

Instructor: Alex Hanning

Email:

Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 5-6pm

Prerequisite: FINC 3400

Course website: Canvas. Make sure that you check Canvas regularly along with the email associated with notifications of announcements

Final exam date: Thursday, June 13, 2019 in class 6:00-7:50pm

Course Description: This course is a general overview of capital markets and financial instruments, such as money market securities, stocks, bonds, and options. This course helps students understand modern portfolio theory, its applications, and related empirical evidence. Students will learn to assess asset and portfolio returns and risks, and to construct efficient portfolios given investment objectives. They will also learn to apply different valuation models to evaluate fixed income securities and stocks. This course also introduces options and basic option trading strategies.

This course meets all five learning outcomes of Seattle University Undergraduate Finance major.

- Describe and explain to lay individuals financial concepts relating to: value creation, risk management, and the functioning of financial institutions and world financial markets, for corporate and investor decision-making.
- Demonstrate strong critical thinking and problem solving skills within an ethical framework.
- Apply tools such as spreadsheet, mathematical, and statistical modeling to analyze problems and issues in finance.
- Employ discipline knowledge and skills orally and in written form in a professional manner in service to the community.
- Recognize social justice issues inherent in financial decision-making.

Required Texts & Materials

Essentials of Investments, Zvi Bodie, Alex Kane & Alan J. Marcus (McGraw-Hill/Irwin, 11th edition).

Financial Calculator, such as the HP-12C or the TI BAII Plus

Course requirements:

A simple calculator for quizzes and exams (using your phone is not allowed during quizzes and exams).
Access to excel or a similar spreadsheet software.

Course Operation: There may be material discussed in class that you will be responsible for that is not covered in the text book. All materials that I hand out in class and some additional materials will be made available on the course website. Changes to the syllabus, or to quiz and exam dates will be announced in class, as well as communicated on Canvas.

Helpful Hints: Check Canvas daily at least. If you are having difficulty solving a particular type of problem, it is well worth solving similar examples where you can check the solutions until you understand them thoroughly. Repeating the same problem and using your notes less each time until it can be done unaided, and then repeating with small changes is surprisingly useful.

If you are uncertain about any of the material covered during the week, speak up during class, see me before or after class, or send me an email. You will find that the course material becomes more difficult throughout the quarter, so if you aren't keeping up come and see me as soon as you start feeling lost, or work with other

students who understand the material well. I may post answers to select student questions online (anonymized) since often other students have difficulty with the same concept. Before coming to class, make sure you have read or watched the assigned material otherwise you will not get the most out of the class. For quizzes and exams, just relying on re-reading the text or your notes has quickly diminishing returns. To improve your long term recall, you will be better off spending time actively retrieving information from memory from answering questions. That process makes the information more accessible in the future.

Office Hours: If you have been attending class but are still falling behind, please visit me during my office hours, which are usually before and/or after class each day. If you need to see me, but cannot attend my scheduled office hours, then e-mail me for an appointment. These meetings will be much more productive if you come well prepared, and if you can express your difficulties in terms of a specific problem or concept covered in class. If you were absent from a class, you will need to get notes from one of the other students.

Grading weights:

Chapter summaries	15%
Final: (2 hours scheduled)	30%
Midterm: (50mins in class)	20%
Quizzes:	20%
Research Project	15%

To get the most out of the class sessions, you must read the subject chapters before the class. To promote this, each student needs to turn in their own summary of each chapter before it is covered in class. This can be done as a list of bullet point notes, but should cover the chapter well. You can upload these to Canvas as a document or take a picture and upload as an image file.

In this class, I encourage you to work with other students on homework practice. Assigned work is due by the due date. There is limited credit for late work since solutions may be posted or discussed in class. If you cannot attend a class where work is due to be handed in, then you should submit it via Canvas prior to the due date and time. Assume I will be printing these out, so I will reduce your score if documents are poorly formatted. During class time, please refrain from using cell phones or accessing the internet unless instructed to do so.

Research Project: Small groups will pick and investigate a market of their choice, write a report describing it, and present the findings to the class at the end of the quarter.

Quizzes and exams: A short quiz will be held at the start of class on the days scheduled unless announced otherwise. Quizzes and exams will be closed book and closed notes.

Calculators are allowed for quizzes and exams. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. Cell phones must be put away during all exams and quizzes.

Please make a note of the exam dates and plan to be in class for these exams. Treat these test dates as you would an important meeting in the business world. Make up exams for the final will be given only under very unusual, unforeseen, and unavoidable circumstances, and may be more difficult than that sat by others.

Re-grades: I will do my best to ensure that work is graded fairly and consistently. If you think there is a mistake in the grading then you may choose to resubmit the graded work with a written explanation of the problem within one calendar week following the return of the exam answers and exam. I will regrade the entire exam, which means your regrade score could be lower.

Course Policies are Designed to Ensure Fairness: My goals are to meet the course objectives and to ensure that the course is fair. Please do not create an uncomfortable situation for us by putting me in the position of refusing to make an exception for you when the effect of making that exception will be to give you an unfair advantage over your classmates.

By remaining enrolled in the course, you agree to abide by the policies detailed in this document. If you anticipate that you cannot abide by these policies (e.g., because you know that you have a conflict with an exam because of vacation travel or travel in connection with an interview), please either re-arrange your schedule or arrange to take this course in another quarter.

Audio or Video Taping is prohibited during class except with the instructors permission.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus during the quarter. In that case I will notify students in class and via the course website. Please check the course website and your given email address regularly.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Seattle University is committed to the principle that academic honesty and integrity are important values in the educational process. Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offense against the academic community. Acts of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the Seattle University Academic Honesty Policy. The policy can be found at: http://www.seattleu.edu/regis/Policies/Policy_2004-01.htm. If you are not sure whether a particular action is acceptable according to the Academic Honesty Policy, you should check with me before proceeding

DISABILITIES POLICY

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an 'invisible disability' such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services staff in the Learning Center, Loyola 100, (206) 296-5740. Disability based adjustments to course expectations can be arranged only through this process.