light of the current pandemic, students seeking to request COVID-related accommodations may do so using the OSU [Request Process](#), managed by Student Life Disability Services (SLDS). If you expect or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodation, I request that you register with SLDS. After registration, please plan with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodation that may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; located at 098 Baker Hall, 113 West 12th Avenue.

## **Grievances and Solving Problems:**

According to University policy, if you have a problem with this course, you should try to resolve the grievance concerning a grade or academic practice by speaking first with the instructor. Then, if necessary, take your case to the department chairperson, associate dean for programs in the college, and to the provost, in that order. Specific procedures are outlined in Faculty Rule 3335-7-23. Grievances against graduate, research or teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

## **Disenrollment:**

Fisher College University Rule 3335-8-33 provides that a student may be disenrolled after the third instructional day of the semester, the first Friday of the semester, or the student's second class session of the course, whichever occurs first, if the student fails to participate in the course without giving prior notification to the instructor.

## **Copyright:**

© The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside the course.