BPHD 8210  
Portfolio Theory and Investments  
Spring Semester 2012

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**About this Class**

This course provides the student with a foundation in portfolio theory and investments as well as an introduction to empirical asset pricing. Topics include: mean variance portfolio theory, capital asset pricing model (CAPM), arbitrage pricing theory, event studies, market efficiency, evaluation of portfolio performance, evaluation of security analysis, asset pricing anomalies, and behavioral finance. In addition to readings from the textbook, you will be assigned papers to read from the finance literature. Each student will be assigned several papers to present to the class throughout the semester.

**Academic Integrity**

I take academic dishonesty very seriously, and I expect you to do so as well. You are responsible for understanding the University’s policy regarding Academic Integrity. That policy can be found in the 2010-2011 Graduate Catalog.

**Electronic Communications**

All students at UNC-Charlotte are assigned a student email account, which is the official means of communication between the University and the student. Although I will certainly respond to you if you use another email system, you should be aware that any class-wide announcements that I send through email will be sent to your UNC-Charlotte ‘49er account.

**Grading Policies**

Students are required to submit a research paper on a topic approved by the professor. The paper is due by the last day of class which is Tuesday, May 1, 2012. There will also be an in-class cumulative final exam. The research paper will count for 40% of your final grade and the final exam will count for 40% of your final grade. Students will be assigned homework questions which will be graded. Your average score on these problem sets and paper presentations will account for the remaining 20% of your grade.

**Grading Scale**

The lower bounds for final grades of A, B, C will be no higher than 90, 80, and 70 percent of the total available points, respectively. Grades will be curved if necessary.

**Missed Tests**

Make up exams will only be administered if your absence is unavoidable. You must make me aware of any such unavoidable absences as soon as possible after you learn of them so that an alternative exam time can be set.

**Statement on Diversity**

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.