



**BUSFIN-4310 – 0010 (2624) Au 25**

**SYLLABUS**

**Commercial Property & Casualty Insurance  
Autumn 2025**

**Instructor:**

Name: Ernest E. Dancer, Senior Instructor  
Department: Finance  
Office Location: Fisher Hall 255 A  
Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 9:00am to 10:30am  
Class format: Asynchronous online  
Email: [dancer.1@osu.edu](mailto:dancer.1@osu.edu)

**Course Materials:**

**Required Text:**

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

The text is available through the OSU bookstore.

**Course Description:**

An introduction to Commercial property and Casualty Insurance. General topics of study will include Fundamentals of risk, a review of the risk management process, insurance contract analysis, and insurance company operations. The course will cover other topics including basics of liability, legal principles, enterprise risk management for businesses, and an analysis of Commercial Property and Liability policy forms, conditions and exclusions.

**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 a hypothetical claim situation.
- Define and explain subrogation and the insurable interest.
- Know the legal requirements for a valid insurance contract.
- Be familiar with The financial operations and the various types of insurers
- Discuss the basis of legal liability and the elements of negligence.
- Understand the various legal doctrines including *Res ipsa loquitar*, and 'last clear chance' rule.
- Discuss tort liability claim examples and developing insurance issues.
- Understand what is covered under the Commercial Property and Casualty policy form.

- Become familiar with The Commercial Property and Liability policy forms, conditions and exclusions.
- Review various Professional Policy forms including Directors and Officers, Cyber Liability, and Fiduciary Liability, Commercial Umbrella policy and Employment Practices Liability.

**Grading:**

| ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY                  | POINTS POSSIBLE | PERCENTAGE of GRADE |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| EXAMS (2 mid-terms and 1 final exam) | 155             | 42%                 |
| QUIZZES (best 10 quizzes out of 12)  | 100             | 26%                 |
| ASSIGNMENTS (6 discussion questions) | 120             | 32%                 |
|                                      |                 |                     |
|                                      |                 |                     |
| TOTAL                                | 375             | 100%                |

**No extra credit assignments will be offered. Grades will be determined at the end of the term and any curve, if there is one, is set at that time.**

**Electronic Devices required:**

Laptops and calculators

**How this course works:**

This course is 100% synchronous and online. It is encouraged that you review slide presentations in the modules and use the textbook for further detail and clarifications on the concepts being presented. We will cover about one chapter each week, so it's important to stay up to date with the schedule.

**Quizzes:** The quizzes will be scheduled following each chapter or topic. The quizzes are designed to prepare you for the mid-term and final exams as well as to gauge understanding of the material. The quizzes will cover the major topics of the chapter presented in the PowerPoints.

The dates for the quizzes are dependent on the progress we are making in class, but I will try to stay on the schedule in the course calendar. There will be no make-up quizzes or exams unless you have a valid family or health emergency. Please email the instructor, prior to the exam, quiz, or assignment.

**Discussion Questions:** Some of these assignments will be taken from the cases in the textbook or the application questions at the end of the chapter.

**Mid-Term and Final Exam:** Exams are closed book and will be given about every four weeks.

**Grading:**

The total number of points you earn for the semester, divided by the total number of points possible (375), yields your **Total Percent Score**. The percentage you earn 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 for the course. There is **no curve** in determining final grades. If Extra Credit assignments are offered, they will be offered to the entire class, not individually.

**Grade    Total Percent Score**

|    |               |
|----|---------------|
| 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% |

## **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](https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours), and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** [ocio.osu.edu/help](https://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 hand 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](https://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, you should 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:**

It is Ohio State's policy to reasonably accommodate the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of all students. The policy permits a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief.

Students planning to use religious beliefs or practices accommodations for course requirements must inform the instructor in writing no later than 14 days after the course begins. The instructor is then responsible for scheduling an alternative time and date for the course requirement, which may be before or after the original time and date of the course requirement. These alternative accommodations will remain confidential. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all course assignments are completed.

### **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)-powered programs, including but not limited to ChatGPT, for course assignments must be first discussed and permitted by the faculty instructor. The scope of use may range from not permitted (with exception of AI-powered search engines such as Google, Bing, etc.) to a broader spectrum of allowed applications. When AI-powered programs are permitted, and used by students, the scope of use and content must be specified and referenced by students accordingly. Students are expected to be aware of the shortcomings of the use of AI-powered programs, including risk of academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism; etc.).

### **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 accommodations, I may request that you register with SLDS. After registration, please plan with me as soon as possible to discuss accommodations so they 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.

### **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.

**BUSFIN 4310 0010 (2624) Au25**  
**Principles of Insurance -Online**

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Monday</b>  | <b>Tuesday</b>         | <b>Wednesday</b>        | <b>Thursday</b>         | <b>Friday</b>                      | <b>Sunday</b>          |
|-------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
|             | <u>8/25/2025</u>   | <u>8/26/2025</u>       | <u>8/27/2025</u>        | <u>8/28/2025</u>        | <u>8/29/2025</u>                   | <u>8/31/2025</u>       |
| <b>1</b>    | Chap 2 - Insurance and Risk                                | Fall semester begins   |                         |                         |                                    | Ch 2 quiz              |
|             | <u>9/1/2025</u>  | <u>9/2/2025</u>        | <u>9/3/2025</u>         | <u>9/4/2025</u>         | <u>9/5/2025</u>                    | <u>9/7/2025</u>        |
| <b>2</b>    | Chap 3 - Introduction to Risk Management                   | Labor Day no class     |                         | Discussion Question 1   |                                    | Ch 3 quiz              |
|             | <u>9/8/2025</u>  | <u>9/9/2025</u>        | <u>9/10/2025</u>        | <u>9/11/2025</u>        | <u>9/12/2025</u>                   | <u>9/14/2025</u>       |
| <b>3</b>    | Chap 7 - Financial Operations of Insurers                  |                        |                         |                         |                                    | Ch 7 quiz              |
|             | <u>9/15/2025</u>   | <u>9/16/2025</u>       | <u>9/17/2025</u>        | <u>9/18/2025</u>        | <u>9/19/2025</u>                   | <u>9/21/2025</u>       |
| <b>4</b>    | Chap 9 - Fundamental Legal Principles                      |                        |                         |                         |                                    | Chap 9 quiz            |
|             | <u>9/22/2025</u>   | <u>9/23/2025</u>       | <u>9/24/2025</u>        | <u>9/25/2025</u>        | <u>9/26/2025</u>                   | <u>9/28/2025</u>       |
| <b>5</b>    | Chap 25 - Commercial Property Insurance                    |                        |                         | Discussion Question 2   |                                    | Ch 25 quiz             |
|             | <u>9/29/2025</u>   | <u>9/30/2025</u>       | <u>10/1/2025</u>        | <u>10/2/2025</u>        | <u>10/3/2025</u>                   | <u>10/5/2025</u>       |
| <b>6</b>    | Mid Term exam #1- Ch 2, 3, 7, 9, 25                        |                        | Class Mid term 1 due    |                         |                                    |                        |
|             | <u>10/6/2025</u>   | <u>10/7/2025</u>       | <u>10/8/2025</u>        | <u>10/9/2025</u>        | <u>10/10/2025</u>                  | <u>10/12/2025</u>      |
| <b>7</b>    | Chapter 19 - The Liability Risk                            |                        |                         | Discussion Question 3   |                                    | Ch 19 quiz             |
|             | <u>10/13/2025</u>  | <u>10/14/2025</u>      | <u>10/15/2025</u>       | <u>10/16/2025</u>       | <u>10/17/2025</u>                  | <u>10/19/2025</u>      |
| <b>8</b>    | Chapter 26 - Commercial General Liability                  |                        |                         | Fall break no class     | Fall break no class                | Ch 26 quiz #1          |
|             | <u>10/20/2025</u>  | <u>10/21/2025</u>      | <u>10/22/2025</u>       | <u>10/23/2025</u>       | <u>10/24/2025</u>                  | <u>10/26/2025</u>      |
| <b>9</b>    | Chapter 26 - Commercial General Liability                  |                        |                         |                         |                                    | Ch 26 quiz #2          |
|             | <u>10/27/2025</u>  | <u>10/28/2025</u>      | <u>10/29/2025</u>       | <u>10/30/2025</u>       | <u>10/31/2025</u>                  | <u>11/2/2025</u>       |
| <b>10</b>   | Chapter 27 - Crime Insurance and Surety Bonds              |                        |                         | Discussion Question 4   |                                    | Ch 27 quiz             |
|             | <u>11/3/2025</u>   | <u>11/4/2025</u>       | <u>11/5/2025</u>        | <u>11/6/2025</u>        | <u>11/7/2025</u>                   | <u>11/9/2025</u>       |
| <b>11</b>   | Mid term - Ch 19, 26, 27                                   |                        | Mid term 2 due          |                         |                                    | Discussion Question 4  |
|             | <u>11/10/2025</u>  | <u>11/11/2025</u>      | <u>11/12/2025</u>       | <u>11/13/2025</u>       | <u>11/14/2025</u>                  | <u>11/16/2025</u>      |
| <b>12</b>   | Chapter 16 - Employee Benefits Liability                   |                        |                         | Discussion Question 5   |                                    | Ch 16 quiz             |
|             | <u>11/17/2025</u>  | <u>11/18/2025</u>      | <u>11/19/2025</u>       | <u>11/20/2025</u>       | <u>11/21/2025</u>                  | <u>11/23/2025</u>      |
| <b>13</b>   | Chapter 17 - Employment Benefit Retirement Plans           |                        |                         |                         |                                    | Ch 17 quiz             |
|             | <u>11/24/2025</u>  | <u>11/25/2025</u>      | <u>11/26/2025</u>       | <u>11/27/2025</u>       | <u>11/28/2025</u>                  | <u>11/30/2025</u>      |
| <b>14</b>   | Directors & Officers Liability                             | Veteran's day no class | Thanksgiving no classes | Thanksgiving no classes | Indigenous people's day no classes |                        |
|             | <u>12/1/2025</u>   | <u>12/2/2025</u>       | <u>12/3/2025</u>        | <u>12/4/2025</u>        | <u>12/5/2025</u>                   | <u>12/7/2025</u>       |
| <b>15</b>   | Fiduciary Liability  |                        |                         | Discussion Question 6   |                                    | D&O and Fiduciary quiz |
|             | <u>12/8/2025</u>   | <u>12/9/2025</u>       | <u>12/10/2025</u>       | <u>12/11/2025</u>       | <u>12/12/2025</u>                  | <u>12/14/2025</u>      |
| <b>16</b>   | Mid Term #3 -Ch 16, 17, D&O Liability, Fiduciary Liability |                        | Final Exam              |                         |                                    |                        |
|             | <u>12/15/2025</u>  | <u>12/16/2025</u>      | <u>12/17/2025</u>       | <u>12/18/2025</u>       | <u>12/19/2025</u>                  | <u>12/21/2025</u>      |
|             |  |                        |                         | Final Grades posted     |                                    | Graduation             |