

Survey of Investments

FINA 4310 (Call #23-499) - Fall 2007

Terry College of Business, University of Georgia
Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00-9:15 AM, Sanford 209

Instructor

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday - 9:30-11:00am

Course Description/Objective

The securities markets, investor objectives, introduction to portfolio theory and the analytical tools of portfolio management, and an examination of investment alternatives. The objective of the course is to help students understand financial securities, the markets in which they operate, portfolio theory, and how to evaluate investment alternatives.

Prerequisites

FINA 3000 [Financial Management] and (MSIT 3000 or STAT 3000)

Course Material/Books

Essentials of Investments, by Bodie, Kane, and Marcus, Sixth Edition (ISBN: 978-0-07-304153-7), McGraw-Hill Publishers, 2007.

Stocktrak - approximately \$25 fee for the simulation

Recommend: *Wall Street Journal*

Course Outline

Introduction to Securities	Chapters 1-4
Debt Securities	Chapters 9-10
Portfolio Theory	Chapters 5-8
Security Analysis	Chapters 11-13
Derivatives	Chapters 14-16
Investment Management	Chapters 17-21

Course Assignments

Attendance/Participation	5%
Problem Sets/Projects (4)	40%
StockTrak Simulation	10%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam (12/11/07)	25%

Course Grading

I may elect to slightly relax these breakdowns, at my discretion, after the final course numeric scores are determined but I will not make them more stringent.

A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D	50-69
F	0-49

Website [<https://webct.uga.edu/www/>]

WebCt will be used for posting assignments, solutions, and course grades. Please familiarize yourself with it if you have not used it in the past.

Projects

Projects are similar to traditional homework assignments from your other courses. Projects will require you to write up your results using Microsoft Word. Instructions for the write-up will be included with project assignments. There will be five projects assigned during the semester. The lowest grade will be dropped.

Stocktrak

About a month into the semester we will begin the Stocktrak simulation. Each individual will receive a portfolio of \$500,000 that will enable them to put what they have learned in class to use. At the end of the simulation you will turn in a write-up outlining your strategy and results.

Final Exam

The class final will be cumulative and is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11th at 8am. Be sure and mark your calendars!

Policies

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” You can find the policy at: [<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/ah.pdf>]. All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

I fully subscribe to the University’s policies on academic honesty. I take my teaching responsibilities very seriously, and I expect every student to do likewise. I have zero tolerance for breaches of academic integrity, and I will report all suspected offenses.

Unless otherwise specified, I expect all work on projects and assignments to be your own. While I strongly encourage open and frank discussion in class, and collaboration on in-class activities, all other assigned work must be done individually.

Attendance

Attendance is required. Students are held responsible for all material covered in class. In other words, if you do not attend class, you are responsible for asking classmates for information/notes/etc. covered during periods missed; it is not the responsibility of the instructor to recover material with you on an individual basis.

Students are allowed three unexcused absences. The fourth unexcused absence will result in an automatic one point deduction in their participation grade. Every two unexcused absences after the third will result in an additional point deducted.

Unexcused Absences	Points Deducted
0-3	0 points
4-5	1 point
6-7	2 points
8-9	3 points
10-11	4 points
12-13	5 points

Computer

Computer use is strictly prohibited during class unless given permission from the instructor. Violations of this policy will affect your participation grade.

Late Assignments/Exams

Late assignments/exams impose a substantial cost on your classmates and I. Therefore, my policy on late assignments/exams is strict. Late assignments will generally not be accepted unless I have consented in advance. Examinations will be rescheduled for individual students only for valid reasons such as medical or family emergencies, and only if I have consented *in advance*. All assignments are due at the **beginning** of class.