

**Math 418C Spring 2014**  
**Financial Mathematics III**

**Instructor:** Dr. Kathy Temple

**Office:** Bouillon 107B

**Phone:** 963-1389

**E-mail:** templek@cwu.edu

**Webpage:** <http://www.cwu.edu/~templek>

**Office Hours:** MW 1 - 1:50PM, F 10 - 11:50AM, and by appointment. Note that T/Th appointments can be arranged (happily arranged, even!), so long as this is done in advance.

**Course Goals:** This sequence of courses (418A, B, and C) is designed to provide students with an understanding of the fundamental concepts of financial mathematics, and how those concepts are applied in calculating present and accumulated values for various streams of cash flows as a basis for future use in reserving, valuation, pricing, asset/liability management, investment income, capital budgeting, and valuing contingent cash flows. The third quarter will also include an introduction to financial instruments, including derivatives, and the concept of no-arbitrage as it relates to financial mathematics. The sequence is designed to prepare students for Exam FM/2 offered by the Society of Actuaries and the Casualty Actuarial Society. For more detailed learning objectives, see the syllabus for this exam at [www.soa.org/files/edu/edu-2014-06-fm-syllabus.pdf](http://www.soa.org/files/edu/edu-2014-06-fm-syllabus.pdf). This quarter, we will cover:

- Convexity and Immunization
- Introduction to derivatives and short-selling
- Basics of forwards and call and put options
- Caps, floors, synthetic forwards, spreads, collars, straddles, and butterfly spreads
- Hedging and insurance
- Forwards and futures
- Commodity and interest rate swaps

**Prerequisite:** Math 418B.

**Required Texts:** Vaaler & Daniel, *Mathematical Interest Theory*, 2nd Edition. This quarter we will cover sections 9.3 - 9.5.

McDonald, *Derivatives Markets*, 2nd edition (note that this is not the most recent edition!). We will be covering all or parts of chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8.

**Evaluation:**

- Two in-class exams (20% each); tentative testing dates: Wednesday, April 30, and Wednesday, May 21.
- Comprehensive final exam (30%), given Monday, June 9, 12-2PM.
- Homework (30%).

## Course Conduct:

- **Required Materials:** The textbooks are required. You will also need at least a scientific calculator. I strongly recommend a financial calculator, in particular either the BAII+ or the BAII+ Professional.
- **Homework:** Homework will be assigned often in class and due dates will be announced at the time of the assignment. Homework must be done neatly, *stapled*, and written on clean-edged paper (no notebook fringes). Your work should be clear, in a logical order, and provide sufficient explanation. What's sufficient explanation? A good guide is to think about whether another student in the class who didn't know how to do this particular problem could understand your solution. This will also help you understand your solution later! Collaboration on homework is permitted, but **copying is not permitted**. A good rule of thumb is that you should write up a problem on your own, even if you worked with others to figure it out. Credit will not be given to any party for work which is identical. I reserve the right to change this syllabus, including evaluation procedures, if copying becomes a problem. Credit will not be given for late homework.

I may also assign smaller homework assignments from time to time of the form, "Read this section in the book and respond to these questions." These will probably have a much shorter turn-around time than the regular homework assignments and, in particular, I may ask you to do this before the next class meeting.

- **Exams:** Any changes to the tentative exam schedule will be announced in advance. Make-up arrangements must be made prior to an exam unless you can document an unexpected circumstance beyond your control that prevented you from taking the exam.
- **Other Information:** Students with disabilities who wish to set up academic adjustments in this class should give me a copy of their "Confirmation of Eligibility for Academic Adjustments" from the Center for Disability Services as soon as possible so we can discuss how the approved adjustments will be implemented in class. Students without this form should contact the Center for Disability Services, Bouillon 140 or [dssrecept@cwu.edu](mailto:dssrecept@cwu.edu) or 963-2171.