

University of Pittsburgh
Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business
Spring 2014 (2144)

Full-Time MBA Program
BFIN 2039 – Investment Management / Capital Markets
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mehmet F. Yalin
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Class time: MoWe 8:00am-9:20am
Class room: MERVS 201
Office hours: by appointment

Course Description: *Investment Management / Capital Markets* teaches the theory and practice of common investment strategies in the financial world. The course begins with an introduction of the financial world emphasizing its structure and tools and continues elaborating on the portfolio theory and its applications. The course then discusses the interest rate theory and the structure and significance of the Federal Reserve. Finally, the course introduces simulation and Visual Basic and some of their applications in finance.

Recommended Textbook: Bodie, Kane, and Marcus, *Investments*, 9th edition, McGraw Hill/Irwin, ISBN 9-780073-530703.

Calculator: A calculator that at least can handle exponentiation is required. Calculators with built-in financial formulae may also be used.

Recommended Sources: *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *BusinessWeek*, *Yahoo! Finance* (finance.yahoo.com), *MarketWatch* (www.marketwatch.com), *Bloomberg* (www.bloomberg.com).

Grading: There are one midterm exam and one final exam each accounting for 25% of the final grade. Exams are closed book; however, a formula sheet is supplied when necessary and calculators are permitted. Exams are non-cumulative and have conceptual multiple choice questions and quantitative open-end questions. There are four homework sets each accounting for 5% of the final grade. Legible and organized solutions to these assignments are to be submitted in class on the due dates stated in the *Course Schedule*. There is one course project on the applications of portfolio theory accounting for 30% of the final grade. Detailed information on this project will be given during the semester. Letter grades will be assigned based on a traditional straight scale where scores 90 to 100 receive *A – to A +*; 80 to 89.9 receive *B – to B +*; 70 to 79.9 receive *C – to C +*; 60 to 69.9 receive *D – to D +*; and 0 to 59.9 receive *F*. Within each letter grade range, the "letter grade minus" and the "letter grade plus" are assigned a 3-point range each and the "letter grade" is assigned a 4-point range.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities that need accommodation are encouraged to contact both the instructor and Disability Resources and Services (DRS) located in 140 William Pitt Union (412-648-7890 / 412-383-7355(TTY)).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Textbook Readings	Reminders
1/8	Some Applications in Excel		
1/13			
1/15			
1/20	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>		
1/22	Some Applications in Excel (<i>cont'd</i>)		
1/24	Introduction	Chapters 1-4	
1/27			
1/29	<i>Professional Development Day</i>		
2/3	Introduction (<i>cont'd</i>)	Chapters 1-4	
2/5			
2/10			
2/12			
2/17	Portfolio Theory and Practice & Equilibrium in Capital Markets & Portfolio Performance Evaluation	Chapters 5-12, 24	
2/19			Homework Set 1 due
2/24			
2/26	MIDTERM EXAM		
3/3	Portfolio Theory and Practice & Equilibrium in Capital Markets & Portfolio Performance Evaluation (<i>cont'd</i>)	Chapters 5-12, 24	
3/5			Homework Set 2 due
3/10	<i>Spring Break</i>		
3/12	<i>Spring Break</i>		
3/17	Portfolio Theory and Practice & Equilibrium in Capital Markets & Portfolio Performance Evaluation (<i>cont'd</i>)	Chapters 5-12, 24	
3/19			
3/24	The Term Structure of Interest Rates	Chapter 15	
3/26			Homework Set 3 due
3/31			
4/2	Introduction to Simulation Introduction to Visual Basic		
4/7			
4/9			Homework Set 4 due
4/14			
4/16			
TBA	FINAL EXAM		