

Stephen M. Ross School of Business
Section Evaluation Information
Winter 2009

4/30/2009

Section: FIN 316 001
3 Credit Hours

Instructor: **Lu Zhang**

Enrollment: 25

Evaluations: 18

Comments on what went well in the course:

Cases were good applications of the real-world problems caused by derivatives use. Dry topic was taught in a fairly interesting way.

I really enjoyed taking this class because this was the first finance related course which incorporated real time feedback into the topics discussed. specifically there was daily feedback forms where students could voice there concerns and any lagging questions form a particular class

I really appreciated the case studies. Incredibly interesting to read. It's important that we study financial history so we don't get in the same mess we are in right now.

Professor is very energetic and engaged the class at 8:30 in the morning. The professor did an excellent job relating class concepts to real world applications; this made the class a lot more interesting. Professor was very knowledgeable and was able to convey it in a way which the students can understand.

Lu is an excellent professor. Possibly one of the best I've had in the bschool. He is always prepared to answer questions and has a passion for finance. His feedback forms at the end of every class are an excellent way to ask questions about the subject and get immediate answers. Overall, he is an excellent professor who shows genuine concern for his students growth in the field of finance.

Professor Zhang was excellent in speaking with students, finding out what was going well and what was not in the class, and adapted accordingly. It is quite evident that he truly cares about his students and wants to make sure they have a deep understanding of the material. One of the most thoughtful business professors I have had in my time at Ross.

Great discussions, interesting topics, clear instruction

Great instructor who was very energetic even at 8:30 a.m. Great cases.

Very organized lectures, and good real-world examples.

The case studies were great. They provided practical and real insight into the world of financial derivatives, which a general text book would not be able to do. General class slides were very informative and interesting. Outside readings were also greatly appreciated.

Comments on what needs to be improved in the course:

This is a great course especially for those interested in banking or trading but having it at 8:30am in the morning is really inconvenient. If the class could have been taken at a later time I strongly believe that class participation and attendance would have greatly improved.

Would have liked to learn how to use what we use in the class in a "model". These calculations are never done by hand and it would have been good to learn how to build for example options pricing models on excel.

Too much variation in student's previous knowledge, makes course too slow for some and too fast for

others. Need to slow down in math sections or have some way of making sure we understand.

Nothing. Don't make it at 830 in the morning!

Please offer more transparent and defined grading rubrics/criterion.

Maybe assign homework problems so that we can practice solving the questions. So half cases, half group problem sets.

General comments, opinions, and suggestions:

Great job, fantastic class

Professor is passionate about his field and strives to understand his student's issues with course materials and assignments. Great teacher who presents a lot of interesting secondary topics, including current academic research on financial topics, throughout the class.

Great course. Thanks!

Excellent professor. Very energetic.

Best class I have taken at Ross.

Pace was quick, but not overwhelming

Difficult class but very rewarding. Every finance major needs to understand this stuff. Derivatives is by far the most analytical and quantitative area of finance. To me it was also the most interesting. I liked how you always offered both sides of the analytics: academic and real world points of view. After taking this class, I started to feel that corporate valuation and modeling are such dry concepts compared to the underlying economics in capital markets finance. Also, the students in this class this semester were the smartest people I've ever worked with out of any business school class, which added to the positive experience. (I guess nobody really takes derivatives at 8:30 in the morning unless they are really motivated to!)

Good pace, and nice lecture slides.

One of my favorite classes I have taken. Has helped me to obtain a Sales and Trading internship this summer. Thanks Lu.

Hey Lu,

I just wanted to thank you for doing such a great job preparing us for the financial world. After taking Finance 316, I feel miles ahead of my intern class peers. Whether its factual knowledge about hedge funds or thinking about cash flows in different situations, you really were a phenomenal professor. I'm working at Deutsche Bank distressed debt trading desk for the summer, and then will be back for my senior year. So hopefully I will be able to take another class with you in the fall or winter. Thanks again.

Greetings Professor,

Hope all is well. I made a mistake on my course reviews and instead of putting all excellent grades I did the complete opposite. I emailed technology to try to get this fixed but there was nothing they could do as they have no way to track who responded to which questionnaire. Regardless I just wanted to let you know that the course has been excellent and I have learned a great deal. Also, thank you so much for considering changing the test date, it definitely meant a lot. Thanks again.