# FIN 6310.5U1—Investment Management

Naveen Jindal School of Management The University of Texas at Dallas Summer 2015 Monday 6:00-10:00 PM JSOM 11.206

## **Professor Contact Information**

David M. Cordell, PhD, CFA, CFP<sup>®</sup>, CLU Office: JSOM 14.308, (972) 883-2718, david.cordell@utdallas.edu Feel free to contact me through my email address or through eLearning Office hours: Monday and Tuesday 4:00-6:00 PM, and by appointment

## **Course Description**

FIN 6310 - Investment Management (3 semester hours) The course is intended to provide an understanding of the role of modern financial theory in portfolio management and to present a framework for addressing current issues in the management of financial assets. Topics to be covered during the semester include trading, valuation, active portfolio management, asset allocation, global diversification, performance measurement, financial derivatives, and fixed income securities. Prerequisite: FIN 6301, and Co/Prerequisite: FIN 6306. (3-0) S

## Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes (SLOs)

SLOs specified for this course include the following:

- Utilize various pricing models to calculate security values and required rates of return.
- Apply techniques from modern portfolio theory to create efficient portfolios
- Utilize derivative securities to manage investment risk
- Evaluate investment performance with quantitative measures.

#### Additional SLOs include the following:

- Understand the characteristics of different financial assets such as money market instruments, bonds and stocks, and how to buy and sell them in financial markets.
- Calculate ex ante and ex post return and risk
- Understand the benefit of the diversification of holding a portfolio of assets, including the importance played by the market portfolio.
- Apply different valuation models to evaluate fixed income securities & stocks
- Apply fundamental analysis techniques
- Evaluate the quality of investment companies (mutual funds and exchange traded funds)

#### **Textbooks and Materials**

- **Required:** *Investments*, Zvi Bodie, Alex Kane & Alan J. Marcus (McGraw-Hill/Irwin, 10<sup>th</sup> edition, 2014), ISBN 978-0-07-786167-4.
- Financial Calculator--TI BAII Plus
- Suggested Course Materials: *Wall Street Journal* and other financial periodicals (such as *Barron's* and *The Economist*) and professional journals (such as *Journal of Portfolio Management* or the *Financial Analysts Journal*). Also, you will find financial websites such as finance.yahoo.com and other commercial sites helpful.

## Academic Calendar

Each student is responsible for staying current with university drop/withdrawal deadlines.

#### **Technical Support**

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: <u>assist@utdallas.edu</u> or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

#### **Tentative Class Schedule**

Date	Chapter	Topics
June 1	1	The Investment Environment
	2	Asset Classes and Financial Instruments
	3	How Securities are Traded
June 8	4	Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies
	5	Risk, Return, and the Historical Record
June 15	6	Capital Allocation to Risky Assets
	7	Optimal Risky Portfolios
June 22	8	Index Models
	9	The Capital Asset Pricing Model
	10	Arbitrage Pricing Theory and Multifactor Models of Risk and Return
June 29	11	The Efficient Market Hypothesis – PROJECT 1 DUE
	12	Behavioral Finance and Technical Analysis
	13	Empirical Evidence on Security Returns
July 6	14	Bond Prices and Yields
	15	The Term Structure of Interest Rates
	16	Managing Bond Portfolios
July 13	17	Macroeconomic and Industry Analysis
	18	Equity Valuation Models
	19	Financial Statement Analysis
July 20	20	Option Markets: Introduction
•	21	Option Valuation
	22	Futures Markets
	23	Futures, Swaps, and Risk Management
July 27	24	Portfolio Performance Evaluation – PROJECT 2 DUE
	25	International Diversification
	26	Hedge Funds
August 3	27	The Theory of Active Portfolio Management
U	28	Investment Policy and the Framework of the CFA Institute
August 7, 8		COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM – AUGUST 7 OR 8.
e ,		ACTUAL DATE AND TIME TO BE DETERMINED BY REGISTRAR AFTER
		CENSUS DATE (JUNE 5)

#### **Grading Weights**

Homework	20
Projects (2)	20
Quizzes	30
Final Exam	<u>30</u>
	100%

## Homework, Projects, Quizzes, and Final Exam

Homework will be due every week, sometimes two per week, consisting of problems and other types of activities. **Homework will not be accepted after the due date.** One homework grade can be dropped.

Two projects will be assigned. Details will be provided later.

- 1) Due June 29 mutual fund/ETF analysis.
- 2) Due July 27 –security analysis.

Quizzes will be given in the last part of every class meeting and will include multiple choice questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, short answer questions, and problems. **Quizzes may not be taken late.** One quiz grade can be dropped.

The final exam will have the same format as the quizzes, and some quiz questions will be repeated on the final exam.

#### Quiz and exam questions will include information that is:

- 1. covered in the text, but not in lectures,
- 2. covered in lectures, but not in the text,
- 3. covered in both the text and lectures.

## **Course & Instructor Policies**

The instructor reserves the right to add bonus questions to any or all of the exams. Otherwise, the traditional 100 point, maximum grade per exam/quiz will be followed. Final semester grades will be assigned letter grades such as A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 or below). Unless there is a computational error, absolutely NO final semester grades will be changed. The time to be concerned about your grade is NOW and NOT the end of the semester.

Various items will be posted on eLearning. Please be sure to stay current by checking the sections "Course Content/Assignments" and "Course Content/Handouts" on eLearning for this course.

#### All cell phones MUST be turned off before class begins. Laptop computers are not allowed in class except in specified

**class activities.** No eating is allowed in the classroom, but non-alcoholic beverages are acceptable. If you anticipate the need to use the restroom during the class period, please do so before the class begins. Please avoid leaving during class and then returning as it is not only disruptive to the class, but also disrespectful to the instructor in the same way that it would be disrespectful to your employer to leave during a staff meeting. Your whole-hearted attention and participation are expected during each class.

Although head coverings for bona fide religious purposes are welcome in class, baseball caps and other such fashion statements are not. In general, our expectation is that the classroom will be more like a board room than a family room.

You will determine the extent of your knowledge gained from this course. If you remain current with the readings and assignments, attend class, ask questions and work through the end of chapter questions, you should perform well in this class. Attendance will be monitored, but it will only be explicitly considered in borderline cases.

## Field Trip Policies, Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities.

Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at http://www.utdallas.edu/administration/risk/travel.php5. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.

#### **Student Conduct and Discipline**

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UT Dallas printed publication, A to Z Guide, which is available to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's Handbook of Operating Procedures. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html.

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

[Added July 2010] Students are expected to be attentive during class and to participate actively in group activities. Students are expected to listen respectfully to faculty and to other students who are speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in class. Classes may discuss issues that require sensitivity and maturity. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

## **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty: Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submitting for credit any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, or any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source, is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

## **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe upon the copyright owners rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (UTDPP1043). For more information about the fair use exemption, see http://copyright.lib.utexas.edu/copypol2.html.

#### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's UT Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UT Dallas student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individuals corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UT Dallas furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at UT Dallas provides a method for students to have their UT Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

#### **Class Attendance**

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Absences may lower a student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the instructor. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

#### Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal from any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course inventory and in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, a professor or other instructor cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

## **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in university policy UTDSP5005 (http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5005). In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originated.

#### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semesterâ $\in$ <sup>TM</sup>s end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

## **Disability Services**

It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for a course, please discuss it with an OSA staff member and allow at least one week's advanced notice. Students who have questions about receiving accommodations, or those who have, or think they may have, a disability (mobility, sensory, health, psychological, learning, etc.) are invited to contact the Office of Student AccessAbility for a confidential discussion.

The primary functions of the Office of Student AccessAbility are to provide:

- academic accommodations for students with a documented permanent physical, mental or sensory disability
- non-academic accommodations
- resource and referral information and advocacy support as necessary and appropriate.

OSA is located in the Student Services Building, suite 3.200. They can be reached by phone at (972) 883-2098, or by email at disabilityservice@utdallas.edu.

## **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

## **Avoiding Plagiarism**

[Adapted from Duke University's guidelines for writers; added July 2010]

Take time to make careful choices among--and learn to use--the research tools available to you. You will probably find that your favorite web search engine is not adequate by itself for college-level research. Consult with your professor or a librarian. You may need to use specialized research tools, some of which may require learning new searching techniques.

Expect to make trips to the library. While you can access many of the library's resources from your home computer, you may find that you need to make several trips to use materials or research tools that are not accessible remotely. Of course, you will be seeking the best information, not settling for sources simply because they happen to be available online.

Allow time for gathering materials that are not available at UT Dallas. The InterLibrary Loan Office can borrow articles and books from other libraries, but this process takes additional time.

Allow time for reading, rereading, absorbing information, taking notes, synthesizing, and revising your research strategy or conducting additional research as new questions arise.

Sloppy note-taking increases the risk that you will unintentionally plagiarize. Unless you have taken note carefully, it may be hard to tell whether you copied certain passages exactly, paraphrased them, or wrote them yourself. This is especially problematic when using electronic source materials, since they can so easily be copied and pasted into your own document.

Identify words that you copy directly from a source by placing quotation marks around them, typing them in a different color, or highlighting them. (Do this immediately as you are making your notes. Don't expect to remember days or weeks later what phrases you copied directly.) Make sure to indicate the exact beginning and end of the quoted passage. Copy the wording, punctuation and spelling exactly as it appears in the original.

Jot down the page number and author or title of the source each time you make a note, even if you are not quoting directly but are only paraphrasing.

Keep a working bibliography of your sources so that you can go back to them easily when it's time to double-check the accuracy of your notes. If you do this faithfully during the note-taking phase, you will have no trouble completing the "works cited" section of your paper later on.

Keep a research log. As you search databases and consult reference books, keep track of what search terms and databases you used and the call numbers and URLs of information sources. This will help if you need to refine your research strategy, locate a source a second time, or show your professor what works you consulted in the process of completing the project.

You must cite direct quotes.

You must cite paraphrases. Paraphrasing is rewriting a passage or block of text in your own words. If you paraphrase, you must still cite the original source of the idea.

You must cite ideas given to you in a conversation, in correspondence, or over email.

You must cite sayings or quotations that are not familiar, or facts that are not "common knowledge." However, it is not necessary to cite a source if you are repeating a well known quote or familiar proverb. Common knowledge is something that is widely known. For example, it is widely known that Bill Clinton served two terms as president; it would not be necessary to cite a source for this fact.

These types of sources should be cited as well. Printed sources: Books, parts of books, magazine or journal articles, newspaper articles, letters, diaries, public or private documents; Electronic sources: Web pages, articles from e-journals, newsgroup postings, graphics, email messages, software, databases; Images: Works of art, illustrations, cartoons, tables, charts, graphs; Recorded or spoken material: Course lectures, films, videos, TV or radio broadcasts, interviews, public speeches, conversations.

## **Resources to Help You Succeed**

The GEMS Center (located within the Conference Center) provides a wide array of free academic support and enhancement for UT Dallas undergraduate students. Offerings include, but are not limited to, a Math Lab and Writing Center, Peer Tutoring (with a focus on science, technology, engineering and math courses), test review sessions, and academic success coaching. The current menu of services, schedules, and contact information is posted on the GEMS website: http://www.utdallas.edu/ossa/gems/. [Added July 2010]

A PDF copy of this document is available at dox.utdallas.edu/instruction1044.

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The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the <u>Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents of the University of</u> <u>Texas System</u>, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the Course Syllabus Page 8, <u>University's Handbook of Operating Procedures</u>. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SSB 4.400, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

## Academic Integrity

The faculty and administration of the School of Management expect from our students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work. We want to establish a reputation for the honorable behavior of our graduates, which extends throughout their careers. Both your individual reputation and the school's reputation matter to your success.

The Judicial Affairs website lists examples of academic dishonesty. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, facilitating academic dishonesty, fabrication, failure to contribute to a collaborative project and sabotage. Some of the ways students may engage in academic dishonesty are:

- Coughing and/or using visual or auditory signals in a test;
- Concealing notes on hands, caps, shoes, in pockets or the back of beverage bottle labels;
- Writing in blue books prior to an examination;
- Writing information on blackboards, desks, or keeping notes on the floor;
- Obtaining copies of an exam in advance;
- Passing information from an earlier class to a later class;
- Leaving information in the bathroom;
- Exchanging exams so that neighbors have identical test forms;
- Having a substitute take a test and providing falsified identification for the substitute;
- Fabricating data for lab assignments;
- Changing a graded paper and requesting that it be regraded;
- Failing to turn in a test or assignment and later suggesting the faculty member lost the item;
- Stealing another student's graded test and affixing one's own name on it;
- Recording two answers, one on the test form, one on the answer sheet;
- Marking an answer sheet to enable another to see the answer;
- Encircling two adjacent answers and claiming to have had the correct answer;
- Stealing an exam for someone in another section or for placement in a test file;
- Using an electronic device to store test information, or to send or receive answers for a test;
- Destroying or removing library materials to gain an academic advantage;
- Consulting assignment solutions posted on websites of previous course offerings;
- Transferring a computer file from one person's account to another;
- Transmitting posted answers for an exam to a student in a testing area via electronic device;
- Downloading text from the Internet or other sources without proper attribution;
- Citing to false references or findings in research or other academic exercises;
- Unauthorized collaborating with another person in preparing academic exercises.
- Submitting a substantial portion of the same academic work more than once without written authorization from the instructor.

http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-Basicexamples.html Updated: August, 2011

Plagiarism on written assignments, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable.

During tests and quizzes, students in this section are not allowed to have with them any food, scratch paper, course materials, textbooks, notes, invisible ink pens, or electronic devices, including IPads, IPhones, IPods, MP3 Players, earphones, radios, smart phones, cameras, multi-function timepieces, or computers. When possible, students should sit in alternating seats, face forward at all times, and remove any clothing which might conceal eye movements, reflect images of another's work, or hide course material for copying. Exam proctors will monitor any communication or signaling between students by talking, whispering, or making sounds, or by using your hands, feet, other body movements, the test paper itself or your writing implement.

Students in this course suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings, and if found responsible, the following minimum sanctions will be applied:

- 1. Homework Zero for the Assignment
- 2. Case Write-ups Zero for the Assignment
- 3. Quizzes Zero for the Quiz
- 4. Presentations Zero for the Assignment
- 5. Group Work Zero for the Assignment for all group members
- 6. Tests F for the course

These sanctions will be administered only after a student has been found officially responsible for academic dishonesty, either through waiving their right for a disciplinary hearing, or being declared responsible after a hearing administered by Judicial Affairs and the Dean of Student's Office .

In the event that the student receives a failing grade for the course for academic dishonesty, the student is not allowed to withdraw as a way of preventing the grade from being entered on their record. Where a student receives an F in a course and chooses to take the course over to improve their grade, the original grade of F remains on their transcript, but does not count towards calculation of their GPA.

The School of Management also reserves the right to review a student's disciplinary record, on file with the Dean of Students, as one of the criteria for determining a student's eligibility for a scholarship.

## **Judicial Affairs Procedures**

Under authority delegated by the Dean of Students, a faculty member who has reason to suspect that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty may conduct a conference with the student in compliance with the following procedures:

- (i) the student will be informed that he/she is believed to have committed an act or acts of academic dishonesty in violation of University rules;
- (ii) the student will be presented with any information in the knowledge or possession of the instructor which tends to support the allegation(s) of academic dishonesty;
- (iii) the student will be given an opportunity to present information on his/her behalf;
- (iv) after meeting with the student, the faculty member may choose not to refer the allegation if he/she determines that the allegations are not supported by the evidence; or
- (v) after meeting with the student, the faculty member may refer the allegations to the dean of students along with a referral form and all supporting documentation of the alleged violation. Under separate cover, the faculty member should forward the appropriate grade to be assessed if a student is found to be responsible for academic dishonesty;
- (vi) the faculty member may consult with the dean of students in determining the recommended grade;
- (vii) the faculty member must not impose any independent sanctions upon the student in lieu of a referral to Judicial Affairs;
- (viii) the faculty member may not impose a sanction of suspension or expulsion, but may make this *recommendation* in the referral documentation

If the faculty member chooses not to meet with the student and instead forwards the appropriate documentation directly to the dean of students, they should attempt to inform the student of the allegation and notify the student that the information has been forwarded to the Office of Dean of Students for investigation.

The student, pending a hearing, remains responsible for all academic exercises and syllabus requirements. The student may remain in class if the student's presence in the class does not interfere with the professor's ability to teach the class or the ability of other class members to learn. (See Section 49.07, page V-49-4 for information regarding the removal of a student from class).

Upon receipt of the referral form, class syllabus, and the supporting material/documentation from the faculty member, the dean shall proceed under the guidelines in the <u>Handbook of Operating Procedures</u>, Chapter 49, Subchapter C. If the respondent disputes the facts upon which the allegations are based, a fair and impartial disciplinary committee comprised of UTD faculty and students, shall hold a hearing and determine the responsibility of the student. If they find the student in violation of the code of conduct, the dean will then affirm the minimum sanction as provided in the syllabus, and share this information with the student. The dean will review the student's prior disciplinary record and assess additional sanctions where appropriate to the circumstances. The dean will inform the student and the faculty member of their decision.

## **Copyright Notice**

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an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

## Withdrawal from Class

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## **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's Handbook of Operating Procedures.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the deal will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

#### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

## **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their nondisabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY) disabilityservice@utdallas.edu

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

## **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

## These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.