

**UGBA103-2 Introduction to Finance**  
**CCN 08698**  
**Syllabus**  
**Prof. Greg La Blanc**  
**GSI Ziemowit Bednarek (call me Ziemek)**

I'm a second year Ph.D. student in the finance group here at Haas.

Section hours: Friday 2PM-3.30PM C230  
Friday 3.30PM-5PM C230

Office hours (may change depending on my schedule, I still don't know my pre-seminar hours):

Monday 10-11AM F678  
Thursday 10-11AM F621

My office is F635.

Email: [bednarek@haas.berkeley.edu](mailto:bednarek@haas.berkeley.edu)

Website: <http://faculty.haas.berkeley.edu/bednarek>

I might put some course materials on my website but no guarantees.

Organization of sections:

- Recap of material covered in lecture
- Homework-style type of problem sets
- Anything you think might be useful

I plan to review material before each midterm and final to make sure you guys do well.

Required texts: as in lecture syllabus

I encourage you to read some popular classics on finance:

'Monkey Business', 'Liar's Poker', 'Barbarians at the Gate', 'Den of Thieves', 'The Predators' Ball' as well as Financial Times or WSJ.

Grading: according to prof. La Blanc's policy grading is responsibility of GSIs. I assume nobody will fail this course. You all get As in the beginning. It's your job to keep them up till the end of semester.

Problem sets: 22.5%  
Cases: 10%  
Midterm: 27.5%  
Final: 40%

Homework assignments: 9 problem sets, 2 cases. You should divide yourself into groups of 3-5 and work together. It is your task to make sure everybody in your group works the same amount of time. Groups can be from different sections however within the same lecture. You have to make sure your name is on your homework, otherwise unfortunately you don't get credit.

Groups must be registered – please bring the names next Friday!

I will accept hardcopies of your homework assignments in class or you can put them in my mailbox (F534) till 5pm on the day they are due. Please don't email me your homework.

Unfortunately there will be no extensions. You can't turn in late.

There are two readers for the course. I will not grade your homeworks or exams.

You can email me about homework up to 24 hours before start of the section when it's due, however I recommend coming to office hours. I will reply within 24 hours of getting your email.

If I get a ton of emails just before homework is due, I'll reply on first-come first-serve basis, so it's your task to make sure you ask me questions on time.

Midterm and final: first part – short questions, true or false with an explanation; second part – problem sets – they will refer to the material covered in lecture or section, however some of them may require you to make inferences not explicitly stated by professor or me.

Midterm – around Oct 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>

Re-grading: if you have complaints about your grade for any reason, send me an email describing the problem, why you think it should be re-graded. However: entire exam will be re-graded, which means your grade can go up or down.

You have 72 hours after your exam is handed back to you to complain.

Attendance will not be taken (except for the first two sections), it will therefore not count towards your grade.

Waitlists: I will take attendance in first two sections. Whoever is enrolled and won't show up for non-medical reasons in either of these two sections will automatically free one spot for someone on the waitlist. You can email me before section if you can't show up for some other important reason.

I won't take people's names after class and sign them up. Undergraduate office at Haas will filter you out. If you really want to get in, you probably have a good chance because some people will drop the course.

Finally, I still remember how it feels to be an undergraduate student. I realize grades are important to you and I will make sure you are all graded fairly. I hope to learn a lot from you and maybe you will learn something from me.