



FIN 3315
Investments
CRN: 12657
Course credits: 3
TR 10:30 - 11:50 am
Fall 2023

Professor:

Name: Linh N. Thompson, Ph.D.
Email: lnthompson@utep.edu
Office location: BSN 232
Office hours: TR 1:20 - 2:20 PM

Course Prerequisite(s): FIN 3310

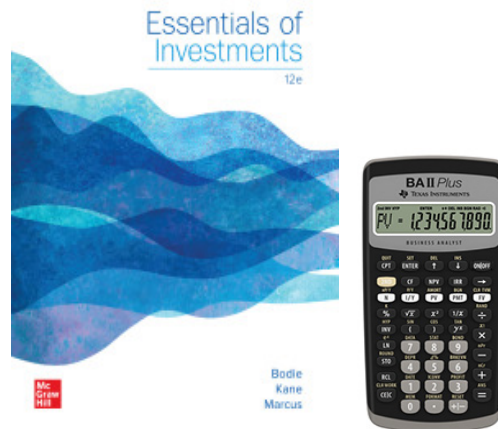
Course Description: This course is a comprehensive study of investment analysis and portfolio management. The course introduces the theories of managing a portfolio of financial assets within the risk - return framework. The course covers the allocation process of different asset classes into efficient portfolios considering the investment criteria. In this course, various security analysis techniques and valuation models are discussed.

Learning Objectives: You will learn to understand how and when to apply different valuation techniques of financial analysis, demonstrated through your ability to:

- Compile, analyze and interpret financial data related to the current investment environment for the market and publicly traded companies
- Analyze, value, and make recommendations for various securities
- Perform financial modeling to evaluate investments and risk
- Using different techniques to manage and balance portfolios

Course Materials:

- **Required Text:** *Essentials of Investments*, 12th Edition
Authors: Bodie, Kane, and Marcus [with Connect access code]
McGraw-Hill Connect is an online software that allows students to submit homework assignments and check their work online. Access to McGraw-Hill Connect is required for this course. Explore [Purchase Options](#) here.
- **Required Reading:** UTEP takes pride in being a CFA Affiliated University. Affiliated Universities must cover the CFA Institute [Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct](#) (Download the pdf file from the link)
- **McGraw Hill Connect:** Once your access is activated, you can access your Connect through Blackboard. Please use only one Connect account so that your grades can be synced from Connect to Blackboard properly.



- **Financial Calculator:** You will need a financial calculator in order to do quantitative problems. For your reference, I will use the model *Texas Instruments BAI1 PLUS* throughout the course.
- **iClicker:** You are required to bring a device to participate in iClicker sessions during class. You can use a smart phone, tablet, or laptop. It is your responsibility to set up your iClicker account in a timely fashion, as well as making sure your device is working properly. If you do not have an existing iClicker student account, you will need to create one to be able to participate in class. Please use only one iClicker account for the class (UTEP email address is preferred). During these sessions, you will receive points for your participation and performance. iClicker is free to UTEP students (You do not have to purchase a subscription for iClicker).

Basis for Final Grade: The overall course grade is the weighted score of the following components:

iClicker Quizzes/Participation	20%
Homework	20%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	20%

1. **Quizzes:** There will be multiple in-class iClicker quizzes throughout the semester. You are expected to be in class to submit quizzes. You will receive points for both participation and performance.
2. **McGraw-Hill Connect Homework:** The homework assignments aim to help you understand the theories covered in the class and to prepare you for the exams. Students are required to complete these on McGraw-Hill Connect.
3. **Exams:**
 - All exams are closed book and notes. Missing an exam will result in a 0 for the exam. The only valid excuses are religious observance or a severe health issue documented and signed by a doctor.

- Students are allowed to use financial calculators during exams. A standard formula sheet will be provided for each exam.
- Each exam contains 25 multiple choice questions. Prior to each exam, a review session will be provided.
- There are 3 exams. Exams are NOT cumulative.

Letter Grade Distribution: At the end of the semester, you will receive a letter grade for the course. The letter grade distribution is as follows:

90.00 - 100.00	A
80.00 - 89.99	B
70.00 - 79.99	C
60.00 - 69.99	D
00.00 - 59.99	F

Feedback Policy & Grade Dissemination: The best way to communicate with me is through emails. Please do not use “Messages” on BB. I will respond to email communication relevant to the subject matter within 48 hours of the date received. I will provide feedback on assignments within two weeks of the posted deadline. Graded exams and materials in this course will be reviewed individually only by request. You can access your scores at any time using “Assessment Center” in Blackboard.

Course Policies:

- Check your Blackboard frequently for course materials and announcements. Blackboard will be the main communication platform for the class.
- **No late assignments will be accepted.** Late/missing assignment will result in 0 for the assignment.
- Accommodation requests are not retroactive.

University policies:

- **Withdrawal Policy:** A student may officially withdraw from this class with an automatic W at any time BEFORE Nov 3rd. No withdrawals will be allowed after this date. Automatic withdrawals will NOT be made by the instructor. To be withdrawn from the class, students must take the appropriate actions on or before the university deadline.
- **Academic Integrity of Students:** The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In all matters of intellectual pursuit, UTEP students must strive to achieve excellence based on the quality of work produced by the individual. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. It is imperative, therefore, that the members of this academic community understand the regulations pertaining to academic integrity and that all faculty members insist on adherence to these standards. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part

to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP), and available in the Office of the Dean of Students, and the homepage of The Dean of Students (DOS) at <http://www.utep.edu>, may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to failing grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others.

Course Support:

- **Academic Accommodations:** If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 915-747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at <http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>
Any request for accommodations needs to accompany with an official letter from CASS. Accommodations are NOT retro-active.
- **Blackboard Technical Support:** If you have technical difficulties in Blackboard, you can find access to the Blackboard guides and video resources in the UTEP Technology Support webpage at <https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/>. You can also contact the help desk by calling 915-747-4357 (HELP) or emailing helpdesk@utep.edu

Tentative Course Outline:

Chapter homework assignments are due the night before the next chapter's class. For the detailed due dates, please see the next page.

Week	Content
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aug 29: Chapter 3• Aug 31: Chapter 3
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sep 5: Chapter 5• Sep 7: Chapter 5
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sep 12: Chapter 6• Sep 14: Chapter 6
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sep 19: Chapter 6• Sep 21: Review
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sep 26: Review• Sep 28: Exam 1
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 3: Chapter 10• Oct 5: Chapter 10
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 10: Chapter 11• Oct 12: No Class (Professor will be at a conference)
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 17: Chapter 11• Oct 19: Chapter 13
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 24: Chapter 13• Oct 26: Chapter 13
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oct 31: Review• Nov 2: Review
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nov 7: Exam 2• Nov 9: Chapter 15
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nov 14: Chapter 15• Nov 16: Chapter 16
Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nov 21: Chapter 16• Nov 23: No Class (Thanksgiving)
Week 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nov 28: Chapter 16• Nov 30: Chapter 18
Week 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dec 5: Chapter 18• Dec 7: Review
Final week	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dec 14 : Final exam at 10:00 AM

Assignment Due Dates:

Please use this schedule to ensure that you complete your homework assignments on time. All homework assignments are automatically submitted to the system by the due dates.

Chapter	Homework	Start	Due
Chapter 3	HW_C3	8/29/2023	9/4/2023
Chapter 5	HW_C5	9/5/2023	9/11/2023
Chapter 6	HW_C6	9/12/2023	9/20/2023
Chapter 10	HW_C10	10/3/2023	10/9/2023
Chapter 11	HW_C11	10/10/2023	10/18/2023
Chapter 13	HW_C13	10/19/2023	10/30/2023
Chapter 15	HW_C15	11/9/2023	11/15/2023
Chapter 16	HW_C16	11/16/2023	11/29/2023
Chapter 18	HW_C18	11/30/2023	12/6/2023