

FI 341: Personal Insurance Planning
3 credit hours
T-Th 9:30 – 10:45 or 11:00 – 12:15

Professor

William H. Rabel, Ph.D., FLMI, CLU

John and Marie Louise Loftis Bickley Endowed Teaching Professor of Insurance & Financial Services

Department of Economics, Finance & Legal Studies

Culverhouse College of Commerce & Business Administration

University of Alabama

Room 350 Alston Hall

(205) 348-8966

wrabel@cba.ua.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Overview

A. Required Textbook: Principles of Risk Management and Insurance, 10th Edition.
George E. Rejda, Ph.D., CLU

B. Co-requisites: FI 302 is a co-requisite for this course. All CBA students must be admitted to the Upper division and earned more than 61 credit hours before enrolling in 300 level courses. Any exception to these requirements must be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Business Programs.

C. Course Description and Objectives: Every individual and organization faces risks and the possibility of loss. Losses can stem from an interest in property, exposure to liability, accident or sickness, dying, and outliving your income. This course introduces students to the principles of risk management and provides practical knowledge that will help optimize results from risk management expenditures. Students learn about different kinds of insurance and develop a basic understanding of functional operations in insurance companies. The course also helps the student become a more effective consumer of financial services, and provides valuable knowledge for those interested in a possible career in the financial services industry. Finally, the student will develop a fundamental understanding of the role that risk management institutions and processes play in society.

D. Methodology: The class follows a discussion format. Emphasis is placed on using principles and reasoning to arrive at solutions to risk management problems facing consumers and firms. Regular short quizzes will be given, in addition to the exams shown in the schedule and syllabus. Students must read the assignment prior to the class. While class time will be used to explain material that students do not understand, the focus will be on the application of knowledge.

E. Learning objectives: Set forth in each chapter of textbook.

Course Outline: See Schedule and Syllabus.

F. Attendance policy: Attendance is required and is recorded. Class attendance also helps with recommendations, internships, placement, etc.

G. Major Tests and Assignments. There will be about five examinations throughout the semester; each exam will have equal weight with all others. The final exam will be comprehensive and optional; if a student elects to take the final exam it will be weighted equally with other examinations taken during the semester. Make-up exams must be taken as soon as practicable. At least one mandatory project will be assigned in which students are required to use two web-based calculators to evaluate the amount of life insurance they need. No grade will be assigned to this project, but students will lose points if it is not submitted or if it is not done in a satisfactory way.

H. Grading Policy: All students are graded against an absolute standard. Grades are not “curved.” Students may obtain professional development credit (extra credit) by participating in the Alabama Insurance Society (see: <http://www.cba.ua.edu/ais/>).

I. Reasonable Accommodation Will be Made for Disabilities. To request accommodation for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 348-4285 (133-B Martha Parnham West). After initial arrangements are made with that office, contact Dr. Rabel.

Academic Culture and Standards of Conduct

A. Code of Academic Conduct: All students in attendance at the University of Alabama are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

B. Cultural Diversity Statement: Albert Einstein said, "A university is a place where the universality of the human experience manifests itself."

In keeping with the spirit of Einstein's statement, the Culverhouse College of Commerce is committed to providing an atmosphere of learning that is representative of a variety of perspectives. In this class, you will have the opportunity to express your views on various issues such as: structure of the economy, social policy, etc. In addition, writing assignments and daily activities are designed to encourage individuality and creative expression. You are encouraged to not only take advantage of these opportunities in your own work, but also, learn from the information and ideas shared by other students.

C. Classroom Decorum: The Code of Student Conduct requires students to behave in a manner that is conducive to a teaching/learning environment. Students who engage in behavior that is disruptive or obstructive to the teaching/learning environment will be subject to disciplinary sanctions outlined by the Code of Student Conduct.

Disruptive/obstructive behavior is not limited to but may include the following: physical abuse, verbal abuse, threats, stalking, intimidation harassment, hazing, possession of controlled substances, possession of alcoholic beverages, failing to turn off cell phones and other noisemaking devices.

D. Use of plagiarism detection software: The University of Alabama is committed to helping students uphold the ethical standards of academic integrity in all areas of study. Students agree that their enrollment in this course allows the instructor the right to use electronic devices to help prevent plagiarism. All course materials are subject to submission to Turnitin.com for the purpose of detecting textual similarities. Turnitin.com will be used as a source document to help students avoid plagiarism in written documents.

Schedule and Assignments

Wk.	Date	Topic	Rejda text Ch.
1	Jan. 10	Introductory remarks Risk in our society	Ch. 1
2	Jan. 15	Insurance and risk	Ch. 2
	Jan. 17	Introduction to risk management Advanced topics in risk management (pages 61-65).	Ch. 3 Ch. 4
3	Jan. 22	Fundamental legal principles	Ch. 9
	Jan. 24	Analysis of insurance contracts	Ch. 10
4	Jan. 29	Review for Exam 1	
	Jan 31	Exam 1	
5	Feb. 5	Review of Exam 1 Homeowners insurance, Section I	Ch. 20
	Feb. 7	Homeowner's Insurance, Section I (continued) The Liability Risk	Ch. 19
6	Feb. 12	Homeowner's Insurance, Section II	Ch. 21
	Feb. 14	Homeowner's Insurance, Section II (continued)	
7	Feb. 19	Auto insurance	Ch. 22
	Feb. 21	Auto insurance (cont.) Auto insurance and society	Ch. 23
8	Feb. 26	Auto insurance and society (cont.) Personal Umbrella Policy (p 556 – 559) Review for Exam 2	Ch. 24
	Feb. 28	Exam 2	
9	Mar. 4	Review of Exam 2 Life Insurance Life insurance needs assignment	Ch. 11
	Mar. 6	Life Insurance contractual provisions	Ch. 12
10	Mar. 11	Annuities and Individual Retirement Accounts Life insurance needs assignment due	Ch. 14
	Mar. 13	Buying Life Insurance (269 – 273, 275 – 280)	Ch. 13
11	Mar. 25	Social Insurance Review for Exam 3	Ch. 18
	Mar. 27	Exam 3	
12	Apr. 1	Review of Exam 3 Employee benefits: group life and health	Ch. 16
	Apr. 3	Employee benefits: group life and health (continued)	
13	Apr. 8	Employee benefits: retirement plans	Ch. 17
	Apr. 10	Employee benefits: retirement plans (continued)	
14	Apr. 15	Types of insurers and marketing systems	Ch. 5
	Apr. 17	Insurance company operations	Ch. 6
15	Apr. 22	Government regulation of insurance Review for Exam 4	Ch. 8
	Apr. 24	Exam 4	
16	Apr. 29	Review of Exam 4 Career management in a risky society (or how to succeed in life and your career)	
	May 1	Guest speaker	
17	May 5	Final exam week	