



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Essentials of Investment
Course Code:	FIN1321
Program:	Finance and Banking
Department:	Finance & Banking
College:	College of Business Administration
Institution:	Dar Al Uloom University

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7. Course Identification

1. Credit hours:	3 Hours
2. Course type	
a.	University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b.	Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered:	Sixth / 3rd year
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any):	FIN1311
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any):	NIL

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	45	100%
2	Blended		
3	E-learning		
4	Correspondence		
5	Other		

7. Actual Learning Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Learning Hours
Contact Hours		
1	Lecture	45
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Tutorial	
4	Others (specify)	
	Total	45
Other Learning Hours*		
1	Study	1
2	Assignments	1
3	Library	
4	Projects/Research Essays/Theses	2
5	Others (specify)	
	Total	4

* The length of time that a learner takes to complete learning activities that lead to achievement of course learning outcomes, such as study time, homework assignments, projects, preparing presentations, library times

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

The course is designed to introduce students to the investment environment and the application of financial theory to the issues and problems of investment management. The course will cover topics on portfolio optimization and asset allocation, diversification, immunization and risk management

2. Course Main Objective

- Briefly recall important historical trends in the innovation of markets, trading and financial instruments
- Define market microstructure and evaluate its importance to investors
- Explain the fundamental drivers of diversification as an investment strategy for investors
- Aptly define immunization strategies and highlight their main applications in detail
- Discuss measures of portfolio risk-adjusted performance in detail and critically analyse the key challenges in employing them
- Competently identify address key issues in risk management.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge:	
1.1	Describe the investment environment, types of investment vehicles, trading mechanisms, allocation decisions and methods of valuation.	K1
1.2	Outline the benefit of diversification, risk management strategies and fund performance measurement.	K2 K4
2	Skills:	
2.1	Compute the investment risk and return, execute margin trading, evaluate risk and arrive at strategic investment decisions	S1
2.2	Describe an efficient and optimal risky portfolio and identify fund performance measurement	S2
3	Competence:	
3.1	Illustrate team spirit and ability to work in group projects and assignments.	C1
3.2	Point-out self-study skills and ensure adoption of ethical practices in completing the assessments.	C2
3.3	Develop numerical excellence in solving problems and in use of financial data sources.	C4
3.4	Illustrate information technology skills in communication and ability in using financial applications (Microsoft Excel)	C3,C5

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Financial markets and instruments	03
2	History of Financial markets	06
3	Active fund management and investment strategies	06
4	Market microstructure	06
5	Diversification	06
6	Fixed income securities and portfolio immunization	06
7	Risk and Performance Measurement	06
8	Risk Management	06
Total		45

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge		
1.1	Describe the investment environment, types of investment vehicles, trading mechanisms, allocation decisions and methods of valuation.	Direct Instruction	Exams Quizzes Assignments
1.2	Outline the benefit of diversification, risk management strategies and fund performance measurement.	Direct Instruction	Exams Quizzes Assignments
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Compute the investment risk and return, execute margin trading, evaluate risk and arrive at strategic investment decisions	Direct Instruction Interactive Instruction	Exams Quizzes Assignment Project
2.2	Describe an efficient and optimal risky portfolio and identify fund performance measurement	Direct Instruction Interactive Instruction	Exams Quizzes Assignment Project
3.0	Competence		
3.1	Illustrate team spirit and ability to work in group projects and assignments.	Interactive Instruction	Assignment Project
3.2	Point-out self-study skills and ensure adoption of ethical practices in completing the assessments.	Interactive Instruction	Assignment Project
3.3	Develop numerical excellence in solving problems and in use of financial data sources.	Interactive Instruction	Assignment / Project Report writing / Presentations
3.4	Illustrate information technology skills in communication and ability in using financial applications (Microsoft Excel)	Interactive Instruction	Assignment / Project Report writing / Presentations

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Quiz	4 th - 5 th	10%
2	HomeWorks /Assessments / Projects	5 th - 10 th	20%
3	Mid term	9 th - 10 th	30%
4	Final Exam	13 th -15 th	40%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

1. Eight Office hours weekly can be booked through the students' SIS account.
2. Online discussion through the LMS forums and instant messaging.
3. Instructor email available in the course syllabus.
4. Occasional mobile calls or SMS for urgent messages.

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Essentials of Investments 11th Edition By Zvi Bodie and Alex Kane and Alan Marcus ISBN10: 1260013928 ISBN13: 9781260013924
Essential References Materials	The Theory and Practice of Investment Management: Asset Allocation, Valuation, Portfolio Construction, and Strategies by Frank & Harry (2nd Edition) Annual Reports of various companies
Electronic Materials	Websites of various investment banks and mutual funds etc.
Other Learning Materials	

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Classroom.
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	Data show + smart boards.

Item	Resources
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	Internet access point.

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
End of semester Course Evaluation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect
Effectiveness of teaching and assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peer reviewer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect
Course learning outcomes assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct
Quality of learning resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indirect

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	Finance Department (First semester 2018/2019)
Reference No.	Meeting number 6
Date	2018