

MATH 151-01, Financial Mathematics exam prep: Fall 2021
A quick reference guide

Instructor: Johanna Franklin

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Office: Roosevelt 315A

Office hours: Mondays 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (Zoom calls prioritized),

Wednesdays 2:30–4:00 p.m. (in-person prioritized)

Office phone: (516) 463-5739

Website: Blackboard (course site), <http://www.johannafranklin.net> (personal site)

Semi-official course description: An examination of the mathematics relevant to such financial matters as interest rate measurement and time value of money, valuation of annuities, loan repayment, bond valuation, rate of return of an investment, term structure of interest rates, cash-flow duration and immunization, and the dividend discount model of stock valuation.

Text: *Financial Mathematics for Actuaries* by Piercey (available at <https://victorpiercey.wordpress.com/financial-mathematics-for-actuaries-2/>)

Classroom and time: Mondays 9:30–11:10 a.m. in Roosevelt 206 and Wednesdays 4:30–5:30 p.m. in Roosevelt 112

Grading scheme:

- Homework: 50%
- 2 practice exams (dates TBD): 15% each
- Homework revisions: 20%

Each day at the end of class, I'll ask you to do some problems from the textbook before the next class. I'll return them to you in the class after that one and ask you to make any corrections necessary before the following class.

Example: You turn in some problems on Monday. I'll return them to you, graded, on Wednesday. The following Monday, you'll turn in corrections to the previous Monday's submission along with the problems I assigned on Wednesday.

If you have an emergency that prevents you from turning in your homework on time, please let me know as soon as possible. I'll drop your lowest homework score and exempt you from one set of revisions regardless.

There will be two practice exams in this class in late November and early December.

Calculator policy: The purpose of this course is to prepare actuarial students for Exam FM, and the only calculators allowed for that exam are the following Texas Instrument models: BA-35, BA II Plus, BA II Plus Professional, TI-30Xa, TI-30XIIS, TI-30XIIB, TI-30XS MultiView, and TI-30XB MultiView. I recommend that you use one calculator from the BA II series and one from the TI-30 series.

Academic honesty: You are expected to follow the Hofstra University Honor Code at all times. All forms of academic dishonesty are serious ethical and professional infractions. Hofstra’s policy on academic honesty reads: “The academic community assumes that work of any kind—whether a research paper, a critical essay, a homework assignment, a test or quiz, a computer program, or a creative assignment in any medium—is done, entirely and without unauthorized assistance, by the individual(s) whose name(s) it bears. ” See the “Procedure for Handling Violations of Academic Honesty by Undergraduate Students at Hofstra University” (<https://www.hofstra.edu/fps/11.html>) for a detailed discussion of dishonesty and Hofstra’s procedures for handling violations. Violations will be reported.

You’re encouraged to talk about the homework problems with your classmate and ask me questions if you get stuck, though copying your classmate’s solutions (or anyone else’s!) is not allowed. I expect you to list the names of the students you worked with on each of your homework assignments.

Accessibility: If you believe you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Student Access Services (SAS). In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, qualified individuals with disabilities will not be discriminated against in any programs or services available at Hofstra University. Individuals with disabilities are entitled to accommodations designed to facilitate full access to all programs and services. SAS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will provide students with documented disabilities accommodation letters as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and are not retroactive, please contact SAS as soon as possible. All students are responsible for providing accommodation letters to each instructor and for discussing the specific accommodations needed with them and how they can be best implemented in each course.

For more information on services provided by the university and for submission of documentation, please contact Student Access Services, 107 Student Center, (516) 463-7075.

Religious observances: If you have a religious obligation that conflicts with your participation in the course, you are responsible for notifying me far enough in advance for us to discuss your situation and agree on accommodations. Note that all students are responsible for completing all the work for the course. For more information, see Part II(B) of “Academic Freedom and Civil Liberties of Students at Hofstra University” (<https://www.hofstra.edu/fps/12.html>).

Diversity: Hofstra University fosters a belief in an inclusive intellectual community, enriched and enhanced by the representations of diversity on the campus and within its learning spaces. Students from diverse backgrounds and perspectives will be well served in this education experience, and learning needs will be a priority in and out of the classroom. The diversity of identities and experiences that students bring to this class will be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. It is the goal and the responsibility of the instructor to present materials and activities respectful of diversity dimensions—race, gender, sexuality, ability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, religion, culture, and other visible and nonvisible identities.

If you have any concerns about the class environment, I encourage you to speak with me. If you'd like to discuss issues related to your identity or how you might identify or are looking to connect with other students with identities similar to your own, please contact the Office of Intercultural Engagement and Inclusion at (516) 463-6957 or IEI@hofstra.edu. If you've experienced or been a witness to a discriminatory incident, please contact the university's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at diversityinclusion@hofstra.edu.

Discriminatory harassment, relationship violence, and sexual misconduct:

Hofstra prohibits sexual and other discriminatory harassment, stalking, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and other sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know believes they have been subjected to any of these offenses, help is available. To make a report, or for more information (see <https://www.hofstra.edu/title-ix/about.html>), please contact the Title IX Officer for Student Issues at (516) 463-5841 or StudentTitleIX@hofstra.edu or Public Safety at (516) 463-6606.

Confidential resources and support are also available from medical and counseling professionals in the Student Health and Counseling Center at (516) 463-6745 and clergy in the Interfaith Center.

For specific policies relating to COVID-19 guidelines, including mask wearing and class seating, please see

<https://www.hofstra.edu/provost/course-syllabi-information.html>.