

Chapter 1

An Overview of Finance

## Chapter 1 – Learning Objectives

- Explain what finance entails and why everyone should have an understanding of basic financial concepts.
- Describe how the finance discipline has changed during the past century.
- Explain in general how value is measured and what it means to maximize value.
- Explain what it means to be sustainable and how making appropriate financial decisions promotes sustainability.
- Explain what the terms lean manufacturing and lean finance mean.

### What is Finance

- ✓ Finance is concerned with decisions about money
- ✓ To make sound financial decisions, remember:
  - ✓ More value is preferred to less
  - ✓ The sooner cash is received the more value it has
  - Less risky assets are more valuable than risky assets

## Four Major Areas of Finance

- Financial markets and institutions
- ✓ Investments
- √ Financial services
- ✓ Managerial finance

#### Financial Institutions

- ✓ Banks
- ✓ Insurance companies
- ✓ Savings and loans
- ✓ Credit unions

#### Investments

- ✓ Major Functions
  - ✓ Determining the values, risks and returns of financial assets
  - Determining the optimal mix of securities that should be held in a portfolio

### Financial Services

- ✓ Deal with the management of money
- Help individuals and companies determine how to invest money
- One of the largest industries in the world

## Managerial Finance

- ✓ Important in all areas of business
- Decisions made by financial managers:
  - 1. The credit terms under which customers can buy
  - 2. How much inventory the firm should carry
  - 3. How much cash to keep on hand
  - 4. Whether to acquire other firms
  - How much earnings to reinvest in business and how much to pay out in dividends

#### **Evolution of Modern Finance**

- Early 1900s banks were full service financial organizations
- ✓ Crisis of 1907
- ✓ Bank failures during 1920s
- ✓ Great depression 1929 1933
- ✓ Legislative reform
- ✓ Deregulation since 1970s

## History of Investments

- ✓ Early 1900s investments dominated by small group of wealthy investors
- ✓ Industrialization during WWI
- ✓ Growth of investment firms by 1920s
- ✓ Stock market crash 1929 1932; market value decreased > 80%

## History of Investments

- Regulations of securities
- ✓ Prosperity after WWII
- ✓ Inflation and high interest in 1970s
- ✓ Increase in individual and institutional investors

## History of Managerial Finance

- ✓ Emergence as a separate field of study—early 1900's
- ✓ Wave of mergers during 1920s
- ✓ Bankruptcies in 1930s
- ✓ Liquidity stressed during 1940s & '50s
- ✓ Analysis and maximizing value in late 1950s and the 1960s
- ✓ Innovative risk management in 1970s

## History of Managerial Finance

- ✓ Trends in the 1990s have continued into twenty-first century
  - Continued globalization of business
  - ✓ Further increase in use of technology
  - Regulatory attitude of government

### Globalization of Business

- ✓ Improvements in transportation and communications
- Political clout of consumers
- Cost of developing new products has increased
- ✓ Multinational firms are able to shift production to wherever costs are lowest.

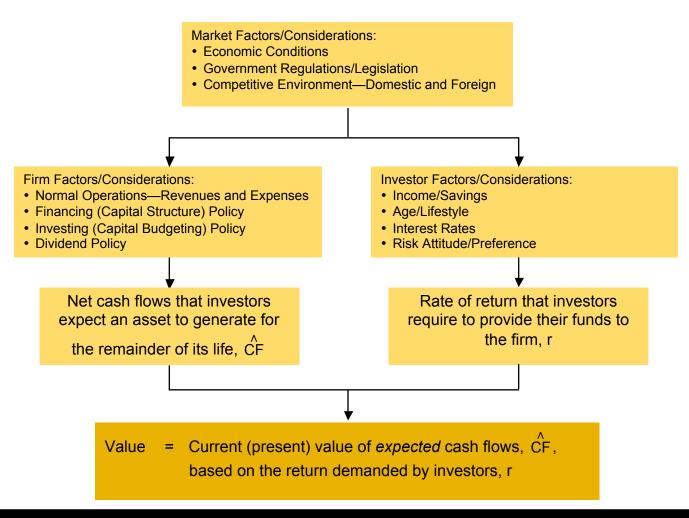
## Importance of Managerial Finance

- ✓ Financial managers no longer merely fund the business needs
- √ Financial managers coordinate decisions
- People in marketing, accounting, production, and personnel need to understand finance to do their job well

### Financial Manager's Responsibilities

- ✓ Obtain and use funds in a way that will maximize the value of the firm
- ✓ Value = the present, or current, value of the cash flows an asset is expected to generate in the future

#### Value of the Firm



### Recent Developments in Finance

#### ✓ Sustainability

- ✓ A long-run process that focuses on improving the quality of life of all stakeholders for all generations both current and future
- Lean Manufacturing
  - ✓ A system the integrates the entire production process so that the least amount of resources is used

# Chapter Principles Key Overview of Finance Concepts

- ✓ What is finance, and why should everyone understand the basic financial concepts?
  - ✓ Finance deals with decisions about money
  - Everyone deals with financial decisions and there are financial implications in nearly every businessrelated decision
- ✓ How has the finance discipline changed during the past 100 years?
  - ✓ Finance evolved from a descriptive discipline using rules-of-thumb to a more technical discipline using quantitative models

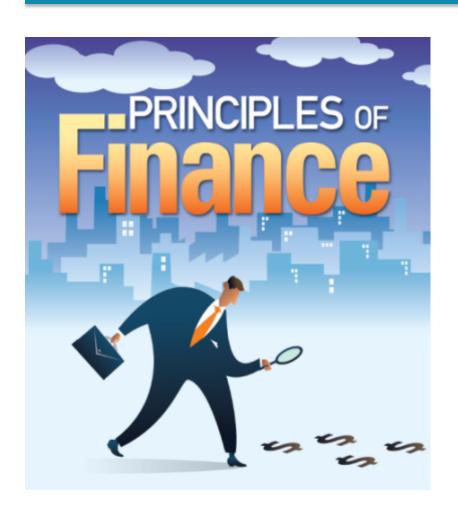
# Chapter Principles Key Overview of Finance Concepts

- ✓ What is value, and what does it mean to maximize value?
  - ✓ An assets value is based on the cash flows that it is expected to generate during its useful life
  - ✓ To maximize value, you should attempt to invest low-cost funds to generate the highest return possible

## Chapter Principles Key Overview of Finance Concepts

- ✓ What is sustainability?
  - ✓ Sustainability recognizes the effects that the practices we pursue in the current period have on future generations
- ✓ What is lean manufacturing? What is lean finance?
  - ✓ The concept that products should be produced using the least amount of resources
  - ✓ To maximize value, a firm must invest at the highest returns possible or have a goal to be "financially lean"

## End of Chapter 1



An Overview of Finance