

BUSFIN 3890H: Honors Finance Junior Seminar Class Seminar, Spring 2026

January 2026 – Subject to Updates and Changes

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We will meet in-person Wednesday from 2:20pm to 3:40pm in GE 285.

Course Overview

The course is designed to further your financial acumen, expand your broader business toolbox by building soft/hard skills, and prepare you for a successful internship experience. Please read through entire syllabus and review week by week details in course schedule at end of this document.

The course is highly interactive as students will need to come prepared each class to discuss and apply the material. Course will leverage industry professionals, simulations, written reflections, presentations, and in-class debates on current financial events. ***You should have high expectations of me to deliver new and practical training.*** Essentially, I want you to walk away with a toolkit that you can apply in a variety of scenarios during your internship and life. ***Conversely, my expectations for you will be high.*** The level of activity may feel intense at times, so pace yourselves and plan ahead. This will not be an “easy A”, but everyone will have the ability to score high marks if they put in the effort. Like many courses of this nature, you will get out of it the more you put into it. Time management and maintaining focus will be key enabler to your success in this course.

And lastly, let's put in the effort, but then enjoy the time we spend together. Bring passion for the topics we are learning, and that positive energy will be contagious in the classroom.

Course Material

Material will be posted on Carmen and discussed in class. This will come in the form of instructor's own material along with supplemental articles or assignments. There is no required textbook.

The course will require the purchase of two simulations from Harvard Business Publishing (\$27.50). Follow this link to purchase (use OSU email): <https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/1373703>

You must also purchase or (get from library) a copy of the Comfort Crisis. <https://a.co/d/7UqtPLj>

Wall Street Journal: Access monthly WSJ subscription for \$4 a month (cancel anytime). Here is referral link to access this price: <https://r.wsj.com/PROFwjqu>

Grading (see course schedule at end of syllabus for details and timing)

Students should notify instructor one week in advance if they will be unable to attend class. Unless there is a documented medical emergency, there are no exceptions for assignments submitted late. Time management is needed in this course (and your career); students can plan accordingly using Carmen due dates and the course schedule at end of syllabus. *Point totals listed to the right are the cut-offs for letter grades. There is no rounding or extra credit; the point totals for grade cutoffs are clear.*

- Participation**

Participation in discussions and asking questions during class will be monitored (score of 1, 2, or 3 each week). You don't have to be an extrovert to score high with participation. You can email me questions or discussion

topics, or engage in other matters. Please do be prepared for me to “cold call” on you. I don’t expect you always to have the right answers, but I expect you to be able to think and ask questions. This is simulating the business environment. Your engagement level with the course material inside and outside class will influence your grade at the end of semester.

- **Reflections/Homework Exercises**

Throughout the semester, there will be multiple chances to read material before class and respond to questions. This will then form basis of discussion in class that week, including specific days when we spend first part of class debating current events impacting the world of finance.

- **Simulation**

You will complete a “Financial Analysis Detective” Simulation in-class. Your grade will be reflective of how well you do identifying companies only looking at their financials, along with your rationale and confidence in each choices. A write-up will be required upon completion of the simulation.

- **Mentor and Intern Role-Play Day**

As we move into Spring Semester, Prof Pirim will be assigning mentors to Juniors in the Honors Finance program. During the class, 10 randomly chosen students will provide a 3 minute recap of what they learned from their mentor and advice to share with others. For the rest of students, I will put you in a character role-playing session where we walk through certain situations you will likely face this summer during your internship. I will be giving feedback “live” on the fly and could even come across as a “mean boss”. Please know this always comes from a place of building you up and not tearing you down. Giving and receiving feedback is a skill we want to practice in this class as you will need it moving into a working environment.

Semester Participation (1, 2, 3 each week)	45	Indy
Intro Assignment	10	Indy
Forage Internship Exploration	10	Indy
Simulation Results/Debrief	40	Team
Meet the Seniors: 3 Action Steps	5	Indy
3 Guest Speakers Reflection	15	Indy
Personal Finance Q&A	5	Indy
Practice Case and Biz Writing 1 page memo	25	Team
Group Presentation	30	Team
Mentor Reflection and Course Feedback	10	Indy
Total	195	

Grade	Points
A	181
A-	175
B+	169
B	162
B-	156

Course Policies

- **Professionalism**

Professionalism includes arriving on time and prepared, asking thoughtful questions, answering questions, and contributing to a positive classroom environment. Using the Zoom interface (if needed) will be a similar experience to what you will face in Company meetings upon graduation and may be required if classes move remote. If so, you are expected to have your camera turned on. Otherwise, you are to be in-class if feeling healthy. We will have numerous guest speakers this semester. Leverage their experience and network to apply what you are learning and add to your career toolkit.

- **Course website**

We will maintain a website through Carmen. The URL is <https://carmen.osu.edu>. We will use the website to post course slides, recorded lectures, case preparation questions, take exams, etc. It is important that you check it regularly and have notifications “turned on” for when announcements are made and/or the course is modified.

- **Grade Change Policy**

Grade appeals must be emailed **within one week** after the graded work is made available. The entire document will be checked for grading errors, and correcting these could either **raise** or **lower** the overall score.

Academic integrity:

All students enrolled in this course are responsible for abiding by the guidelines outlined in the University's Code of Student Conduct. According to University Rule 3335-31-02, all suspected cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):

Unless we 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!

Disenrollment:

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

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 with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' 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 a reasonable 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.

Student Health and Well Being:

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate 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 accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

Students with Disabilities:

The Office of Disability Services verifies students with specific disabilities and develops strategies to meet the needs of those students. Students requiring accommodations based on identified disabilities should contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss his or her individual needs. All students with a specific disability are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services to explore the potential accommodations available.

Mental Health Services:

As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities.

Further, the Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255 or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Fisher College has a collaborative program with Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) to help you be your best self, academically, physically and emotionally. Mary DeCenzo (decenzo.4@osu.edu) is available to schedule student counseling sessions Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (by appointment only).

Sexual Misconduct / Relationship Violence:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g. race). If you are someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu>.

Diversity Values:

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding,

and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Tentative Course Schedule

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class may be necessary.

BusFin 3890H SP 26 Class Schedule (Wed 2:20-3:40pm)

Date	Week	Topic	In-Class Details	Assignment	
14-Jan-26	1	Intro to Class, Outline Semester	Intro to Class, Set Up, Expectations, purchase Comfort Crisis	Due 1/13: 3 things learned, 3 things you want to learn, career/network focus	
21-Jan-26	2	Meet your mentor (industry pods) and Career Exploration (via TheForage)	Optimizing Mentor relationship, networking boost, intro to Forage	Due 1/27: Complete Forage Virtual Experience and Reflection	Current Event Discussion
28-Jan-26	3	Financial Analysis Detective Simulation	Will compete against each other in class (in teams), prep ahead of time!	Due 2/3: Simulation Debrief	
4-Feb-26	4	Meet the Seniors (industry pods)	Lunch: reflect on Forage exercise, what to do as they plan for internship, classes, etc	Due 2/10: 3 Action Steps coming out of Senior meeting	
11-Feb-26	5	What is it really like to raise equity?	https://www.linkedin.com/in/brenen-palma-27aa4238/	submit 1 question ahead of time	
18-Feb-26	6	Earnings Release Current Event Discussion	Teams share learnings/questions from IR presentation	Due 2/17: Prep for Earnings Release of Assigned Company	Current Event Discussion
25-Feb-26	7	What is it really like to issue debt? Commercial Banking 101	https://www.linkedin.com/in/jay-luzar-mba/	submit 1 question ahead of time	
4-Mar-26	8	Personal Finance 101	Come with a question or tip ahead of time.	Due 3/3: Personal Finance Question or Tip	
11-Mar-26	9	Internship Readiness: AI Tools/Techniques	Discuss how AI will impact internship and career	Due 3/10: teams research and share their findings	Current Event Discussion
18-Mar-26	10	Spring Break - No Class			
25-Mar-26	11	Year in the life of a CFO	https://www.linkedin.com/in/dave-chambers-4a274ba/	submit 1 question ahead of time	
1-Apr-26	12	Working Capital Sim	competing in class	do pre-work and confirm sim is working properly before class	
8-Apr-26	13	Working Capital Sim Continued	finish competition and debrief learnings	Due 4/12: Debrief and Pitch Deck	
15-Apr-26	14	Mentor share-out and Intern Role Play	Random draw of 10 students to share out mentor experience and then rest of students to role play	Due 4/14: Mentor Reflection	
22-Apr-26	15	Life Hacks 101	Groups Present on Comfort Crisis	Due 4/21: Comfort Crisis Presentation	