

The University of Texas at Tyler  
Soules College of Business

FINA 3330: Investments  
Spring 2024

Section 001 (MWF: 9:05-10:00AM) / Room: COB 227 / Course Number: 20881

Instructor: Dr. Chen (Ken) Wu

Office: COB-350.13

Email: [cwu@uttyler.edu](mailto:cwu@uttyler.edu) (Best initial contact method)

Telephone: (903) 565-5847

Office Hours: Office Hours: 10-11 AM MWF and 9:00-9:30 AM TuTh or by appointment.

### **Communications with the Instructor**

I check email often on weekdays and will frequently be in my office. If you want to meet me for any reason outside of office hours shown above, please email for an appointment. For all email communications, you can expect a response within 24 hours except for those sent on holidays or between 5 pm on Friday and midnight on Sunday, when you can expect a response within 48 hours.

Email policy: As mandated by the University, I will only send emails to your Patriot email accounts. Emails from non-Patriot email accounts will **NOT** be answered

### **Course Objective**

This is an introductory course in investments. It is designed to introduce students to the concept of financial securities and how they are traded. Accordingly, the course will begin with a review of time value of money techniques needed for security valuation. Other topics covered include money market instruments, valuation of bonds and stocks (equities) as well as return and risk of individual securities and portfolios. We conclude the course with a discussion of investment companies such as mutual funds, exchange-traded funds and hedge funds.

Upon completion of the course you should be able to:

- Explain why financial securities and markets exist.
- Understand the distinction between debt and equity securities and find their values.
- Describe the historical relationship between risk and return.
- Analyze portfolios to find their returns and risks from the returns and risks of their component securities.
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of investing in mutual funds and other investment companies such as closed-end funds, exchange-traded funds and hedge funds.

### **Course Structure**

The course begins with a general overview of financial securities and securities markets. We then look at modern portfolio theory. Finally, we explore alternative investments for inclusion in a portfolio such as fixed-income securities, stocks (equities), and derivative instruments such as futures and options. To achieve these goals, students will be required to:

1. Read assigned textbook chapters and Powerpoint course slides.
2. Attend lectures regularly
3. Visit course Canvas regularly.
4. Complete every homework assignment and take every unit quiz.

### **Textbook and Internet Access**

- The required textbook is *Investments* by Bodie, Kane, and Marcus, 12<sup>th</sup> edition (2021), McGraw-Hill Education, ISBN 978-1260013832. Note: Many unit quiz questions will come straight from readings assigned in the text so you must purchase the book in order to do well in this course.
- Students should have basic Internet, word-processing, spreadsheet, and email skills. Frequent checking of Canvas announcements and postings is strongly encouraged.
- Class materials are generally in the form of Word, Powerpoint, Excel. Students can download Word, Excel or Powerpoint Viewer if they do not have Microsoft Word, Excel or Powerpoint installed on their computer.

Note on financial calculators: While a financial calculator is not required for the course, it can make your life much easier both in this and future finance courses. To help you master your financial calculator, keystrokes needed to solve certain problems (using TI BA II Plus) will be shown in class and the lecture notes. You are welcome to use another brand/model of financial calculator, but then it is your responsibility to figure out how to solve these problems using the financial calculator of your choice.

### **Canvas Access**

All class materials, course grades, and class announcements will be posted by Canvas. Your account on Canvas has already been created automatically by the Canvas administrator. The Canvas user name and password combination is the one you use for UT Tyler student email. For more detailed information, please visit UT Tyler's homepage and click on the link for "Current Students" and follow the link to Canvas. Please contact the Canvas administrator if you have any problem accessing Canvas. Students are required to maintain their current e-mail address with Canvas as it uses this address to send course-related electronic communications.

### **Five Unit Quizzes**

Five unit quizzes each consisting of 20 multiple choice questions will be given via Canvas and you are required to take all of them. Each unit quiz is worth 100 points. You will have one hour (60 minutes) to complete each quiz during the five-day period shown in the course calendar at the end of this syllabus. Note each quiz period begins at 12:01 AM (central

standard/daylight savings time) on a Wednesday and ends at 11:59 PM (central standard/daylight savings time) on a Sunday so you have five days to complete it. Note there will be no other exams in this course.

All material covered in lectures, assigned textbook chapters, homework assignments and additional examples is fair game. You are advised to begin each unit by watching the ARC video lectures and then read the Powerpoint slides and assigned reading in the textbook for a more in-depth understanding of the topics covered in the unit. Please learn to use your financial calculator before taking the quizzes if you plan to use one. Note that you are allowed only ***two*** attempt per unit quiz so please make sure you study the unit material thoroughly before you begin and can devote sufficient time to complete the quiz using a stable Internet connection. Please note that each unit quiz will be only available for a limited time so check the course calendar and plan accordingly. Please make sure you study the unit material thoroughly before you begin and can devote sufficient time to complete the quiz because you will not be able to save a quiz and resume it later so you must finish each quiz in one sitting. Note that only one question will be shown at a time and you cannot go back and change the answer of a previous question. You will be able to see the answers you chose at the end of the quiz.

You are allowed two attempts for each unit quiz. However, keep in mind that if you take a quiz more than once, the score used to compute your course grade will be the ***higher*** of the two scores. As an example, if you received scores of 80 and 70, respectively on the two attempts for a unit quiz, then the quiz score used to compute the course grade will be 80. Please also remember that the questions on the two attempts will be different because each time you try to take a quiz, Canvas will randomly select the questions for your quiz from a pool of questions the instructor uploaded for that particular unit. ***No one will be allowed to take any of the unit quizzes more than twice for any reason except in cases of Canvas system-wide outage as reported and documented by the University's IT Support staff affecting both of the first two quiz attempts. Only then will a third attempt be allowed by the instructor, on a case-by-case basis. All other requests for more unit quiz attempts will be rejected.***

When seeking email assistance from the instructor on a unit quiz for any reason, you must clearly state (1) the course you are enrolled in, (2) the unit quiz where you encountered difficulties and (3) a brief description of the difficulty. Any email missing any of the three items listed above will be ignored. You will be asked to provide the missing information by the instructor and no action will be taken until it is received.

Since you have a 4-day window to take a unit quiz from anywhere you have a fast and stable internet connection, ***no make-up unit quizzes will be given.***

### **Five Homework Sets**

A homework set worth 25 points will be assigned for each unit. Each set will contain five required problems worth five points each. Students are required to complete ***any four*** homework sets assigned throughout the course. You may complete an additional

homework set to earn up to 25 points of extra credit These problems are designed to both improve your proficiency in applying relevant course concepts and to help you prepare for unit quizzes which will contain problems involving very similar calculations. While you may discuss them with fellow classmates, you must submit your own answers. Credit will only be given if you follow the directions given on the top of each application carefully, use the format shown in the Homework Answer Template provided and your answers must be entered into Canvas by noon (central standard/daylight savings time) on the due dates (always a Tuesday) indicated in the course calendar found at the end of this syllabus.

**Note: Note: NO WORK NEED TO BE SHOWN** as only the letter of your answer choice will be graded. **No late submissions will be accepted. The only way to receive credit for this assignment is to directly enter your letter choice of the best answer for each problem in Canvas using the format shown in the Homework Answer Template by the deadline indicated below. No physical (paper), email or uploaded Word (or equivalent word processing) document submissions are accepted.** The solution will generally be posted on Canvas for your reference shortly after the assignment is due and graded. Note that the homework assignment will be available on Canvas only until the time the answers are due and the solution will only remain on Canvas for seven days after it is posted. It is your responsibility to download the assignment and its solution while they are available on Canvas. **All requests for either the assignment or its solution after they are no longer available on Canvas will be refused.**

### Course Information Quiz

This is a mandatory 15-minute multiple-choice quiz with 10 multiple choice or true/false questions designed to test your knowledge of the course requirements as explained in the syllabus. As an example, you may be asked how many unit quizzes are available and how many points they are worth as well as other course policies. It will be given via Canvas only between 12:01 AM Tuesday, Jan 16, 2024 and 11:59 PM (both central standard time) Monday, Jan 22, 2024. You may earn up to 50 points on this quiz and anything over 25 counts as extra credit. Note the rules governing the Course Information Quiz are identical to those for module quizzes except the time limit is 15 instead of 60 minutes.

### Grading

| Points Possible  | Assignment  |
|------------------|---|
| 25               | Course Information Quiz (worth 50 points; scores over 25 count as extra credit) |
| 100              | 5 Homework Sets (25 pts each; 4 required; 5 <sup>th</sup> is extra credit)      |
| <u>500</u>       | <u>5 Unit Quizzes</u> (All 5 are required)                                      |
| 625              | Total   |
| 90.00% or above  | → A   |
| 80.00% to 89.99% | → B   |
| 70.00% to 79.99% | → C   |

60.00% to 69.99% → D  
59.99% or below → F

Total points available: 50 from Course Information Quiz; 125 from all homework assignments and 500 from unit quizzes for a total of 675 which implies that there are 50 points of extra credit to be earned by completing all activities available in this course.

You can always estimate your grade in the course by adding up the total number of points earned from Course Information Quiz, all homework sets submitted by the deadline, all unit quizzes completed by the deadline and any extra credit points earned via lecture attendance as shown in Canvas. Then divide the sum you just found by total number of points possible shown above and use the grading scale shown above to convert it to a letter grade.

**Note: You can always estimate your grade following the procedure outlined above and ALL EMAIL requests to confirm or verify grades will be IGNORED. The instructor is not allowed to disclose grades using email.**

**Canvas has a grade calculation feature that produces percentages which differ from what is shown above. In particular, extra credit assignments are factored in consideration of total number of points possible and it is also not possible to have a quiz dropped. The instructor has no control over how the feature does the grade calculations so you generally CANNOT rely on the grade shown in Canvas but must use the procedure described above to estimate your grade because they are unlikely to be the same except under some rare circumstances.**

### **UT Tyler Honor Code**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

### **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at

<http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### **UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University**

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the

University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

**Disability/Accessibility Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair

advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. i. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student’s test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

### **UT Tyler Resources for Students**

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)



### **Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories**

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations](#). The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

### **Recording of Class Sessions**

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

### **Syllabus Revisions**

The standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus may be modified at any time by the course instructor. Notice of such changes will be by announcement via Canvas with adequate time for students to make the necessary coursework adjustments.

**Tentative Fin 3330 Course Calendar**  
**Spring 2024**

Note: BKM refers to 12<sup>th</sup> edition of Bodie, Kane and Marcus so BKM Chs. 1,2,3 means you should read chapters 1,2 and 3 in the required textbook.

| Week  | Date | Unit      | Topic                     | Reading        | Key Dates                                |
|-------|------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| 1     | 1/15 |           | 1 Intro to investments    | BKM Chs. 1,2   | Course Info Quiz (1/16-1/22)             |
| 2     | 1/22 |           | 1 Intro to investments    |                | Census Date (1/29)                       |
| 3     | 1/29 |           | 1 Intro to investments    |                | HW #1 Due (1/30); Unit 1 Quiz (1/31-2/4) |
| 4     | 2/5  |           | 2 Portfolio theory        | BKM Chs. 5,6,7 |  |
| 5     | 2/12 |           | 2 Portfolio theory        |                | HW #2 Due (2/20)                         |
| 6     | 2/19 |           | 2 Portfolio theory        |                | Unit 2 Quiz (2/21-2/25)                  |
| 7     | 2/26 |           | 3 Fixed income securities | BKM Chs. 14,16 |  |
| 8     | 3/4  |           | 3 Fixed income securities |                | HW #3 Due (3/19)                         |
| 9     | 3/11 |           | Spring Break              |                |  |
| 10    | 3/18 |           | 3 Fixed income securities |                | Unit 3 Quiz (3/20-3/24)                  |
| 11    | 3/25 |           | 4 Equity analysis         | BKM Chs. 18,19 | Last Day to Withdraw (3/25)              |
| 12    | 4/1  |           | 4 Equity analysis         |                | HW #4 Due (4/9)                          |
| 13    | 4/8  |           | 4 Equity analysis         |                | Unit 4 Quiz (4/10-4/14)                  |
| 14    | 4/15 |           | 5 Mutual & hedge funds    | BKM Chs. 4,26  | HW #5 Due (4/23)                         |
| 15    | 4/22 |           | 5 Mutual & hedge funds    |                | Unit 5 Quiz (4/24-4/28)                  |
| Note: | All  | Homeworks | are due at Noon           | (Central Time) | on dates shown                           |
|       | All  | quizzes   | begin and end at Midnight | (Central Time) | on dates shown                           |