

Annexe A: New/Revised Course Content in OBTL+ Format

Course Overview

The sections shown on this interface are based on the templates [UG OBTL+](#) or [PG OBTL+](#)

If you are revising/duplicating an existing course and do not see the pre-filled contents you expect in the subsequent sections e.g. Course Aims, Intended Learning Outcomes etc. please refer to [Data Transformation Status](#) for more information.

Expected Implementation in Academic Year	AY24-25
Semester/Trimester/Others (specify approx. Start/End date)	Semester 1
Course Author * Faculty proposing/revising the course	Song Jin
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Course Title	ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS
Course Code	BF3207/BF3219
Academic Units	3
Contact Hours	39
Research Experience Components	Not Applicable

Course Requisites (if applicable)

Pre-requisites	BF2201
Co-requisites	
Pre-requisite to	
Mutually exclusive to	
Replacement course to	
Remarks (if any)	

Course Aims

This course provides an overview of alternative investments such as hedge fund, private equity, real estate, etc. Financial theories behind these financial assets such as the portfolio theory will be also discussed. The aim of the course is to provide students with better Understanding about different types of alternative investments, those heavily interconnected organizations managing them, their impact on the global financial market, historical development, principal activities, regulatory environment, and risks and opportunities.

This course is a specialization elective for Year 3&4 undergraduates in Bachelor of Business with a specialization in Banking and Finance. Students in other specializations in Bachelor of Business and students in Bachelor of Accountancy may also take the course.

This course provides comprehensive background for students who want to pursue a career after graduation in finance and investments including investment banks, hedge funds, private equity firms, etc. It helps to broaden understanding of the alternative investments industry and their potential clients.

Course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

Upon the successful completion of this course, you (student) would be able to:

ILO 1	Explain the environment of alternative investing and main categories of alternative investments.
ILO 2	Explain the main categories of hedge fund investment strategies and the rationale behind each strategy class.
ILO 3	Explain hedge funds' shareholder activism and its impact on corporations.
ILO 4	Explain various types of risks that hedge fund investors are exposed to, and regulation and organizational structure of hedge fund.
ILO 5	Evaluate hedge fund performance.
ILO 6	Describe characteristics of a private equity transaction and structure of a private equity transaction.
ILO 7	Apply leveraged buyout (LBO) financial model real examples.
ILO 8	Explain the impact of private equity on corporations, and regulations on private equity.
ILO 9	Explain future issues and opportunities of private equity.
ILO 10	Explain applications and evidence of commodities, real estates, and infrastructure investments.

Course Content

1. Overview of hedge fund. 2. Hedge fund investment strategies. 3. Shareholder activism and impact on corporations. 4. Risk, regulation, and organizational structure. 5. Hedge fund issues and performance. 6. Overview of private equity. 7. LBO financial model. 8. Private equity impact on corporations. 9. Organization, compensation, regulation, and limited partners. 10. Private equity issues and opportunities. 11. Introduction of commodities. 12. Investing in commodity futures. 13. Liquid and fixed-Income real estate. 14. Real estate equity investments.

Reading and References (if applicable)

Required textbook: Investment banks, hedge funds, and private equity, 3rd edition, by David P. Stowell. Academic Press. Other references: Handbook of Alternative Assets, 2 rd edition, by Mark J.P. Anson Alternative Investments, CAIA Level I, 3rd edition, by Donald R. Chambers, Mark J.P. Anson, Keith H. Black and Hossein Kazemi.

Planned Schedule

Week or Session	Topics or Themes	ILO	Readings	Delivery Mode	Activities
1	Overview of hedge fund.	ILO 1	Stowell Chapter 11	In-person	
2	Hedge fund investment strategies.	ILO 2	Stowell Chapter 12	In-person	
3	Holiday			In-person	
4	Shareholder activism and impact on corporations.	ILO 3	Stowell Chapter 13	In-person	
5	Risk, regulation, and organizational structure.	ILO 4	Stowell Chapter 14	In-person	
6	Case study & Presentation			In-person	
7	Hedge fund issues and performance.	ILO 5	Stowell Chapter 15	In-person	
8	Recess			In-person	
9	Overview of private equity.	ILO 6	Stowell Chapter 16	In-person	
10	LBO financial model.	ILO 7	Stowell Chapter 17	In-person	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private equity impact on corporations. Organization, compensation, regulation, and limited partners. 	ILO 8	Stowell Chapter 19	In-person	

Week or Session	Topics or Themes	ILO	Readings	Delivery Mode	Activities
12	Case study & Presentation			In-person	
13	Private equity issues and opportunities	ILO 9	Stowell Chapter 20	In-person	
14	Introduction of commodities, real estate, infrastructure, etc	ILO 10	Handout	In-person	

Learning and Teaching Approach

Approach	How does this approach support you in achieving the learning outcomes?
Seminars	You will be introduced to various topics on alternative investments such hedge fund, private equity, real estate, etc. Theories and models will be provided as the foundation of the course, and examples will be used to illustrate how they can be applied in practice. You are welcome to question and critique in class and take part in the problem solving process.
Group project and presentation	You will get the chance to apply the knowledge learnt in class to a real case problem and present your findings on this problem. You will work in a team setting and orally present your results in class. This will permit teamwork and provides opportunities to improve communication skills.
Individual case study project (written report)	You will get the chance to practice to review the knowledge learnt in class and to apply it to solve a case study problem. This will help you better grasp the essence of the course, improve problem solving and written communication skills, and achieve the course objective.
In-Class activities	Interactions are encouraged in class to enhance critical thinking and class engagement. This will permit sharing of ideas amongst students and instant feedback on questions.

Assessment Structure

Assessment Components (includes both continuous and summative assessment)

No.	Component	ILO	Related PLO or Accreditation	Weightage	Team/Individual	Rubrics	Level of Understanding
1	Summative Assessment (EXAM): Final exam()	1-10	Critical Thinking, Acquisition of Knowledge	30	Individual	Analytic	Multistructural
2	Continuous Assessment (CA): Presentation(Group in-class presentation (every member is required to present))	1-10	Problem Solving & Decision Making, Oral communication, Teamwork & Interpersonal Skills	20	Team	Holistic	Multistructural
3	Continuous Assessment (CA): Project(Case study project (written report))	1-10	Problem Solving & Decision Making, Written communication	40	Individual	Holistic	Multistructural
4	Continuous Assessment (CA): Class Participation()	1-10	Critical Thinking, Acquisition of Knowledge	10	Individual	Holistic	Multistructural

Description of Assessment Components (if applicable)

Formative Feedback

You will receive written feedback for written homework, and verbal feedback for in-class discussion and other in-class participations. Emails to individual students are also used when it is needed.

Informally stay after each class provides you informal feedback and interactions with you.

NTU Graduate Attributes/Competency Mapping

This course intends to develop the following graduate attributes and competencies (maximum 5 most relevant)

Attributes/Competency	Level
Collaboration	Advanced
Communication	Advanced
Creative Thinking	Advanced
Decision Making	Advanced
Problem Solving	Advanced

Course Policy

Policy (Academic Integrity)

Good academic work depends on honesty and ethical behaviour. The quality of your work as a student relies on adhering to the principles of academic integrity and to the NTU Honour Code, a set of values shared by the whole university community. Truth, Trust and Justice are at the core of NTU's shared values. As a student, it is important that you recognize your responsibilities in understanding and applying the principles of academic integrity in all the work you do at NTU. Not knowing what is involved in maintaining academic integrity does not excuse academic dishonesty. You need to actively equip yourself with strategies to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, academic fraud, collusion and cheating. If you are uncertain of the definitions of any of these terms, you should go to the academic integrity website for more information. On the use of technological tools (such as Generative AI tools), different courses / assignments have different intended learning outcomes. Students should refer to the specific assignment instructions on their use and requirements and/or consult your instructors on how you can use these tools to help your learning. Consult your instructor(s) if you need any clarification about the requirements of academic integrity in the course.

Policy (General)

You are expected to read ahead for each session, be ready to participate in the class discussions and present solutions to the questions assigned. You are expected to take responsibility to follow up with course notes, assignments and course related announcements for seminar sessions they have missed. You are expected to participate in all seminar discussions and activities.

Policy (Absenteeism)

Absence from class without a valid reason will affect your overall course grade. Valid reasons include falling sick supported by a medical certificate and participation in NTU's approved activities supported by an excuse letter from the relevant bodies.
If you miss a lecture, you must inform the course instructor via email prior to the start of the class.

Policy (Others, if applicable)

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Last Updated By: Susan Tan