

FIN 3600 Investments

Spring 2007

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Class home page:	http://clem.mscd.edu/~mayest/	Office	Mon 12:00 to 1:00 Tues 1:30 to 2:30
Book home page:	http://hearth.swlearning.com/	Hours:	Wed 4:00 to 5:30 Thurs 4:00 to 5:30
		Available by	Mon 11:00 to 12:00 Tues 12:00 to 1:00
		Appointment Only:	Wed 2:00 to 4:00 Thurs 3:00 to 4:00

Prerequisites: FIN 3300 and junior or senior standing. **Prerequisites will be enforced**, so you must also have all of your MTH courses. In addition it is suggested that you have completed at least one course in statistics.

Textbook: Contemporary Investments: Security and Portfolio Analysis, 4th ed. by Hearth & Zaima.
A subscription to the *Wall Street Journal* or *Barron's* will also be helpful.

Calculator A financial calculator that can handle uneven cash flow streams is required. Any of the financial calculators from HP or TI will work fine. I have tutorials available for these calculators at: http://clem.mscd.edu/~mayest/calculators/calculator_tutorials_index.htm.

Purpose: FIN 3600 is designed to acquaint students with the types of investment products, tools, and techniques that are available to help the individual investor meet his/her goals. The topics covered will include: investment alternatives, organization and regulation of securities markets, securities valuation, portfolio theory and management, etc.

Format: An interactive lecture format is used, and success in this course will depend on your studying the material **before** each class meeting. Class attendance is mandatory as some material not covered in the text will be presented. Homework is not collected, but students not attempting the end-of-chapter problems have historically done very poorly on exams. I will devote a portion of some class periods to working problems. Students are encouraged to ask questions at any opportunity.

Exams and Grading: Each of the three exams will consist of several (usually 40 to 50) multiple-choice questions and, perhaps, a problem section where you must show your work. Exams are curved such that the average grade is 75%. However, any scores below 50% are excluded from the calculation of the curve. Make-up exams will not be given, except in extreme circumstances and with **prior** notice.

In addition to exams, students will receive grades for the Stock-Trak investment simulation project (5 February to 27 April), and for class participation. A Stock-Trak final report is due on Thursday, 3 May.

Grades¹:	<u>Week of</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Weight</u>
	27 February	<i>Exam 1:</i> Ch. 1-3, 5, 6	30%
	10 April	<i>Exam 2:</i> Ch. 8, 11, 12, 7	30%
	9/10 May	<i>Exam 3 (final):</i> Ch. 14, 9, 15-17 and cumulative Stock-Trak and Participation	30% 10%
		Total	<u><u>100%</u></u>

¹ Examination dates are subject to change. You will be notified in advance.
The last date to drop the course for an NC is Friday, 30 March 2007.

Finance Departmental Class Policies

NC (No Credit):

Please refer to Registration Dates/Deadlines in current semester Class Schedule for NC dates. NC will not be given after the 10th week of class. NC forms are available in the office of Registrar, CN 105. Students are responsible for submitting completed forms on time to the Office of the Registrar.

“I” (Incomplete):

The “I” designation will only be given in cases where the course has been substantially completed with a passing grade, and the student has been unable to finish the course through no fault of his/her own. The “I” will automatically become an “F” at the end of one year. However, your instructor may establish an earlier deadline, in writing, and may change the “I” to an “F” at that designated time if the course work has not been satisfactorily completed.

Class Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all sessions of courses for which they are registered. Each instructor determines when a student’s absences have reached a point at which they jeopardize success in a course. When absences become excessive, the student may receive a failing grade for the course.

Religious Holidays:

If a student needs to miss a class for a religious holiday observance, please notify the instructor in writing during the first two weeks of the semester so that your absence may be excused. Failure to do so will result in an unauthorized absence.

Special Needs:

Students desiring a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) must contact the ACCESS Center (Library, Rm. 115, 303.556.8387) immediately to discuss their needs. Failure to notify the ACCESS Center promptly of the need for a reasonable accommodation may hinder the college’s ability to assist students in successfully completing the course.

Final Examinations:

It is the general policy of the college to require final examinations of all students in all courses in which they are registered for credit with the possible exception of seminar courses or special projects.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense at the College because it diminishes the quality of scholarship and the learning experience for everyone on campus. An act of academic dishonesty may lead to such penalties as reductions of grades, probation, suspension or expulsion. Examples of academic dishonesty include: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism. Academic dishonesty offences can result in a permanent “F” grade in the course.

Respect for Rights of Others:

The student assumes certain obligations of performance and behavior while attending MSCD. Based on this premise, reasonable policies, procedures and regulations have been developed to guarantee each student’s opportunity to learn and to protect the fundamental rights of others. As members of an academic community, students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner. Students should try at all times to promote a sense of cooperation and civility within the College and work to build an atmosphere which will be most conducive to the goals of higher education within the institution. In cases of a student’s disruption of a class, the instructor has the authority to remove that student. Further, rudeness, verbal abuse or any other form of mistreatment by any person against another will not be tolerated. Faculty and staff reserve the right to refuse service to such individual acting in that manner at that moment and will report all incidents to the appropriate administrative department of the College.

Prerequisites:

The School of Business reserves the right to dis-enroll students who do not meet prerequisite requirements of a course.

Course Switching:

The Finance Department will not allow a student to switch sections of a course after the last day to add/drop of the semester.

Student Counseling:

The MSCD Counseling Center is available for individual or group counseling if needed. They are located in TIV 651. Additional information concerning College policies may be found in the Current College Catalogue and/or the Student Handbook.