

FINC 4541-Investment Analysis

Course Outline

Summer 2019

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Office Hrs: By appointment

(You are WELCOME to drop in any time I am in the office)

Catalog Description:

A study of the investment process with the concentration on the formulation of a sound investment program for both individuals and institutions.

Required Background or Experience:

- Prerequisites: FINC 3511 or equivalent
- Prerequisite Justification:
In depth knowledge of present value analysis and methods of valuation of securities is required. These topics are covered in FINC 3511.
- Writing Skills: .The course uses the writing skills developed in English courses and ABED 3100.

Expected Outcomes: ([Learning Goals \(http://www.westga.edu/acccfin/1676.php\)](http://www.westga.edu/acccfin/1676.php))

- Understand the operational mechanics of securities markets (LG 2, 3, 4, 5, 9)
- Develop the ability to interpret financial statements and financial information (LG 2, 4, 10)
- Improve analytical skills and critical thinking necessary to value and evaluate alternative investment decisions (LG 2, 3, 4, 5, 10)
- Improve written communications skills through preparation of investment projects (LG 1)
- Conduct research (library) necessary to make investment decisions and build and manage portfolios (LG 2, 4, 8, 10)
- Develop knowledge of equity and fixed income portfolio management (LGO 1, 10, 12)
- Understand the use of futures and options in portfolio management (LG 2, 5, 6, 10)
- Become familiar with global investment and portfolios (LG 9)

Text and References

- Investments: Analysis and Management^{13th} or 12 ed., Charles P. Jones and Gerald Jensen.

Special or Unique Student Materials:

- Students will need access to internet, Excel or other spreadsheet program.
- A financial calculator with a cash flow button is required. Examples: TI BAII plus, TI-83, TI-83 plus. Devices with a wireless connection (e.g. iPhone, Blackberry, iPad) are not allowed for test taking.

Special or Unique University Facilities:

Access to the Business School Computer Lab, and the Internet are required for investment projects.

Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:

Expanded description of the course:

- This course examines investment analysis from the standpoint of the individual. Topics include investment alternatives, security markets, trading procedures, bond valuation, stock valuation, and market indices.

Instructional Methods

- Lecture, discussion, problem solving, and applied projects.

Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:

Grading Policy (approximate):

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|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Midterm examination (2) | 200 points |
| 2. Final examination | 100 points |
| 3. Quizzes | 30 points |
| 4. Project (Retirement) | 10 points |

I guarantee the traditional grading scale of $A \geq 90$, etc. but reserve the right to curve if it helps the student.

Tests and quizzes will be online at your pace. However, the following **DEADLINES** must be met:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| July 07 (11:30 pm) | Quiz 1 and Test 1 |
| July 14 (11:30 pm) | Quiz 2 and Test 2 and Project (Retirement Plan) |
| July 25 (11:30 pm) | Quiz 3 and Final Exam |

Last Day to Withdraw with grade of “W” is July 11

Administrative Policies

- Class attendance is strongly recommended.
- No makeup tests/quizzes.
- You are responsible for knowledge of any administrative announcements (test information, schedule changes, etc. that are made during class).
- Tests/quizzes will be announced in advance.
- There is no extra credit in this course. Work submitted for credit in other courses will not count for credit in this course.
- If you require any special conditions for attending class or taking tests, please notify the instructor during the first week of classes.
- Requests for quiz/exam score adjustments must be made within one week of grade assignment.
- Finance is the most quantitative major in the core and depends heavily in accounting. If you did poorly in your math and accounting courses, finance is probably not the major for you.
- <https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/> contains important information pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class.
- Credit Hour Policy (3 credit hours): Students in this class will spend 150 minutes per week with faculty instruction (either face-to-face or online). Generally, students can expect to spend about 450 minutes of class work outside of the classroom each week. This out-of-class work may include, but is not limited to, readings, assignments, projects, group work, research, and test preparation. The amount of out of class time required for a given outcome will vary by student
- The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her my.westga.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.
- You are required to log in to Course Den at least once a week. I am required to report if students on financial aid are still participating in the course on a regular basis throughout the semester.

Suggested Schedule for Session IV:

The course is strictly online. The material on the Course Den is broken down into learning modules for the first midterm exam, second midterm exam and the final exam. I have narrated Power Point slides. In addition there are narrated PP slides that refer to word document. This is because I can't get narration into a word document. In addition, there are some **optional** YouTube videos that may be helpful. If these videos cover material that isn't covered in my narrated PP slides or the book you don't need to worry about it.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
06/28	1	Introduction
07/01	CNN Money Essentials	Retirement Accounts
07/02	4	Security Markets
07/03	5	Trading Securities
07/05	6	Return and risk

<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
07/08	13	Economy/Market Analysis
07/09	14	Sector/Industry Analysis
07/10	16	Technical Analysis
07/11	15	Company Analysis
07/12	10	Stock Valuation
07/15	10	Stock Valuation
07/16	17	Bond Pricing
07/17	17	Bond Pricing
07/18	3	Mutual Funds
07/19	3/3A	Mutual Funds
07/22	3/3A	Portfolio Formation
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Final Exam: July 25

Last day to withdraw with grade of “W” July 11