This is a tentative Syllabus

**Objectives:** The objective of this course is to introduce doctoral students to research in corporate finance and will cover papers on the topics listed below.

**Course Materials:** Journal articles and working papers. You are responsible for obtaining copies of the articles.

**Grade and Course Requirements:**

The midterm and final exam each account for 30% of the grade. There is a literature review and research idea report for the remaining 40% of the grade.

1. **Theory of the Firm**


2. **Capital Structure**

3. Product markets


4. Internal Capital Market and Diversification


5. Initial public offerings


6. Dividend policy & Cash Holding


*Rettl, Danile, 2012, Growth Opportunities, Cash Holdings and Payout Policy, Working paper Vienna Graduate School of Finance


Benartzi, S., R. Michaely and R. Thaler, 1997, Do changes in Dividends signal the future or the past, Journal of Finance


7. Executive Compensation

***Murphy, Kevin, 1999, Executive Compensation, Available on SSRN


***M. Jensen and K. Murphy, Performance pay and top management incentives, Journal of Political Economy, 98 (1990), 225-264


B. Holmstrom, Moral hazard and observability, Bell Journal of Economics, 10 (1979) 74-91


8. Employee Compensation


9. Do CEO and their Preferences Matter?


Landier, Augustin and David Thesmar, 2009, Financial Contracting with Optimistic Entrepreneurs, Review of Financial Studies


10. Role of the Press


**Tetlock, 2007, Giving content to Investor Sentiment: The Role of Media in stock Market, Journal of Finance


*Hanley and Hoberg, 2014, The Information content of IPO prospectus, Review of Financial Studies

*Jensen, 1979, Towards a theory of the press

Lott and Hassett, 2004, Is Newspaper coverage of Economic events politically biased

Mullainathan and Shleifer, 2002, Media Bias

11. Shareholder Activism


Gantchev, N. and C. Jotikasthira, 2013, Hedge Fund Activists: Do they take cues from Institutional exit?  Available at SSRN


12. Networks


