



BUSFIN 4221: Investments

Fall 2024

Instructor: Aditya Chaudhry (chaudhry.127@osu.edu)

Teaching Assistant: Emre Sayici (sayici.1@buckeyemail.osu.edu)

Instructor Office: 738 Fisher Hall

Course Website: <https://osu.instructure.com/login/canvas>

Lectures: Session 1: Mo/We 2:20-3:40pm (215 Schoenbaum Hall)

Session 2: Mo/We 3:55-5:15pm (209 Schoenbaum Hall)

Session 3: Mo/We 5:30-6:50pm (209 Schoenbaum Hall)

Office Hours: Professor - Tuesdays 2:00pm to 3:00pm

TA - Thursdays 2:00pm to 3:00pm

The instructor reserves the right to update this syllabus with sufficient notice given to students.

1. Course Description and Prerequisites

This course is designed to teach the principles of financial decision making and the investment process. The course covers topics including security markets and instruments (equity, bonds, and derivatives), CAPM, APT, the efficient market hypothesis, behavioral finance, security analysis, and active investment management. A basic understanding of statistics and a good understanding of financial principles are required (Prerequisites: 3220, BusMgt 2320, 2321, and BusMHR 2292).

2. Learning Outcomes

Given the breadth of the topics covered, this course is valuable for students interested in a broad range of careers in finance, such as portfolio management, wealth management, marketing, sales, and corporate finance as well as for managing personal finances. It also represents a solid ground for more advanced classes in asset pricing and investments.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the concepts of risk and return
- Demonstrate knowledge about the characteristics of various asset classes
- Understand the fundamentals of pricing
- Demonstrate ability to design an investment strategy

3. Course Materials

1. **Calculator (Required):** Any calculator (without internet connectivity) that you feel comfortable doing arithmetic on for quizzes and exams.
2. **Textbook (Recommended):** *Essentials of Investments* by Bodie, Kane and Marcus, 12th edition, 2022, McGraw-Hill (BKM, henceforth).

The textbook and/or courseware for this course is being provided via CarmenBooks. Through CarmenBooks, students obtain publisher materials electronically through CarmenCanvas, saving them up to 80% per title. The fee for this material is included as part of tuition and is listed as *CarmenBooks fee* on your Statement of Account. In addition to cost-savings, materials provided through CarmenBooks are available immediately on or before the first day of class. There is no need to wait for financial aid or scholarship money to access your textbook(s).

Unless you choose to opt-out of the program, you do NOT need to purchase any additional materials for this course at the bookstore. You can access your textbook(s) from the CarmenBooks links in both the global CarmenCanvas menu and the navigation menu for this course.

For more information on the CarmenBooks program, [please visit the CarmenBooks website](#).

If you wish to opt out, you will see a button to do so when you launch the materials you're your CarmenBooks shelf. You have until the second Friday of any session to opt-out, but the course materials are required and you will have to purchase them independently if you do so.

If you rely on assistive technology or need an accessibility accommodation for the digital materials provided via CarmenBooks, please contact the Alternative Media team in Student Life Disability Services at slds-altmedia@osu.edu.

3. **Practice quizzes (Recommended):** Problems/exercises related to the material covered in class will be posted on CarmenCanvas. Quizzes are not graded, but you are strongly encouraged to practice. Solving quizzes will help you familiarize with practical concepts as well as preparing you for the real quizzes and exams.

4. Class Format & Grading

Participation	= 6%
2 Guest Speaker Reflections	= 6%
Homework	= 10%
2 Quizzes	= 18% (9% each)
1 Midterm	= 30%
1 Final	= 30%
Total	= 100%

Class Format

This is an in-person course.

Regular (in-person) class attendance and participation is expected from all students. Consistent with the business school's position on in-person classes, I will not provide a regular Zoom attendance option or class recordings. This approach is intended to maximize in-class participation, which is beneficial to the learning environment.

A tentative class schedule is available in Section 5. The tentative class schedule is for illustration purpose and subject to changes based on how the class progresses. The continuously updated class schedule can be found on Canvas.

Homework

In general, homework is assigned at the end of each lecture and is due by noon (12pm) on the day of the following lecture. For example, Homework 2 is assigned following Lecture 2 on Wednesday, September 3 and is due by noon (12pm) on Monday, September 8 – the day of Lecture 3. Homework is assigned and submitted via Carmen. Homework is graded for accuracy, but you have unlimited attempts. Failure to submit homework on time will result in a 0 grade (except in extraordinary and well-documented circumstances).

Quizzes

There are 2 graded quizzes in Carmen over the course of the semester. You will take these “live” during class time with your laptop.

The quiz is only open during short window of class time. Students complete these individually, adhering to OSU’s Academic Integrity standards (see further in syllabus). During exams, turn off cell phones.

Make sure you bring your laptop, a pencil, and calculator, in class on quiz days.

A missed quiz will result in a score of 0. In the extreme and properly documented cases (see the course testing policy for more details) you may be allowed by the instructor to take it at a different time, remotely, with the use of Honorlock, an online proctoring tool.

Midterm

The midterm is an online exam, in Carmen, on your laptops, in person at the appropriately scheduled time for your section. **Make sure you bring your laptop, a pencil, and calculator to the midterm and final.**

In the extreme and properly documented event that illness or emergency presents you from taking the midterm at the appropriate time for your section, you may be allowed by the instructor to take it at a different time, remotely, with the use of Honorlock, an online proctoring tool. If you miss the in-class midterm and do not want to take the exam remotely with Honorlock, you may be allowed by the instructor the option of instead allocating the points from the midterm to the final. In such cases, your points from the final exam will be scaled accordingly. The student is responsible for informing the instructor of their need to reschedule the midterm in advance of the scheduled time or within 24 hours after the scheduled time.

More details about the midterm format and scope will be covered in class during a review lecture before the midterm.

Final Exam

The date of the final exam will be posted on Carmen ahead of time. The final exam is cumulative and places more weight on the second half of the course, which builds on material from the first half.

Anything mentioned in class, or in assignments, is “fair game” for exams. All exams are the property of the instructor.

The final is an online exam, in Carmen, on your laptops, in person at the appropriately scheduled time for your section. **Make sure you bring your laptop, a pencil, and calculator to the final.**

In the extreme and properly documented event that illness or emergency presents you from taking the final at the appropriate time for your section, you may be allowed by the instructor to take it at a different time, remotely, with the use of Honorlock, an online proctoring tool.

More details about the exam format and scope will be covered in class during a review lecture before the exam.

Guest speaker reflection:

There will be two guest lectures. More details about the reflection format and grading will be posted on Carmen and explained in class.

Participation:

Participation scoring will be comprised of i) regularly attending class, ii) quality engagement during the semester, i.e., by asking good questions and/or providing quality responses to questions, and iii) answering Top Hat questions in class. Subjective measure: did student have quality engagement during the semester by asking good questions and/or providing responses to questions.

Letter Grade

Your letter grade will be based on your total score (total points received during the class) and the overall class performance. The letter grade assigned is an informed and final evaluation and not the beginning offer in a bargaining process. If an error occurs in the calculation of your grade, please notify me during the beginning of the following semester and actions will be taken to correct any errors. Please do NOT contact me to “lobby” for a higher grade. Any lobbying efforts (i.e. asking for a higher grade simply because you want one or need one) will not be tolerated.

Make-up or extra work to improve your grade on an individual basis is not possible. Your general academic situation (for example, “I need a ‘C’ in this course to graduate.”) and/or personal problems cannot be considered. The final grade in the course, once assigned, will not be changed except in the event of a recording error.

You should view my grading policy as a clear indication that I strive to give all students in the class the exact same opportunities.

5. Other Important Topics

Communication with Instructor

Easiest way to contact me is a) in-person right after class, b) by e-mail. Office hours are in person/on Zoom by appointment (email me 24-48 hours in advance)

Anonymous Feedback

Anonymous feedback can be submitted to the instructor at any point in the course at this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/W6t3f8xT6W>.

Class Information

All course announcements will be posted on Carmen. Please check Carmen regularly for updates.

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the [Committee on Academic Misconduct](#) (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the [University's Code of Student Conduct](#), and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute Academic Misconduct.

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct, so please review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If an instructor suspects that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, the instructor is obligated by University Rules to report those suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that a student violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in the course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If students have questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, they should contact the instructor.

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

There has been a significant increase in the popularity and availability of a variety of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including but not limited to ChatGPT, Sudowrite, and others. These tools will help shape the future of work, research and technology, but when used in the wrong way, they can stand in conflict with academic integrity at Ohio State.

All students have important obligations under the Code of Student Conduct to complete all academic and scholarly activities with fairness and honesty. Our professional students also have the responsibility to uphold the professional and ethical standards found in their respective academic honor codes. Specifically, students are not to use unauthorized assistance in the laboratory, on field work, in scholarship, or on a course assignment unless such assistance has been authorized specifically by the course instructor. In addition, students are not to submit their work without acknowledging any word-for-word use and/or paraphrasing of writing, ideas or other work that is not your own. These requirements apply to all students undergraduate, graduate, and professional.

To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, these generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of course assignments unless an instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use. Some instructors may approve of using generative AI tools in the academic setting for specific goals. However, these tools should be used only with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and then only in the ways allowed by the instructor.

Religious Accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#).

Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#)

Disability Statement (with Accommodations for Illness)

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If students anticipate or experience academic barriers based on a disability (including mental health and medical conditions, whether chronic or temporary), they should let their instructor know immediately so that they can privately discuss options. Students do not need to disclose specific information about a disability to faculty. To establish reasonable accommodations, students may be asked to register with Student Life Disability Services (see below for campus-specific contact information). After registration, students should make arrangements with their instructors as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that accommodations may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If students are ill and need to miss class, including if they are staying home and away from others while experiencing symptoms of viral infection or fever, they should let their instructor know immediately. In cases where illness interacts with an underlying medical condition, please consult with Student Life Disability Services to request reasonable accommodations.

slds@osu.edu
<https://slds.osu.edu/>

098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave
614-292-3307 phone

Intellectual Diversity

Ohio State is committed to fostering a culture of open inquiry and intellectual diversity within the classroom. This course will cover a range of information and may include discussions or debates about controversial issues, beliefs, or policies. Any such discussions and debates are intended to support understanding of the approved curriculum and relevant course objectives rather than promote any specific point of view. Students will be assessed on principles applicable to the field of study and the content covered in the course. Preparing students for citizenship includes helping them develop critical thinking skills that will allow them to reach their own conclusions regarding complex or controversial matters.

Grievances and Solving Problems

According to University Policies, if you have a problem with this class, you should seek to resolve the grievance concerning a grade or academic practice by speaking first with the instructor or professor. Then, if necessary, take your case to the department chairperson, college dean or associate dean, and to the provost, in that order. Specific procedures are outlined in Faculty Rule 3335-8-23. Grievances against

graduate, research, and teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a welcoming community. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office (CRCO):

Online reporting form: <http://civilrights.osu.edu/>

Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605

civilrights@osu.edu

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately. The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

Weather or Other Short-Term Closing

Should in-person classes be canceled, I will notify you as to which alternative methods of teaching will be offered to ensure continuity of instruction for this class. Communication will be email.

Use of Honorlock

Honorlock, an online proctoring tool, will be used during this course. Honorlock offers you flexibility to take your exams at the time and in the location of your choosing.

- Technology requirements: Students are required to have a webcam (USB or internal) with a microphone and a strong and stable internet connection.

- Testing environment: During the course of an exam, Honorlock will record the testing environment, therefore students should select private spaces for the exam session where disruptions are unlikely and where recording devices can be enabled. Instructions for Honorlock use will be provided.
- Limitations: To use Honorlock you must be **over 18 years of age**. Additionally, the tool has **limitations in its accessibility** for students reliant upon screen readers and keyboard navigation. Additional information on academic integrity at Ohio State and [recommended proctoring options](#) are available.
- Academic integrity and academic misconduct: Please note that while Honorlock settings may flag suspected cheating during exams, these automatic measures do not constitute a determination of academic misconduct. Any suspicion of misconduct will be referred to the [Committee on Academic Misconduct](#) and evaluated through a fair and transparent process

If you have concerns about using an online proctoring tool for the reasons listed above or in general, please work with your instructor to find an equivalent alternative.

Counseling and Consultation Services / Mental Health Statement

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing.

If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th floor of the Younkun Success Center and 10th floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

5. Tentative Course Schedule

The following schedule (including deadlines) is tentative and subject to changes based on how the class progresses. This document is NOT updated after the beginning of the course, so please use the Canvas website to keep track of the (updated) course schedule.

Week	Date	Topic	Associated Readings	Homework
1	25-Aug	No Class		
	27-Aug	Intro		
2	1-Sep	No Class		
	3-Sep			
3	8-Sep	Risk and Return	BKM Ch. 1 & 5	HW 1 Due HW 2 Due
	10-Sep			
4	15-Sep	Portfolio Theory	BKM Ch. 5 & 6	HW 3 Due HW 4 Due
	17-Sep			
5	22-Sep	Quiz 1		
	24-Sep			
6	29-Sep	CAPM	BKM Ch. 7	
	1-Oct	Multifactor Models	BKM Ch. 7	HW 5 Due
7	6-Oct	Performance Eval	BKM Ch. 7	HW 6 Due
	8-Oct	Review		
8	13-Oct	Midterm		
	15-Oct	Going Over Midterm		
9	20-Oct	Guest Speaker		
	22-Oct	Efficient Markets Hypothesis	BKM Ch. 8	
10	27-Oct			
	29-Oct	Behavioral Finance	BKM Ch. 9	
11	3-Nov			HW 7 Due
	5-Nov	Debt Valuation	BKM Ch. 10	HW 8 Due
12	10-Nov			HW 9 Due
	12-Nov	Quiz 2		
13	17-Nov			
	19-Nov	Equity Valuation	BKM Ch. 13	HW 10 Due
14	24-Nov	Guest Speaker		
	26-Nov	No Class		
15	1-Dec			
	3-Dec	Derivatives	BKM Ch. 15 & 17	
16	8-Dec			HW 11 Due
	10-Dec	Review		

Exam Week	Dec 12- 18	Final Exam Section 007 (2487): Wednesday, Dec 17 @ 2:00-3:45pm Section 008 (2661): Thursday, Dec 18 @ 4:00-5:45pm Section 011 (2772): Friday, Dec 12 @ 6:00-7:45pm
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