BF2212 Investment Products

Academic Year : 2016-2017 Semester: 2

Pre-requisite : BF2201 Investments
BF2207 International Finance

No. of AUs : 4

Course Description and Scope

The main aim of this course is to understand and analyze how various financial products are used to meet specific investment objectives. The financial products considered include equities, fixed income, and alternative investments. We will explore in detail to how develop investment theses and views, which reflect how investors expect to achieve their investment objectives given current and expected market conditions.

Course Learning Objectives
At the end of the course, students will gain mastery in:

1. The nature and characteristics of the different investment products.

2. Understanding the forces that cause the price and pay outs of the investment products to change in predictable and unpredictable ways.

3. Where to get data and information from various platforms.

4. How to present information related to investment views and theses in compelling and clear ways.

Pedagogy

This is not a text book based course. There is no single text book that covers the topics and issues in the course in a way that they are to be treated. <u>Students will be required to extensively use financial platforms such as Thomson Reuters and Bloomberg in these applications</u>.

Throughout the course, students will have to follow developments in the global financial market closely, ask critical questions, discuss them with their group members and bring to the classroom issues for discussion and analysis. This process will constitute a significant part of the project work.

Proposed Weekly Schedule

Week	Topics
1	Introduction to Investment Objectives, Theses and Products
2-3	Equity Securities
4-5	Equity Exchange Traded Funds
6-7	Money Markets and Government Bonds
8-9	Corporate Bonds
10	Convertible Debt
11	Mutual Funds
12	REITS and SREITS

Readings and References

- Reference Books

The following books are not meant to be text books.

1. "Investments", Asia Global Edition, Bodie, Kane, Marcus and Jain (BK)
2. "Investment Philosophies," 2nd Ed, Aswath Damodaran (AD)
3. "Bond markets, Analysis and Strategies," 8th Ed, Frank Fabozzi (FF)

Course Assessments

Component	Marks	Individual/Group
Assignments	30	Individual
Quizzes	20	Individual
Project	30	Group
Class Participation	20	Individual/Group
Total	**100**	

The Group Project includes the following:

- In class group discussions and presentations
- Creating a data and chart deck for a country or region and updating and improving them over the duration of the course.

About the Course Coordinator

Dr. Douglas Streeter Rolph is the Academic Director of the Nanyang Professional MBA program. He also is a Senior Lecturer of Banking and Finance at the Nanyang Business School (NBS).

Dr. Rolph teaches Financial Risk Management in the Masters of Financial Engineering (MFE) program, as well as Equity Valuation and Fixed Income in the MBA program. He received the MFE Teacher of the Year award in 2015. In addition, he teaches courses on investing in the Undergraduate Program. Dr. Rolph has also taught strategic corporate finance to Master's students at City University of Hong Kong.

Dr. Rolph's research interests focus on corporate bond markets, financial regulation and the impact of fintech on financial markets. He regularly speaks at industry events, and served on the Keynote Panel at the Thomson Reuters' 2016 ASEAN Regulatory Summit. He has been interviewed by media outlets including Financial Management (UK), The Edge (Singapore), RTHK (Hong Kong), Hong Kong Oriental Daily News (東方日報) and Thomson Reuter's Regulatory Intelligence Insider News Channel and has written for The Business Times (Singapore).

Prior to joining NBS, Dr. Rolph held positions as an Assistant Professor at City University of Hong Kong, Visiting Assistant Professor at Seattle University and worked in the Economic Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He earned a Ph.D. in Finance from University of Washington, Seattle in 2003.