

THE BELK COLLEGE *of* BUSINESS

UNCCHARLOTTE

Course Title: Asset and Portfolio Management
Course Number: FINN6214
Class Day/Time: Thursday, 5:30 – 8:15pm
Classroom: CCB, Room 901

Instructor: Stephen D. Young
Contact: young.d.stephen@gmail.com (gmail), 704-564-0856 (cell)

Course Description

This course provides students with a foundation in investments and portfolio management from the perspective of an institutional investor. Particular attention will be given to the issues associated with managing assets of an insurance company. Topics include: measuring and modeling return and risk, expected return models, information ratio, valuation theory and practice, forecasting, portfolio construction, transaction costs, turnover and trading, performance analysis, asset allocation, securities analysis, and the legal and regulatory landscape of institutional investing.

Specific Objectives

Based on the course description, *text, problem sets, and assessments*, the specific objectives include:

Understanding the asset management industry (i.e. participants, objectives, regulation)

Return and Risk

Markowitz and mean-variance portfolio construction and modifications

Capital Asset Pricing Model (“CAPM”)

Arbitrage Pricing Theory (“APT”)

Market Efficiency

Performance Measurement

Additional Topics (as time permits)

Required Course Text:

1. Modern Portfolio Theory and Investment Analysis, Wiley 9th Edition, Elton, Gruber, Brown, and Goetzmann

Additional Texts used (leveraged for select topics) but NOT Required:

1. Investment Theory and Risk Management, Wiley, Steven Peterson
2. Modern Portfolio Theory: Foundation, Analysis, and New Developments, Wiley, Jack Clark Francis, Dongcheol Kim
3. Portfolio Theory and Performance Analysis, Wiley, N. Amenc, V. L. Sourd

In the *required course* text *our focus will be on Chapters 1 – 17, 25, 26, and 28* with *other chapters covered as time allows*. For *the 1st class you should read Chapters 1 – 3*. *Chapter readings will be assigned in class at the end of each class* so that you know what should be read one-week in advance. In addition to the course text, we will leverage readings and examples that come from a variety of sources (i.e. academic and practitioner articles, other texts).

Course Assessment

Your *grade will be based on a problem set, project, and a final exam*. The *problem set will be extremely important* as the *questions will be indicative of what you may see on the final*. The problem set may require the use of Excel/VBA, Matlab, or some other software. Questions which require such tools will be significantly scaled down for the in-class midterm and final. The *project will be done in groups* and we will discuss timing and topics in the first and second class. Lastly, we will likely have one or more guest speakers over the semester.

Grading

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69 – 60

F = 59 - 0

Attendance

The UNC Charlotte Catalog lists the following attendance policy. "Each instructor determines the attendance regulations for his or her classes. Students are expected to attend punctually all scheduled sessions in the courses for which they are registered and are responsible for completing the work from all class sessions." Absences from classes may be excused by the instructor for such reasons as personal illness, religious holidays, or participating as an authorized University representative in an out-of-town event. Whenever possible, students are expected to seek permission of the instructor prior to absences."

Honor Code

All students are required to read and abide by the Code of Student Academic Integrity. Violations of the Code of Student Academic Integrity, including plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action as provided in the Code.

Academic Diversity

Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of the UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity (Catalog p. 336 and 337). This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Any special requirements or permission regarding academic integrity in this course will be stated by the instructor, and are binding on the students. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type; and grades in this course therefore should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNC Charlotte. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases the course grade is reduced to F. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor.

The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individual 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.

Accommodations for Disabilities

UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office in Fretwell 230.