

FIN623 Investment Analysis (3 credit hours) Course Syllabus

Course Description

This class examines the investment process. Students will learn how to put together a portfolio and understand and interpret news about the financial markets. It will discuss different types of securities (bonds, stocks, mutual funds, derivatives) and how they are combined to form a portfolio. It includes background information relative to these securities. This information includes topics such as types of markets, placing orders, and what interpreting stock indices represent.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Differentiate between the many types of asset valuation models.
2. Explain the organization and functioning of securities markets.
3. Identify the types of securities traded within Financial Markets.
4. Understand what is meant by efficient capital markets.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

Prerequisite: FIN612

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Reilly, F.K., Brown, K.C., & Leeds, S.J. (2018). *Investment Analysis Portfolio Management*. (11th). Mason: Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1305262997

You already have access to the textbook and all the electronic resources that come with it. Your TU account was billed for it.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#). You might consider registering for one of the library's many webinars on library research, source evaluation, copyright, and other topics, at the [Library Events - Upcoming Events](#) web page. For further assistance email a librarian, at: library@tiffin.edu.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

Every week students are required to complete four activities. These activities are largely interrelated, they include:

- End-of-the-chapter problems – these assignments allow you to practice the concepts introduced in the chapters. They are to be submitted via MindTap that you have access to through your textbook. MindTap will automatically grade your assignments.
- Individual portfolio – early on in the semester you will be tasked to construct a portfolio using a set of constraints. As we move through the semester, you will continue working on this portfolio applying the concepts you learn in the chapters.
- Discussions – most weekly discussions are tied to the individual portfolio you work on. Discussing it with your classmates will help you to deepen your understanding of all the estimations you perform.
- Final Paper – in your final paper you will analyze your investment portfolio. This paper will complete the work of the whole semester tying all the individual pieces together.
- Reflections – Weekly reflections help you and your instructor to find the best way to help you to succeed.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (10) Activity 1.2 (30)	Discussions Activity 2.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 3.2 (40)	Discussions Activity 4.2 (30)	Discussions Activity 5.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 6.1 (30)	Discussions	200
Assignments Activity 1.3 (35)	Assignments Activity 2.2 (60) Activity 2.3 (25)	Assignments Activity 3.1 (20) Activity 3.3 (30)	Assignments Activity 4.1 (60) Activity 4.3 (50)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (80) Activity 5.3 (100)	Assignments Activity 6.2 (20) Activity 6.3 (20)	Assignments Activity 7.1 (150) Activity 7.2 (45) Activity 7.3 (35)	730
Reflection Activity 1.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 2.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 3.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 4.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 5.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 6.4 (10)	Reflection Activity 7.4 (10)	70
85	125	100	150	220	80	240	1000

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
F	<70%

Please see the [Academic Bulletin](#) for grade appeal information.

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
Start Here	<input type="checkbox"/> MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Initial Post
Week 1: Measures of risk and return, and their relationship Determinants of required rates of return Asset allocation and security selection	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.2: Asset Allocation - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 1.2: Asset Allocation - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 1.3: Chapter 1 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 1.4: Reflection
Week 2: Organization and functioning of securities markets Differentiating factors in constructing market indices Stock and bond indices Investing in security market indices	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 2.1: Portfolio Planning - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 2.1: Portfolio Planning - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.2: Construct a Portfolio <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.3: Chapter 4 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.4: Reflection
Week 3: EMH Behavioral finance	<input type="checkbox"/> TUE: Activity 3.1: Behavioral Test <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 3.2: Discuss Behavioral Test - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 3.2: Discuss Behavioral Test - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.3: Chapter 5 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.4: Reflection

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
Week 4: Risk Aversion The Markowitz Portfolio Theory The Efficient Frontier Capital Market Line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 4.1: Calculate Portfolio <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 4.2: Discuss Portfolio - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 4.2: Discuss Portfolio - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 4.3: Chapter 6 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 4.4: Reflection
Week 5: CAPM APT Fama & French Quantopian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 5.1: Apply Models & Discuss - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 5.1: Apply Models & Discuss - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.2: Readjust Portfolio <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.3: Chapter 7 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.4: Reflection
Week 6: Stocks and bonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 6.1: Discuss Further Portfolio Diversification - Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 6.1: Discuss Further Portfolio Diversification - Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.2: Chapter 8 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.3: Chapter 12 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.4: Reflection
Week 7: Equity portfolio management strategies Bond portfolio management strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> THU: Activity 7.1: Final Paper <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 7.2: Chapter 11 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 7.3: Chapter 13 Problems <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 7.4: Reflection

Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. Your course is a place for you

to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

Your Instructor Will Expect You to:

- Thoroughly review orientation materials (Start Here) within the first 48 hours of the term.
- Monitor your TU email account **daily** for important updates and announcements.
- Take ownership of your learning experience and act in a proactive, self-directed manner. That means:
 - Fully participate in all learning activities.
 - Complete assignments as described in rubrics or other instructions.
 - Submit all work on time and in the specified format (e.g. APA format for citations). Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of your instructor. Penalties may apply.
 - Utilize and incorporate instructor provided feedback to improve your work.
 - Ask questions so you can better understand course material or assignments.
 - Use the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. For more information, see the TU Library guide: [Digital Literacy: Netiquette and Internet Safety](#).
 - Treat others respectfully and demonstrate "netiquette" (online politeness and respectfulness) at all times. TU celebrates cultural uniqueness and expects all students to be considerate and thoughtful throughout their learning experiences.

You Should Expect Your Instructors to:

- Post an introductory announcement/email at the beginning of each week to provide updates and help you prepare for the week's activities.
- Maintain an active and engaged presence in all course activities and throughout the course.
- Respond to your emailed questions within 48 hours, if not sooner.
- Clearly communicate any absences or expected non-participation due to extenuating circumstances. For example, "I will be traveling to attend a funeral this week and may not be able to respond to questions or participate in forums for a couple of days."
- When grading your work:

- clearly indicate their grading approach (what they like to see in submitted work as well as what types of errors they tend to penalize more harshly),
 - thoroughly review and evaluate your submissions in a timely manner (in less than 5 days for most assignments), and
 - provide constructive feedback that indicates the strengths and weaknesses of your work and provides suggestions on how you can improve your performance on future assignments.
- Advocate for your success as a learner and help guide you toward successful completion of the course activities and most importantly, attainment of the course learning outcomes.

Accommodations

The **Office for Disability Services** supports the institutional commitment to diversity by providing educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities through accessible programs and services in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

If you need reasonable accommodations due to a documented disability, contact the Office for Equity, Access, & Opportunity 419.448.3021 or via email at disabilityservices@tiffin.edu.

Additional Resources & Support

For technical support, either email moodlesupport@tiffin.edu or call the 24/7 Technical Support Call Center at 855-664-1200.

If you need to consult an academic advisor refer to TU's [Meet the Team](#) page.

For information about TU's peer tutoring program see the Murphy Center's [Tutoring Policies and Procedures](#) page. Veterans and active military can seek assistance from TU's [Veteran and Military Services Web Page](#).

Comments or Concerns

TU's online programs are designed to be student *driven*: to empower you with a voice and stake in your learning. Our courses feature multiple and varied ways that you can share feedback, and we invite you to become an active voice and help drive our improvement efforts. In addition to providing in-course feedback, we encourage you to submit questions or comments directly to the online team at online@tiffin.edu.