

FINA 4310: SURVEY OF INVESTMENTS

The securities markets, investor objectives, introduction to portfolio theory and the analytical tools of portfolio management, and an examination of investment alternatives.

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Summer 2008:

Terry College of Business
University of Georgia
Daily, 9:15 – 11:30, Sanford 213.

Instructor: Ryan McKeon
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Course Web Site: webct.uga.edu
Office Hours: By appointment, any other time you find me in my office.

For e-mails regarding queries on course material or requests for meetings please use my uga.edu e-mail address. I check this more frequently than WEBCT e-mail. However, you should make a habit of checking WEBCT regularly as I will use the e-mail facility there to send general instructions and comments to the class.

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to increase the students' understanding of the way in which financial markets function and the structure and use of financial products. The course focuses on fundamentals of pricing bonds and equity investments and portfolio construction.

Recommended Texts:

Essentials of Investments, 7th Edition, by Bodie, Kane and Marcus, MacGraw-Hill Publishers. **ISBN-13:** 978-0073368719

I strongly advise all students to obtain a copy of this book, so that we can all work from the same text in class. Surf amazon.com or half.com for cheaper, second-hand versions of the book if you wish.

Other Items:

You will need a capable financial or scientific calculator. Recommended: TI BA II Plus
Please note that programmable calculators are not permitted in tests/exams.

Absences: I do not keep track of attendance during the semester, but frequent absences will hurt your chances of good scores on tests and the exam. Furthermore, while I am happy to discuss course content and questions outside of class time, I will not be inclined to repeat entire classes which students have missed.

Exam/Tests – Tests and the final Exams will be closed book but I will provide certain complex equations for reference on the exam. Exams and tests will only be administered at the assigned times, and a missed exam or test will carry a grade of zero unless explicitly excused by a physician or the Dean of students. Truly exceptional circumstances should be discussed with me prior to the exam.

Project: A single written assignment will be given.

Periodic tests: Three in-class tests will be given during the semester. These tests are scheduled for 14 July, 21 July, 28 July.

Final Examination: The final examination will be on Thursday 31st July in the same venue and at the same time as regular class.

**The tests are NOT cumulative, but the final exam will be.

Grade Determination: Final grade assignments will depend upon your overall performance and will be determined as objectively as possible based on the following weights.

Project	10%
Semester Tests	30 % weighting on your <i>two best</i> scores out of the three
Final Exam	30 %

Your final grade will be determined solely on your scores in the tests and final exam. Regrettably, no points can be awarded for effort or amount of time spent studying.

The following will be used as a guideline for final grades:

92.0% - 100%	A
90.0% - 91.9%	A-
88.0% - 89.9%	B+
82.0% – 87.9%	B
80.0% - 81.9%	B-
78.0% - 79.9%	C+
72.0% - 77.9%	C
70.0% – 71.9%	C-
68.0% - 69.9%	D+
62.0% - 67.9%	D
60.0% - 61.9%	D-
0.0% – 59.9%	F

Honor code:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. While I strongly encourage discussion with classmates, all work for grades should be completed individually.

Course Outline:

July:

7 th :	Introduction/Overview (Chapter 1) Securities (2)
8 th :	Markets (3)
9 th :	Mutual Funds (4)
10 th :	Risk and Return (5)
11 th :	Diversification (6)
14th:	TEST 1
15 th :	Asset pricing (7) Market efficiency (8)
16 th :	Behavioral Finance (19)
17 th :	Behavioral Finance (19) Bond pricing (9)
18 th :	Bond portfolios (10)
21st:	TEST 2
22 nd :	Equity Valuation (12) Macroeconomic Analysis (11)
23 rd :	Financial Statement Analysis (13)
24 th :	Performance Evaluation (17) International Investing (18)
25 th :	Derivatives – Options (14)
28th:	TEST 3
29 th :	Derivatives – Futures (16) Selected topics (to be advised)
30 th :	Selected topics (to be advised)
31 st :	<i>FINAL EXAM 9:15 – 11:30</i>