

Course Syllabus

FIN 4300.001: Investment Management

Instructor: Alireza Hamzeh

Fall 2024

Course and Instructor Information

- **Class Time:** Mondays, 10:00 AM - 12:45 PM
 - **Location:** JSOM 2.804
 - **Email:** alireza.hamzeh@utdallas.edu
 - **Office Location:** JSOM 14.507
 - **Office Hours:** Appointments only. I prefer Teams' chat. Just send me a text, and I will get back to you.
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Course Pre-requisites

Prerequisites: FIN 3320 and Math 1325 (or Math 2413 or Math 2417).

Prerequisites or Co-requisites: FIN 3390 and OPRE 3340 (or Math 1326 or Math 2414 or Math 2419).

Given the risks in financial investments, students must grasp fundamental financial decision-making concepts, including calculus, probability distributions, and regression analysis. Key topics like PV, FV, NPV, IRR, annuities, and perpetuities should be reviewed.

Course Description

This course introduces students to capital markets and various financial instruments, equipping them with tools to assess risks and make informed investment decisions. Key topics include modern portfolio theory, valuation, risk management, and standard asset pricing

models. Ideal for those pursuing careers in investment management or roles requiring investment decision-making, this course provides a strong foundation in understanding financial markets.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

1. Differentiate investment characteristics of financial assets such as money market instruments, bonds, and stocks.
 2. Understand modern portfolio theory, the benefit of diversification, and risk-return relation under the standard asset pricing models.
 3. Assess the value of stocks and bonds using various valuation models.
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Required Textbooks and Materials

- **Textbook:** Essentials of Investments, 12th edition, by Bodie, Kane, and Marcus, Irwin McGraw-Hill, 2019
 - **Useful websites:** yahoo.finance.com, Investopedia.com, capitaliq.com
 - **Additional material:** Wall Street Journal
 - **Financial Calculator:** You need a financial calculator for this course. You may use any model of your choice except for (i) calculators that reside on smartphones or (ii) any calculator that has wireless access to the internet. Also, if you use a programmable calculator (e.g., TI-83 Plus or TI-84), you are not allowed to use the programming features of your calculator. It's your own responsibility to learn the functions of your financial calculator.
 - Teaching materials are drawn from several textbooks, publications, and newspapers. Each class might have assigned readings, and I expect students to come prepared for the materials to be covered that day. Materials are much easier to digest if you have read the assigned materials in advance.
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Grading Policy

- Participation: 10%
 - Homework: 40%
 - Exam I: 25%
 - Exam II: 25%
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Course Policies

Homework

Assignments are released at the beginning of the semester. They are due before the review sessions before each exam. I strongly encourage you to start working on the assignments as we cover the material. Late submissions are not accepted. Group work is encouraged, but every student must submit the homework individually. You need to type up your answers. Hand-written assignments are not accepted.

Make-up Exams

No make-up exams will be given. Missing both exams will automatically result in an F grade for the course. If you approach me proactively regarding missing an exam, I will provide you with options to make up for it.

Attendance

Attendance is not required, but it is your responsibility to catch up on any missed classes. Participation in class activities is expected.

Classroom Decorum

Students are expected to maintain a professional learning environment.

Academic Calendar

Week	Date	Topics and Lectures
1	08/19	Introduction
2	08/26	Financial Markets, Asset Classes, Financial Instruments (CH 1 & 2)
3	09/09	Risk and Return, Efficient Diversification (CH 5 & 6)
4	09/16	Capital Asset Pricing Model and Arbitrage Pricing Theory (Chapter 7)
5	09/23	Bond Prices and Yields (Chapter 10)
6	09/30	CH 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10 Review
7	10/07	Exam I (2.5 hours)
8	10/14	Security Markets, Equity Valuation Models (CH 3 & 13)
9	10/21	Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies, Options Markets (CH 4 & 15)
10	10/28	Options Markets, Options Valuation (CH 15 & 16)
11	11/04	Performance Evaluation (Chapter 18)
12	11/11	CH 3, 13, 4, 15, 16, 18 Review
13	11/18	Exam II (2.5 hours)

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on Getting Started with eLearning.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the eLearning website. Please see the course access and navigation section of the Getting Started with eLearning webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials webpage. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (866-588-3192), an email request service, and an online chat service.

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student Accessibility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement

an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements violates the Student Code of Conduct.

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required before such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Note

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.