

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage:	Spring 2018
Discipline:	Finance
Course Number and Title:	FIN 355 Principles of Investments
Division:	Upper
Faculty Name:	Glory Burns, JD, MBA
Semester Credit Hours:	3

Prerequisites: One (1) upper division principles of finance course AND one (1) upper division analysis of financial markets course.

As advised by the instructor, one (1) upper division, introductory finance course is sufficient in lieu of these listed CSU prerequisites.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An investment portfolio's most exciting and lucrative opportunities may be found outside the borders of the United States. This class aims to provide you with a systematic structure for thinking about the principles of investing with a global perspective. It is intended for students who want to become investment professionals, knowledgeable individual investors, or both.

We will develop key concepts in investment theory, explore the application of various financial instruments in investment management, and introduce the basic techniques of portfolio allocation. Though markets are constantly changing, good investing principles are timeless.

Upon completion of the course, students will have developed an understanding of the dynamic environment of international financial markets, the primary financial securities (bonds, stocks, and derivatives), the principles of security valuation, and methods for combining these underlying assets into a portfolio. The students will produce a portfolio of international stocks, monitor them throughout the voyage, and produce a multi-media presentation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The class is structured for those desiring comprehensive coverage of investment analysis topics.

As part of the course objectives, students will:

- use the principles of macroeconomics for top-down investment analysis
- apply financial ratio analysis to determine the health and profitability of the firm
- examine various measures of risk for equities and fixed income assets

- demonstrate the use of the capital asset pricing model
- determine the fair value of common stock and bonds
- define and examine implications of market efficiency
- examine expected return, risk, and diversification for portfolio management
- create a group portfolio of global stocks and complete a thorough analysis of one global stock

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

AUTHOR: Bodie, Kane & Marcus

TITLE: Essentials of Investments edited

PUBLISHER: McGraw-Hill/Irwin

ISBN #: 9781307140903

DATE/EDITION: Custom edition*

**This is a custom edition created for Semester at Sea to defer the cost of the standard edition.*

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada, Mexico — January 5

B1—January 8: Welcome and Introduction to Investments

B2—January 10: Top-Down Analysis/Introduction to Value Line

Honolulu, Hawaii — January 12

B3—January 13: Global Investments *Portfolio Choices*

B4—January 15: Equity Valuation

January 16—International Date Line crossing (Lost Day)

B5—January 18: Technical Analysis/Introduction to Bloomberg

No Class — January 19

B6—January 21: Emerging Markets

B7—January 23: Bond Prices and Yields, Yield Curve

Kobe, Japan — January 24-28

B8—January 30: Bond Prices and Yields, Yield Curve

Shanghai, China — January 31 - February 1

In-Transit — February 2-3

Hong Kong, SAR — February 4-5

B9—February 7: *Watch Too Big to Fail*

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam — February 8-13

B10—February 15: Portfolio Analysis

No Class —February 16

B11—February 17: Portfolio Analysis II

Yangon, Myanmar — February 19-23

B12—February 24: Market Efficiency

B13— February 27: Behavioral Finance

Cochin, India — February 28 - March 5

B14—March 6: Risk and Return

No Class — March 7

B15—March 8: Midterm Exam

Port Louis, Mauritius — March 11

B16—March 13: Efficient Diversification

B17—March 15: Capital Asset Pricing Model/Arbitrage Pricing

B18—March 17: Mutual Funds & ETFs/ Introduction to Morningstar

Cape Town, South Africa — March 18-23

B19—March 25: Stock Options /Derivatives

B20—March 27: Portfolio Presentation Preparation

B22—March 28: Portfolio Project Due

Tema, Ghana — March 30 - April 1

Takoradi, Ghana – April 2-3

B22–April 5: Group Presentation

B23–April 7: Group Presentation

Study Day – April 8

B24– April 10: Group Presentation

Casablanca, Morocco – April 11-14

B25–April 16 Portfolio Comparison/ Prizes

Arrive Bremerhaven, Germany – April 19

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and are developed and led by the instructor.

Field Class & Assignment

The Field Class for this course will take place on *Monday, 5 February, in Hong Kong, S.A.R.*

Students will attend a customized tour of the Bloomberg Bureau, Hong Kong. Bloomberg is known for its award-winning coverage of companies, markets, economies, politics and governments.

- Students will obtain an in-depth insight to the most powerful and flexible platform for financial professionals who need real-time data, news and analytics to make the most informed business decisions.
- Students will view Bloomberg's approach to fundamental and technical analysis, portfolio management analytics and will develop an understanding of global trading and international investment analysis.
- Students will tour the Bloomberg news studio to see how news is transmitted by the Bloomberg system, television and social media and develop an understanding

of how news is coordinated and reported by over 2,400 news professionals in 150 bureaus around the world.

METHODS OF EVALUATION / GRADING SCALE

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%:
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Midterm	30%
Portfolio Project	50%
Field Class	20%

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

Experiential learning is the key to real engagement outside the ship. The economic activity sensed in the shopping markets and financial districts of the countries we visit are tell-tale signs of the symptoms of the underlying business ethics health and wealth distribution of the local economy. These experiences will help make learning at Semester at Sea unlike any other learning experience in higher education. All of us are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code at Colorado State University. Academic misconduct will adversely affect a student's grade and CSU officials will be notified.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Semester at Sea students are expected to constructively add to the learning environment by being prepared for each class meeting, by having homework done before class starts, by working hard, and by being supportive and generous to your classmates as you learn together. Teamwork skills are critical in portfolio management and each team member is expected to contribute to the overall project and presentation.

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY: None

FILMS:*Too Big to Fail*, 2012 (1:38)
Curtis Hanson, Director
Peter B. Gould, Screenwriter
ISBN 0780683021
ISBN 9780780683020