

# Finance 367: INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, UT AUSTIN

Spring 2011

Unique 02985  
MW, 9:30 am – 11:00 am  
GSB 5.153

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## Course Description and Goals

Finance 367 is an investment course which will provide a basis for making investment decisions. The course is intended for students who want to become investment professionals, knowledgeable individual investors, or both. The course will focus on the fundamental principles of risk and return, diversification, asset allocation, market efficiency, valuation of stocks, bonds and options. Students will understand market trading structures, equity and fixed income securities, investment strategies and evaluation methods. Investment and trading decision-making skills will be developed through classroom lectures, discussions, and problem assignments.

## Instructor

Professor Dr. Andre Guettler holds a doctoral degree in Business Administration from the University of Frankfurt (Germany). His research focuses on Banking and Mutual Funds. He has previously taught undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Frankfurt, EBS Business School, and National University of Singapore. He has done consulting projects for the German stock exchange (Deutsche Börse) and rating system validation for several banks.

## Course Resources

Required textbook: Bodie, Kane, and Marcus, **Essentials of Investments**, 8<sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw Hill.

Lecture notes, readings as well as solutions to selected problems will be available on the UT Blackboard system <https://courses.utexas.edu/webapps/login>  
You are required to check the blackboard site daily for course-updates.

Recommended: Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, etc

## Prerequisites

Finance 367 is a Restricted Course for students who are currently enrolled in a major program in the College of Business Administration. Note that several prerequisites apply for this course and

are published in the Course Schedule. Prior completion of Finance 357 or Finance 357 H (with a grade of at least a C) and its prerequisites are among these requirements.

### Exams and Grading

Grades will be based on the student's performance on three in-class tests, presentation, and portfolio investment report. Your overall score in the course will be determined mechanically as the weighted average of the five component scores.

Exam 1:	Wednesday, February 23, 2011	25%
Exam 2:	Wednesday, April 6, 2011	30%
Exam 3:	TBD (Finals Schedule)	25%
Team Presentation:		10%
Investment Report:		10%

Your overall grade will be determined by where your overall score lies in the distribution of all students' overall scores. The cut-offs in the distribution will be such that roughly 35% of students receive "A"s, 40% receive "B"s, and 25% receive grades below a "B." The exact curve cut-offs will depend on the level and shape of the score distribution. Plus/minus grades will be assigned for the final grade.

There is no opportunity in this course to do "extra-credit" work. Your grade will be determined solely by the components listed above. If you are taking the course **pass/fail** you must complete all projects and take all exams in order to pass the course.

All exams are in-class, closed-book. They cover material from lectures, assigned readings and exercises. Exams will strive to test comprehension and not merely memorization skills.

You are responsible for showing up at the proper time and location for all the exams! If you develop a schedule conflict with any of tests, contact the instructor as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours before the exam, to get pre-approval. If you fail to show up for an exam without instructor's pre-approval, then you must present a doctor's note stating that you were too sick to take the test. If you miss an exam without a valid reason, then you will receive a zero on the missed test.

### Team Presentation

Each team consists of 2 persons. **The presentation should be limited to 2-3 minutes per person, and 5-6 minutes per group.** Members of each group receive the same score on the presentation, except in rare circumstance (at instructor's discretion). **The groups are formed mechanically by students' last names**, although you have the option to swap topic with another student upon mutual agreements. The presentation topics and time get listed on Blackboard.

### Stock-game and Individual Report

Each student will manage a simulated portfolio with initial cash balance \$10,000,000 over the semester. The simulation is professionally-managed by Stock-Trak© Portfolio Simulations based in Atlanta, GA ([www.stocktrak.com](http://www.stocktrak.com)). The investment period extends from February 1 to April 30, 2011. You can make up to 200 trades and invest in any NYSE, NASDAQ-AMEX stock, a series of government and corporate bonds, a selection of over 2000 mutual funds and certain stocks trading on stock exchanges around the

world, including Bombay, Brazil, Hong Kong, London, Frankfurt, Mexico, and Tokyo. You can buy on margin, short sell, and even day trade. To manage your risk exposures, you can also invest in various options and futures contracts. Trades are submitted in real time via their web page.

At the end of the semester, each student needs to write a report addressing the following two sets of questions:

1, report the weekly performance of your portfolio, analyzes the macroeconomic, financial market and stock-specific news events that may have affected the risk and return performance of your portfolio, and evaluates statistically the relative and absolute performance using various tools and techniques learnt in the semester.

2, Based on your own investment experience, are you subject to any behavioral biases we discussed in class? What is your view on the market efficiency debate, and how has your view affected your portfolio management? Answer these questions in the second part of the report (2 pages, double-spaced, single-sided, 12-point font).

The report should be about 7 to 10 pages long (double-spaced, single-sided, 12-point font), not including various exhibits, figures and graphs to support the analysis. You will be graded by the quality of the report, NOT your investment performance (so you can experiment different strategies and see which “works”). **The report is due at 5pm on Thursday May 5, 2011. Late reports will receive no credit.**

### Continuous Feedback

I encourage you to give me feedback about the course material, my teaching style and anything else that would help you learn the course material better. You should come and talk to me in person if you have any concerns and/or suggestions. However, if that makes you uncomfortable, you can send me an anonymous email from a class email account that I have created at [www.mail.google.com](mailto:www.mail.google.com). **Login: guettler367ut, Password: “FeedBack367”** (case sensitive password).

### Students with Disabilities

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>.

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any individual suspected of cheating, including stealing or using stolen examinations, will be disciplined to the maximum extent possible. Review UT Honor Code at <http://registrar.utexas.edu/catalogs/gi09-10/ch01/index.html>

The McCombs School of Business has no tolerance for acts of scholastic dishonesty. The responsibilities of both students and faculty with regard to scholastic dishonesty are described in detail in the Policy Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty for the McCombs School of Business:

*By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all of the faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all of the student*

*responsibilities described in that document. If the application of that Policy Statement to this class and its assignments is unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty: Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/> or the General Information Catalog to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.*

### Religious Holidays

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

### Calculators:

Recommended for this course is a financial calculator capable of calculating present values, solving for yields, and performing other basic time value calculations. Students bear the responsibility for learning to operate their calculators proficiently. Programmable calculators must be cleared before each test; and there is no sharing of calculators during the test. Present Value/future value tables will not be furnished with the examinations. It should be emphasized that the calculator cannot replace an understanding of the problem solving process.

### Class Web Sites and Student Privacy:

Password-protected class sites will be available for all accredited courses taught at The University. Syllabi, handouts, assignments and other resources are types of information that may be available within these sites. Site activities could include exchanging e-mail, engaging in class discussions and chats, and exchanging files. In addition, class e-mail rosters will be a component of the sites. Students who do not want their names included in these electronic class rosters must restrict their directory information in the Office of the Registrar, Main Building, Room 1. For information on restricting directory information see:  
<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi02-03/app/appc09.html>.

### Other IMPORTANT Course Policies:

1. The lectures will sometimes cover extra material (e.g., exercises, discussions) not contained in lecture notes. You are responsible for everything covered or assigned in class. If you miss a class, it is entirely your responsibility to determine what you have missed including any administrative announcements I may have made.
2. Should you have to leave class early, please have the courtesy of letting the instructor know before the beginning of the period and leave quietly so as not to disturb the other members of the class.
3. E-mail and the Internet access are not allowed during lectures. The use of laptop computers is permitted solely for the purposes of taking notes and obtaining course

materials. Mobile phones, Blackberries, and other electronic devices have to be switched off during class at all times.

4. Examinations will not be returned. The students can review their exams only during the week directly following the examination. If you feel your posted examination grade is incorrect, you must notify me in writing during this same one-week period. After one week, the examination papers will be stored and the problem will not be researched.

### NOTE

I reserve the right to make modification to this syllabus. The modifications (if any) will be announced in class. You are responsible for all announcements made in class.

### Course Calendar (more details are posted on blackboard)

#### Module 1

- ✓ Chapter 1: Investment: Background and Issues
- ✓ Chapter 2: Asset Classes and Financial Instruments
- ✓ Chapter 3: Securities Markets
- ✓ Chapter 4: Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies

#### Module 2

- ✓ Chapter 5: Risk and Return
- ✓ Chapter 6: Efficient Diversification
- ✓ Chapter 7: CAPM
- ✓ Chapter 8: Market Efficiency Hypothesis

#### Module 3

- ✓ Chapter 9: Behavioral Finance and Technical Analysis
- ✓ Chapter 13: Equity Valuation
- ✓ Chapter 10: Bond Prices and Yields
- ✓ Chapter 11: Managing Portfolios of Bonds
- ✓ Chapter 15: Options Markets
- ✓ Chapter 16: Option Valuations

### Study Guide

1. You need to understand what you are studying, whether it be conceptual or analytical. Relying on your calculator as a means to simply plug in numbers for an answer will get you into trouble. When you study, ask yourself such question as:
  - i) What is the purpose of this concept or formula?
  - ii) Why is it important?
  - iii) How does the author demonstrate its importance?
  - iv) How does it “fit” with what you have studied so far? –either in this class or in an earlier class.
2. I suggest that you read each chapter once **before** it is discussed in class and then read it again **after** the topic is covered in class. Reading the material beforehand will greatly assist in having meaningful class discussions. If you are having trouble with a concept or problem, contact me or the TA as soon as possible.

3. **The problem sets associated with each chapter are not to be handed in;** however, it is important that you work and understand them. Working these problems is a necessary step in preparing for the exam. The examination problems will appear simpler for those who work the problem sets. Reviewing the examples in the book, the concept check questions (whose answers are provided at the end of the chapter) as well as the key terms at the end of the chapter will also be useful in mastering the material and preparing for the exams.
  
4. In order to successfully complete this course, the concepts must be studied **continuously** throughout the semester. For most students, the information cannot be mastered by waiting until exam time. Do not cram right before an exam which usually results in confusion, anxiety, and a lack of the big picture.