

FIN363 Selected Topics in Finance

Level: 3

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JAN

Synopsis:

This course aims to introduce current developments in key concepts/issues in finance. Concepts of alternative investments and other current topics in finance will be covered in this course. It is expected that students will be equipped with conceptual and analytical skills needed to make sound investment strategies for themselves and their clients.

Topics:

- Establishing a Hedge Fund Investment Programme
- Due Diligence for Hedge Fund Managers
- Hedge Fund Return Distributions and Risks
- Hedge Fund Benchmarks and Asset Allocation
- Venture Capitals and Leveraged Buyouts
- Mezzanine and Distressed Debt
- Credit Derivatives
- Collateralized Debt Obligations
- Introduction to REIT and Dividend & Taxes of REIT
- Analysis of Real Estate Investment
- Introduction to Islamic Banking
- Financial Instruments of Islamic Banking

Textbooks:

Mark J. P. Anson: Handbook of Alternative Assets 2nd John Wiley & Sons
ISBN-13: 9780471980209

Mark J. P. Anson: Handbook of Alternative Assets 2nd John Wiley & Sons
ISBN-13: 9780471980209-AA

Learning Outcome:

- Contrast traditional investments, such as bonds, equity and mutual funds, from alternative investments, including hedge funds, private equity investments, REITS.
- Appraise the range of alternative investment instruments developed in recent years and design trading strategies using alternative investment instruments.
- Show the construction and operations of hedge funds and private equity funds.
- Illustrate the use of credit derivatives.
- Analyse the field of Islamic Finance, highlighting the differences from mainstream finance.
- Construct excel spreadsheets to model financial concepts.
- Apply appropriate mathematical tools to valuation and risk management of alternative investment assets.
- Contrast traditional from alternative investment assets in a portfolio and compute risk and expected returns on this portfolio.
- Design risk management strategies using derivative securities.

Assessment Strategies:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
QUIZ	20
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	30
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
Written Exam	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**