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Phone: 619-594-2082          Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00-4:00 PM
Fax: 619-594-3272            or by appointment
E-mail: ntang@mail.sdsu.edu Class: TTH9:30–10:45 AM, LL-408

BSBA Program Goals
BSBA students will graduate being:
• Effective Communicators
• Critical Thinkers
• Able to Analyze Ethical Problems
• Global in their perspective
• Knowledgeable about the essentials of business

FIN327 contributes to these goals through its student learning outcomes:

Course Objective
To advance the understanding of fundamental concepts of finance, financial markets and market participants, valuation techniques of financial instruments, and working knowledge of portfolio management.

Student Learning Outcomes
At the end of this course students should be able to:
1. Describe the general structure of various financial markets.
2. Value financial products such as common stocks (both undervalued and overvalued) and fixed-income securities.
3. Use financial derivatives as hedging instruments.

For whom the course is intended:
Students seeking eventual employment with a brokerage company, investment company, or financial services company with responsibilities in evaluating and selecting equity and fixed-income securities for investment portfolios.

Text and Readings:

A current subscription to an investment periodical such as Wall Street Journal is strongly recommended. Learn to use your financial calculator early in the course.
Prerequisites: FIN 323
What you should already know:
Statistical concepts: mean, standard deviation, expected returns, correlation, and regression.
Financial concepts: time value of money, CAPM, NPV and IRR, nominal and real interest rates, financial statement analysis, cost of capital, dividend policy and leverage.

Materials on Blackboard:
You should automatically be enrolled as a blackboard user for Finance 327 when you register for the course. Go to “blackboard.sdsu.edu” to obtain access to the materials. The Course Information folder contains the syllabus. The Assignments folder has questions and reading materials for the five assignments. The Course documents folder has a) lecture notes---class notes are posted prior to class meetings; b) readings---you are expected to read the materials and prepare to discuss them in the class. C) tasks---these are class activities for class participation credits. I view blackboard as an integral tool for classroom use and will add content to it as relevant. Please be sure to update your current e-mail address on blackboard.

Assignments
- To encourage students with different backgrounds to share their experience, you are required to form groups of 3-4 people to finish the assignments. You only need to submit one copy of the work as a team.
- Each assignment consists of a possible ten points.
- The 9 points are based on the team work, that is, each team member will get the same score out of 9 points based on the quality of the work. If you complete each requirement promptly, properly and as expected you will earn 9 points on that assignment, if you minimally meet all the requirements you will earn 8 points. Points will be reduced if, in my opinion, you cover a topic in insufficient depth or if it is in error.
- The one point is for individual contribution to the team. When submitting the assignment, each team member will be evaluated by the other members on his contribution to the assignment
- There will be five assignments. Your assignment grade will consist of the total assignment points for the top three assignments.

Class Participations
- There are two ways you can get full credits (10 points) for class participation.
- There is a weekly investment contest which requires you to pick a security to invest for the coming week. The winner of the week (based on the weekly return) will present the trading strategies on Tuesday class and get two points for class participation. Please check “Wiki” under “Tools” on Blackboard for detailed rules.
- The other way to get class participation points is by completing tasks (2 points each). The key to investment is information. Today’s choices of online sites to access investment data are overwhelming. The main purpose of “tasks” is to help students not only find data on the Internet, but also understand the effective way to do so.
- You will be given the tasks and hints to explore various websites or resources to obtain investment data on stocks, bonds, derivative and economic conditions.
- You need to finish the task outside the class, briefly write down your answer and prepare to present your findings in class within 5 mins. Due to the limitation of the
class time, if there are too many participants for one task, I will randomly choose two to three students to present.

- I won’t grade the tasks, you will get credits for class participation as long as you submit your answers and get ready to present in class.
- There will be more than five tasks to give extra opportunity to those who miss some tasks.

**Grading Policies**
Grading for this course consists of **quiz 1 (15%), quiz 2 (20%), quiz 3 (20%), assignments (25%), class attendance (5%) and class participation (15%).**

- I do not give make-ups unless I am informed of an emergency **prior** to the date of the exam.
- Incompletes will be considered **only** if the student has participated in a significant portion of the course and an unforeseen emergency prevents completion.
- Undergraduate grades shall be: A, outstanding achievement; B, praiseworthy performance; C satisfactory performance; D, minimally passing and F, failing. The grade for average undergraduate achievement shall be C.
- Graduate grades shall be: A, superior performance; B, satisfactory performance; C, minimally passing; D, unacceptable for graduate degree credit and F, failing. The grade for average graduate achievement shall be B.
- I will use plus or minus grades (A- through D- only).
- Academic dishonesty is at least an automatic F.
## Weekly Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Textbook chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction</td>
<td>Aug 27, Aug 29, Sep 3</td>
<td>Investment process and environment</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Risk and Return Concepts</td>
<td>Sep 5, Sep 10</td>
<td>Risk and return measures, yields and CAPM model</td>
<td>Chapter 5, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Asset Classes</td>
<td>Sep 12, Sep 17</td>
<td>Types of financial instruments and indexes</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Securities Markets</td>
<td>Sep 19, Sep 24, Sep 26</td>
<td>Primary and secondary markets, market structure and operations,</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Market Efficiency</td>
<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>Efficient market hypothesis, behavioral finance and technical analysis</td>
<td>Chapter 8, 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Macro Analysis</td>
<td>Oct 8, Oct 10</td>
<td>Economic analysis, industry analysis and regulations on security</td>
<td>Chapter 12, 3.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Bond Pricing and</td>
<td>Oct 31, Nov 5, Nov 7, Nov 12</td>
<td>Bond options, bond pricing and yields, interest rate risk and</td>
<td>Chapter 10, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td></td>
<td>immunization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Options and Option</td>
<td>Nov 14, Nov 19, Nov 21, Nov 26, Dec 3</td>
<td>Option markets, options speculation, hedging and pricing</td>
<td>Chapter 15, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Futures Market</td>
<td>Dec 5, Dec 10</td>
<td>Future basics and futures markets</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quiz 1**  
Oct 1

**Quiz 2**  
Oct 29

**Quiz 3**  
Dec 12