



蘇州大學
Soochow University

FIN 411 Investment Analysis and Portfolio

Management

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course explores the fundamental principles of investment analysis and the theory and techniques of portfolio management. It provides the necessary financial theory and quantitative tools for understanding the determination of stock, bond, and option prices. Topics covered include risk and return in financial markets, the term structure of interest rates, portfolio choice, the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM), market efficiency, behavioral finance, futures, options, option pricing, and portfolio performance evaluation.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a systematic knowledge of the theoretical foundations and techniques of investment analysis.
2. Appreciate recent developments and methodologies in the ever-evolving field of investment analysis.
3. Apply quantitative techniques to analyze common stocks, bonds, and derivative securities such as options and futures.
4. Select, apply and critically evaluate various methods in portfolio management.

PREREQUISITES

FIN 210 Mathematical Finance



GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Problem Sets	40 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Zvi Bodie, Alex Kane, Alan J. Marcus, *Investments*, 12th Edition, McGraw-Hill Education, 2020.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Introduction and Course Overview Topic 2: The Investment Environment Topic 3: Asset Classes and Financial Instruments Topic 4: Risk, Return, and the Historical Record Assessments: Problem Set#1



Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Capital Allocation to Risky Assets Topic 6: Efficient Diversification Topic 7: The Capital Asset Pricing Model Topic 8: Practical Asset Allocation Assessments: Problem Set#2
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Arbitrage Pricing Theory and Multifactor Models of Risk and Return Topic 10: The Efficient Market Hypothesis Topic 11: Behavioral Finance and Technical Analysis Topic 12: Empirical Evidence on Security Returns Assessments: Problem Set#3 Midterm#1
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Fixed-Income Securities Topic 14: Bond Prices and Yields Topic 15: The Term Structure of Interest Rates Topic 16: Managing Bond Portfolios Assessments: Problem Set#4 Midterm#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Options, Futures, and Other Derivatives Topic 18: Options, Futures, and Other Derivatives (Cont.) Topic 19: Portfolio Performance Evaluation Topic 20: Review for Final Exam Assessments: Problem Set#5 Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning



and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.