

**MF610A**  
**Career & Professional Development for Finance Professionals**  
**Fall 2019 Course Outline**

**Master of Finance**  
**DeGroot School of Business**  
**McMaster University**

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***COURSE OBJECTIVE***

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The first part of this course will consist of 6 specialized sessions and will typically run for 1.5 hours, unless otherwise posted. Grading will be determined on attendance and the completion of deliverables.

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***INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION***

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Megan Donohue  
Donohuem@mcmaster.ca  
Office Location: DeGroot School of Business Room 104  
Office Hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm Mon-Fri  
Phone: 905525-9140 Ext 26650  
Class Location: DSB 505

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***COURSE ELEMENTS***

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Credit Value: 3	Leadership: No	IT skills: No	Global view: Yes
A2L: Yes	Ethics: No	Numeracy: Yes	Written skills: No
Participation: Yes	Innovation: Yes	Group work: Yes	Oral skills: Yes
Evidence-based: Yes	Experiential: No	Final Exam: No	Guest speaker(s): Yes

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## ***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

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*The purpose of this course is to equip students with the necessary tools to aid in their summer and graduate employment search process. This course will consist of resume critique, interview skill building, and guest speakers.*

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## ***LEARNING OUTCOMES***

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Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to complete the following key tasks:

- Resume and Cover Letter
  - Business Networking
  - Interviewing Skills
  - Job Search Skills
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## ***REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS AND READINGS***

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Required: None

Optional: None

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## ***EVALUATION***

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Assignment #1 – Coaching Appointment	Pass/Fail
Assignment # 2 Resume	Pass/ Fail
Assignment #3 – Mock Interview	Pass/ Fail
Participation	Required

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Total	100%
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### **Conversion**

At the end of the course your overall percentage grade will be converted to your letter grade in accordance with the following conversion scheme. (**SUGGESTED conversion scheme**)

LETTER GRADE	PERCENT
A+	90 - 100
A	85 - 89
A-	80 - 84
B+	75 - 79
B	70 - 74
B-	60 - 69
F	00 - 59

### **Assignment #1**

Resume: You will be required to submit your resume for critique following the outlined template and content requirements issued in class, the resume will be submitted on avenue for a initial critique, and you will have to make changes and submit for a final resume for grading.

### **Assignment #2**

You will be required to attend a mock interview with the Relationship Manager. You will select a job posting / Job title for the mock interview.

### **Participation**

Attendance if mandatory for this class.

Please review the Graduate Examinations Policy (if applicable):

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/GradExamsPolicy.pdf>

## **Communication and Feedback**

Students who wish to correspond with instructors or TAs directly via email must send messages that originate from their official McMaster University email account. This protects the confidentiality and sensitivity of information as well as confirms the identity of the student.

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## ***ACADEMIC DISHONESTY***

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You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at: [www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity](http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity)

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations

### **Use of Turnitin**

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal plagiarism. Students will be expected to submit their work electronically to Turnitin.com and in hard copy so that it can be checked for academic dishonesty. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com must still submit a copy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to; <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity/turnitin/students/>

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## ***MISSED EXAMINATIONS/TESTS/CLASS PARTICIPATION***

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Where students miss a regularly scheduled mid-term or class participation for legitimate reasons as determined by the MFIN Program Office, the weight for that test/participation will be distributed across other evaluative components of the course at the discretion of the instructor.

Documentation explaining such an absence must be provided to the MFIN Program Office within five (5) working days upon returning to school.

To document absences for health related reasons, please provide the Petition for Relief for MFIN Missed Term Work and the McMaster University Student Health Certificate which can be found on the DeGroot website at <https://mfin.degroot.mcmaster.ca/current-students/forms/>.

**Please do not use the online McMaster Student Absence Form as this is for Undergraduate students only.**

University policy states that a student may submit a maximum of three (3) Medical certificates per year after which the student must meet with the Program Director.

To document absences for reasons other than health related, please provide the Petition for Relief for MFIN Missed Term Work which can be found on the DeGroot website at <https://mfin.degroot.mcmaster.ca/current-students/forms/> and documentation supporting the reason for the absence.

Students unable to write a mid-term at the posted exam time due to the following reasons: religious; representing university at an academic event; conflicts between two overlapping scheduled mid-term exams; or other extenuating circumstances have the option of applying for special exam arrangements. Such requests must be made to the MFIN Program Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled exam along with acceptable documentation. Instructors cannot themselves allow students to unofficially write make-up exams/tests.

Adjudication of the request must be handled by the MFIN Program Office.

If a mid-term exam is missed without a valid reason, students will receive a grade of zero (0) for that component.

### **Missed Final Examinations**

A student who misses a final examination without good reason will receive a mark of 0 on the Examination.

All applications for deferred and special examination arrangements must be made to the MFIN Program Office. Failure to meet the stated deadlines may result in the denial of these arrangements. Deferred examination privileges, if granted, must be satisfied during the examination period at the end of the following term. There will be one common sitting for all deferred exams.

Failure to write an approved deferred examination at the pre-scheduled time will result in a failure for that examination, except in the case of exceptional circumstances where documentation has been provided and approved. Upon approval, no credit will be given for the course, and the notation N.C. (no credit) will be placed on the student's transcript. Students receiving no credit for a required

course must repeat the course. Optional or elective courses for which no credit is given may be repeated or replaced with another course of equal credit value.

Requests for a second deferral or rescheduling of a deferred examination will not be considered.

Any student who is unable to write a final examination because of illness is required to submit the Application for Deferred MFIN Final Examination and a statement from a doctor certifying illness on the date of the examination. The Application for Deferred MFIN Final Examination and the McMaster University Student Health Certificate can be found on the DeGroot website at <https://mfin.degroot.mcmaster.ca/current-students/forms/>

Students who write examinations while ill will not be given special consideration after the fact. In such cases, the request for a deferred examination privilege must be made in writing to the MFIN Program Office within five business days of the missed examination.

Special examination arrangements may be made for students unable to write at the posted exam time due to compelling reasons such as religious or representing the University at an academic event.

Students who have religious obligations which make it impossible to write examinations at the times posted are required to produce a letter from their religious leader stating that they are unable to be present owing to a religious obligation.

If a student is representing the University at an academic event and is available at an overlapping scheduled time of the test/examination, the student may write the test/examination at an approved location with an approved invigilator, as determined by the MFIN Program Office. In such cases, the request for a deferred examination privilege must be made in writing to the MFIN Program Office within ten business days of the end of the examination period.

Note: A fee of \$50 will be charged for a deferred exam written on campus and a fee of \$100 for deferred exams written elsewhere.

In cases where the student's standing is in doubt, the MFIN Program Office may require that the student with one or more deferred examination privileges refrain from re-registering until the examination(s) have been cleared.

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## ***STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES***

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Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail [sas@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sas@mcmaster.ca).

For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities:

<http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicAccommodation-StudentsWithDisabilities.pdf>

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## ***POTENTIAL MODIFICATION TO THE COURSE***

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The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

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## ***ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COURSE POLICIES***

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Your enrolment in COURSE XXXX will be considered to be an implicit acknowledgement of the course policies outlined above, or of any other that may be announced during lecture and/or on A2L. **It is your responsibility to read this course outline, to familiarize yourself with the course policies and to act accordingly.**

Lack of awareness of the course policies **cannot be invoked** at any point during this course for failure to meet them. It is your responsibility to ask for clarification on any policies that you do not understand.



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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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WEEK	DATE	SESSION TOPIC
1	Sept 9 Sept 12	Career Assessment and Intro to Finance
2	Sept 16 Sept 19	Resume and Cover Letter
3	Sept 23 Sept 26	Assigned Coaching Sessions Deliverable
4	Sept 30 Oct 3	Interview Skills
5	Oct 7 Oct 10	Assigned Coaching Sessions/Mock Interviews Deliverable
6	Oct 14 Oct 17	Assigned Coaching Sessions/Mock Interviews Deliverable
7	Oct 21 Oct 24	On Campus Recruitment and Networking
8	Oct 28 Oct 31	Mock Interviews- Deliverable Final Date Nov 15
9	Nov 4 Nov 7	Guest Speaker
10	Nov 11 Nov 14	Mock Interviews- Deliverable
11	Nov 18 Nov 21	Course Wrap Up