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Web: SuCourse
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the field of investments. Topics include: securities markets; bond and equity valuation; risk-return relationship; diversification; asset pricing models; active portfolio management; efficient market hypothesis and behavioral finance.

In this course, students are introduced to analytical and technical skills needed in finance. Throughout the course, ethical aspects of financial relationships, actions and decisions are discussed. This helps students become aware of the many ways in financial decisions have ethical dimensions.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Describe how financial markets operate,
2. Classify various financial instruments,
3. Distinguish between the assumptions behind and the implications of various asset pricing models,
4. Analyze financial data within the context of the Portfolio Theory,
5. Perform portfolio performance evaluation and attribution analysis

Course Materials

3. Other resources: Financial calculator; additional reading materials (provided by instructor).

Instructional Design:

In-class lectures introduce students with the foundations of the main financial concepts. Students will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge they acquire in the classes by completing the assignments and class projects.
Grade Determinants

Your overall course grade will be determined through 4 principal assessment tools: (a) Quizzes – 25% (b) Assignments – 25% (c) Final exam – 50%

The final course grade will be determined based on students’ overall ranking in the class. This effectively amounts to a curve.

1. **Quizzes (25%)**: There will six quizzes that will be given at the beginning of each lecture. These quizzes will consist of easy questions that test your understanding of the material covered in the last lecture. You will **not** be able to make-up any quizzes that you miss. These quizzes will serve as your ‘reality check’ in gauging how well you understand the course material. The lowest quiz grade will be disregarded when the total quiz grade is calculated.

2. **Assignments (25%)**: There will be several homeworks. The homeworks and their solutions will be uploaded on SuCourse.

3. **Final Exam (50%)**: The final exam will test your understanding of investments concepts and your ability to solve financial problems. It is scheduled on **January 3rd** between 13:00 and 16:00.

Course Policies

- **Adherence to deadlines**: Please be sure to adhere to all established course deadlines and due dates. Make up exams or extensions will be granted only under rare and extenuating circumstances.

- **Attendance & Other Protocol**: Students are expected to attend all lectures and participate in class discussion. The general MFIN program attendance policy applies. Avoid being distracted by e-mails, phone calls, web surfing etc. during class. I strongly encourage you to consult with me on a regular basis to discuss how the class is going for you, get periodic updates on your individual standing in the class, review coursework, understand class expectations, and discuss other relevant issues as needed.

Academic Honesty:

Learning is enhanced through cooperation and as such you are encouraged to work in groups, ask for and give help freely in all appropriate settings. At the same time, as a matter of personal integrity, you should only represent your own work as yours. Everything you borrow from books, articles, or web sites should be properly cited. Although you are encouraged to discuss your ideas with others, it is important that you do not share your writing with anyone. Using ideas, text and other intellectual property developed by someone else while claiming it is your original work is plagiarism. Copying from others or providing answers or information, written or oral, to others is cheating. Unauthorized help from another person or having someone else write one’s paper or assignment is collusion. Cheating, plagiarism and collusion are serious offenses that could result in a failing grade and disciplinary action. Please pay utmost attention to avoid such accusations.
### Topics to be Covered

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<td>Topic: Investment Characteristics of Portfolios</td>
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