Objective: This course is intended to introduce the student to the unique financial concepts and best practices of start-up and existing family/privately owned businesses in today’s economy. The objective of the course is not to make students experts in all the aspects of financial management, but instead to make students knowledgeable about what needs to be done in this area and why. By understanding the integration of these concepts and practices into the private business system, the student will learn how to manage effectively the financial aspects of the firm.

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Text: No text for the class. Readings for each class will be posted on Blackboard under the Assignments tab.

Approach: The class will utilize a modular design. Modules of related material will be presented by different content experts. A combination of case discussion, lecture, topical readings and in-class exercises to illustrate issues and applications may be used. A midterm exam, final exam and class participation will constitute the bases for grading. Attendance is expected, with every 2 unexcused absences resulting in the automatic reduction of one letter grade. The +/- grading system will be used in this course.

Grading: Class Participation 20%
Midterm Exam 40%
Final Exam 40%
Approximate Course Schedule

Jan. 11  Introduction of the Course and overview of topics
Jan. 18  Financing a venture and Establishing a Financial system
Jan. 25  Establishing a Financial system, different types of statements and information
Feb. 1   Protecting Business assets (i.e. Fraud Prevention)
Feb. 8   Financial Issues associated with Employees
Feb. 15  Employee records and reporting
Feb. 22  Insurance issues
Mar. 1   Midterm Exam
Mar. 8   Strategic Financial issues
Mar. 15  No Class – Spring Break
Mar. 22  Estate Planning
Mar. 29  Business Valuation
Apr. 5   Wealth Management
Apr. 12  Exit Strategies
Apr. 19  Last Class – Final Exam and Course Wrap-up
Additional Course Notes: You may withdraw passing from this course anytime prior to the beginning of class on March 1, 2018. Also, keep a copy of all papers/files turned in during the semester until your grade is received. This protects you if a paper/file is misplaced by me.