

**UNIV 501.25 B01**  
**Experiential Learning – International Insurance Markets**

**Course Outline – Spring 2026 (Draft)**

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<b>Office hours</b>	By appointment
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<b>Prerequisites/Corequisites:</b>	Consent of the Student's faculty.

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<b>Course Description</b>	<p>An application of theory in a community or workplace setting.</p> <p>This course, when taken in conjunction with RMIN559.02: International Insurance Markets, is designed to focus a student's attention on the details of the business environment and cultural differences in London and Bermuda while visiting those global insurance markets.</p>
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<p>By the end of this course, students will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <i>Learn</i> about the London and Bermuda insurance markets (before travel) and consider how they differ from each other and from Canada.</li><li>2. <i>Experience</i> a variety of facets of the culture and environment in Bermuda and London while participating in RMIN559.02.</li><li>3. <i>Reflect</i> on those experiences and how culture and environment shape different facets of how business is conducted.</li><li>4. <i>Reflect</i> on the experiences in Bermuda and London – both formal business meetings and informal networking - and develop an awareness for what is important to you in a work environment and what corporate values align with your personal values.</li></ol>
<b>Class Preparation &amp; Desire2Learn (D2L)</b>	<p>RMIN 559.02 is a co-requisite for this course.</p> <p>Students are expected to attend all sessions and engage with classmates, their professor, and professionals while in London and Bermuda and reflect on their experiences. D2L will be used for information about the course and assignments and</p>

Dropbox folders will be available for assignments.

### Textbook and/or Other Materials and Resources

Required materials: There are no required textbooks for this class.

Use of Generative AI

The use of generative AI tools are prohibited.

### Grade Scale

The Haskayne School of Business endeavours to ensure consistency of final grades across courses and sections. Variations in distribution will always be considered by the instructor if called for by the performance in each individual class. The student does not have any 'right' to a certain grade but is responsible for earning grades. The instructor has unfettered discretion to evaluate student performance and assign all grades.

Final grades are reported as letter grades. For components graded using percentages or numerical scores, those values will be used directly in calculating the final course grade, while for components graded using letter grades, the letter grades will be converted to the midpoint values in calculating the final course grade.

<b>A+</b>	≥	96.0	Outstanding
<b>A</b>	≥	90.0	Excellent
<b>A-</b>	≥	85.0	Approaching excellent
<b>B+</b>	≥	80.0	Exceeding good performance
<b>B</b>	≥	75.0	Good performance
<b>B-</b>	≥	70.0	Approaching good performance
<b>C+</b>	≥	65.0	Exceeding satisfactory performance
<b>C</b>	≥	60.0	Satisfactory performance
<b>C-</b>	≥	55.0	Approaching satisfactory performance
<b>D+</b>	≥	53.0	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
<b>D</b>	≥	50.0	Minimal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
<b>F</b>	≤	49.0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

### Grade Distribution

Due Date	Assessment	Weighting	Course Outcomes Assessed
May 29	<b>Journal – pre-departure</b>	10%	1
June 16	<b>Journal – in Bermuda &amp; London</b>	45%	2, 3, 4
June 25	<b>Reflection Essay</b>	45%	2, 3, 4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

<b>Missed Assessment Policy</b>	If you miss a required course component, please contact your instructor as soon as possible.
<b>Late Policy</b>	If students miss a required component of the course, they must contact the instructor in writing within 24 hours to discuss options to submit and/or make-up for that component. Assignments submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of 5% or a partial letter grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late.
<b>Submission of Assignments</b>	<p>Please include your name and ID number on all assignments and upload to D2L Dropbox. <b>Note:</b> It is your responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that you submit the proper version.</p> <p>Private information related to individual students is treated with the utmost regard by University of Calgary faculty. Student assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty, and personal information is collected in accordance with the <b><i>Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act</i></b>. Please note that instructors may use audio or video recorded for lesson capture, assessment of student learning, and self-assessment of teaching practices.</p>
<b>Assignments and Evaluation</b>	<p>Students in the class are required to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-departure journal: Before departing on the travel portion of RMIN559.02, reflect on what you expect to experience in the weeks of travel. Write your thoughts down in the form of a pre-departure journal entry (more details will be available on D2L0.</li> <li>Interact with peers (other students and recent graduates, alumni) in each of the destination locations.</li> <li>Interact with senior managers and other professionals in businesses in each of the destination locations.</li> <li>Participate in at least one social activity in each location outside the activities organized for the class.</li> <li>Participate in at least one cultural activity in each location outside the activities organized for the class. <i>Hint: The museums and theatre in London are incredible.</i></li> <li>Based on the above, keep a daily journal from departure till returning to Calgary and write a reflection essay after returning.</li> </ol>
<b>Deliverables for the class:</b> (Travel dates: June 7 – 21)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Due Prior to Departure (May 29)</b>  Your pre-departure journal entry should describe what you expect to experience in the 2 weeks of travel. Write your thoughts down in the form of a journal entry (2 to 3 double-spaced pages with 11-point font). Specifically, consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact of local culture on businesses (think about how London and Bermuda differ), how business is transacted, and how this differs from Canada.</li> <li>What do you expect to learn during the travel portion of the course?</li> <li>How do you think this experience will contribute to your personal and professional growth?</li> <li>Do you have any concerns about traveling? How can you prepare yourself for them?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

- Do you have any concerns about the meetings you will attend in Bermuda and London? If so, what are they? Are there things you can do to prepare yourself and address your concerns?
  - Briefly discuss the two things that you are most looking forward to during the 2 weeks.
  - What is one personal quality that you possess that will be important for you to make the most of this educational experience. Briefly explain.
2. Due **June 16** (within 3 days of returning to Calgary).
- NOTE:** It's important you **journal every day** beginning with departure day. Your journal should be computer generated. Photos may be included but are optional.
- i. A copy of a **daily journal** describing activities and observations **from the date of departure to the date of return**. Include (at a minimum) for each of the companies you visited, who you met with, the main topics covered, and something about what you learned or what made the visit interesting. Include **at least one recommendation** (specifically related to the company visits) regarding any changes that you think would make the experience better.
  - ii. As part of your journal, **choose** at least one session in London and one session in Bermuda to provide a more detailed account of the companies you visited (make sure these are clearly marked in your journal). Specifically, describe what you learned, why it was a valuable experience, and what you learned about company culture and values based on your visit. Note any of the companies that you believe are a good fit in terms of your personal values and goals (this will be important in your essay).
3. Due **June 25**
- An essay (5-6 double-spaced pages with 11-point font) **prepared at least one week after returning home** that reflects on your experience. It is important for this to be **an honest, genuine reflection**. Please do not make things up or exaggerate. Take time to consider what you personally learned and the value of the meetings you had as well as the entire experience.

The essay should discuss reflections such as:

- What did you learn about the approach different companies take regarding how they market themselves (to visitors such as you)? You may want to briefly describe different approaches and your reaction to them. What does this say about their company brand and culture? What approach resonated most with you and why?
- How did your experiences at the various companies influence your opinions about the risk management and insurance industry (good or bad) and business in general? Give specific examples and describe how your experience may influence the type of company where you wish to work.

Briefly comment on which company you would choose to work at if you were able to choose any one and explain why.

How are the expectations and styles of managers in the two destinations similar to those you have met in Canada (if you have relevant experience)? How are they different? How do they differ from each other?

- Describe how the social and cultural activities that you participated in may influence the person you will become in the future, and how they will they shape the business person you will become.
- What was the most challenging part of the trip? Briefly explain why.
- What was the most beneficial part of the trip? Describe why.
- What was the most enjoyable part of the trip? Briefly explain why.
- What advice would you give future students who take this course?

#### **Final Exam**

There is no final exam for this course.

#### **Assessment of Writing**

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support, part of the Student Success Centre, can be accessed by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance. In this course, your writing will be assessed as part of your grade in the following assessments:

- Journal – pre-departure
- Journal – in Bermuda & London
- Reflection Essay

#### **Contacting Your Instructor**

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor. Please email the instructor to make an appointment.

#### **Proper Business Use of Email**

Email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor. However, email limits the effectiveness of communication and may not be the best way for instructors to answer student questions, especially those requiring an explanation of concepts covered in this course or some personal concerns. Therefore, the instructor may request a telephone call or personal meeting.

**If you choose to use email in this class, please place UNIV 501 at the start of your subject line.** As well, make it a habit to use an appropriate greeting (i.e., not “Hey Anne”)

**Course Outline Part B** The Course Outline Part B contains more generalized information for Haskayne and the University. You are responsible for reading and understanding all content in both parts of the outline.

Part B can be found [here](#).

## Class Schedule & Topics

For additional course information, please reference D2L. *The dates of assessments will not be changed.*

Important dates (e.g. Block Week, Lecture start dates, Reading Week, etc.) can be found at the following web site: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/acadsched>

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