Baruch College – City University of New York

Instructor

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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday evenings and by appointment
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Course Name

Investment Analysis - FIN 3710

Course Meeting

Format Hybrid
Monday 7:30pm - 8:45pm **in-person at Vertical 5-160**
Wednesday 7:30pm - 8:45pm **online via Zoom only**
Please log in to Brightspace frequently to **check for changes** to class, assignment, quiz, etc.

Course Description

Introduction to financial markets and their organization and functional characteristics, principles and theories of financial asset pricing and valuation, analysis of modern portfolio theory, the capital asset pricing model, and the valuation of common stocks and bonds.

Learning Goals

To provide competency in valuation principles and techniques, the investment process, modern portfolio theory, and draw implications for investment management. Competency in these areas should provide students with integrative abilities, analytical skills, and an awareness of ethical dimensions in investment decision making.

Textbook & Connect

The following textbook and access to McGraw Hill is required for this course:

Bodie, Kane, & Marcus: "Essentials of Investments". 2024 Release, McGraw-Hill.

If any student previously purchased Connect in FIN 3710 2024 Release, the student can continue their subscription in FIN 3710 provided student has an active subscription license.

You need to have access to the online copy of the textbook (SmartBook 2.0) and to Connect to participate in this course. We will be using Connect as a learning management tool that is integrated with our textbook. Please see SmartBook 2.0 Overview: Video (Classic UX)

Please note that the best way to purchase the required materials (the textbook and Connect) is as a package. Of course, where you purchase these materials is up to you. The McGraw Hill student price is $82.00 for Connect Online Access for a duration of 540 days and $108.62 for the Loose Leaf with Connect Access Card combination. The combination is available for purchase by clicking the following link: https://www.mheducation.com/highered/custom/product/1265937028.html

You can get detailed instruction on how to get **access to the textbook and to 'Connect'** via this helpful video: Connect Standalone Student Registration

To register, you will need to use the following link unique to our course:
https://connect.mheducation.com/class/j-hirsch-spring-2025---qmwa---m-w-730-pm

I do not provide tech support. Please contact the Connect Customer Experience Group (CXG) below:

- Phone: 1-800-331-5094.
  Live chat/email: https://mhedu.force.com/CXG/s/ContactUs
- Mon-Thu: 24 Hours, Fri: 12 AM-9 PM, Sat: 10 AM-8 PM, Sun: 12 PM-12 AM (All Times Eastern USA)

As stated above, the required materials (textbook (SmartBook) and access to McGraw Hill (Connect)) are required for this course and the best way to purchase the required materials *is as a package*. However, where you purchase these materials is up to you. For your information, the **textbook** used for this course is available at the CUNY Baruch College Bookstore. You can view the assigned course material posted to the Baruch College Online Bookstore by clicking the following course-specific bookstore link for FIN 3710, Section QMWA: Investment Analysis Title: LSC (BARUCH COLLEGE) FIN 3710: ECOMM Connect for Essentials of Investments, 540 Day Access ISBN: 9781264400355.

Study Materials

I provide numerous integrated tools that help in preparing for the quizzes and the final examination. Some tools appear on Brightspace and others via the Connect platform. Please take advantage of these various tools below if you feel that the extra assistance will be helpful to you. These integrated tools are as follows:

- **In-Class and Zoom Presentations**
- **PowerPoint Slides and Notes via Brightspace**
- **Real World/Practical Information via Brightspace**
- **Weekly Homework Assignments similar to Quiz Questions via Connect**
- **Sample Study Quiz Questions after each Chapter via Connect**
- **Read Anywhere app** Video **via Connect**
- **Sharpen, a free study app via Connect** SIGN UP FOR A FREE STUDY TOOL SHARPEN
- **AI Reader via Connect/Student View**
- **SIMskills, via Connect/Student View to enhance Microsoft office application skills, not required for this course but helpful to your career.**

Financial Calculator

A financial calculator is necessary for this class. We will have quantitative financial questions that require the use of a financial calculator. **Texas Instruments BA II Plus** is the best choice (You do not need to buy the professional version). **You must bring your own financial calculator to the quizzes and Final Examination.** If you forget to bring a calculator for a quiz, a limited number of calculators **may but no guarantee** be available to borrow from the library. **I will not be able to lend you a calculator on the day of a Quiz or Final Exam.**

Brightspace

All course study materials including this syllabus, course documents, and announcements will appear on Brightspace. **Please regularly log in to Brightspace to access course documents and announcements.**

Grading Policy

- Eleven online homework assignments. To earn credit, all you need to do is to complete an assignment. Connect offers two attempts to complete an assignment. **I will waive one missed homework assignment.** (**20%**)
- Three graded multiple-choice quizzes based on chapter contents administered during the semester. You need to take **all** three quizzes. **I will drop your lowest quiz grade.** (**40%**)
- Final exam multiple-choice (**40%**)

Regarding Grades, please see below for more detailed information about weekly assignments, quizzes, final exam, and the course grade assigned for this course which is in accordance with Baruch College grading policy.

- **Weekly Homework Assignments**

  All weekly homework assignments taken electronically through Connect. Students are expected to submit via Connect their completed weekly homework assignments **by or before** the specified due dates (See last page of course syllabus). Failure to complete a weekly homework assignment on time will result in a proportional loss of the above 20% credit. **There will be no extensions granted for weekly homework assignments beyond the due date.**

- **Quizzes and Final Exam**

  All quizzes and the Final exam are in-person at their scheduled times. The Final exam will be cumulative.

  There will be multiple versions of each quiz and Final. A 'Hint' sheet for selected quiz and Final questions will be provided by me. No homemade 'Hint' sheets allowed. Please make sure to bring blank paper if you anticipate you will need it. **You should only bring pencils, erasers, a financial calculator, and your Baruch student ID.** Please be sure that all phones are powered off and put away. Restroom breaks are allowed, but your cellphone(s) must be left behind with me during the restroom break.

  There will be no make-ups for any missed quizzes. If you miss the final exam, please follow the Baruch College guidelines. Make-up for the final exam will not be possible unless you have a valid and documented excuse.

Course Grade

The course grade is determined based on the following Baruch-standard number-letter schedule appearing below:

- A 93.0-100.0
- A- 90.0-92.9
- B+ 87.1-89.9
- B 83.0-87.0
- B- 80.0-82.9
- C+ 77.1-79.9
- C 73.0-77.0
- C- 70.0-72.9
- D+ 67.1-69.9
- D 60.0-67.0
- F < 60.0

Students with Disabilities

Baruch College has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need an accommodation to participate in this class should contact the Office of Student Disability Services as soon as possible at Student Disability Services

At Baruch, we acknowledge that as a student, you are balancing many demands. During the semester, if you start to experience personal difficulties or stressors that are interfering with your academic performance or day to day functioning, please consider seeking free and confidential support at the Baruch College Counseling Center. For more information, please visit their website at https://studentaffairs.baruch.cuny.edu/counseling You can also call 646-312-2155. If it is outside of business hours (Monday – Friday 9-5pm) and you need immediate assistance, please call 1-888-NYC-WELL (888-692-9355). If you are concerned about one of your classmates, please share that concern by filling out a Campus Intervention Team form at https://studentaffairs.baruch.cuny.edu/campus-intervention-team

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses. The College's policy on Academic Honesty defines cheating as attempted or unauthorized use of materials, information, notes, study aids, devices or communication during an academic exercise. Academic sanctions range from a grade of 0 on an exam, a failing grade for the course, and report of suspected academic dishonesty to the Office of the Dean of Students which may remain on a permanent file. Before taking an exam, students may have to write and or sign a statement that they will neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance on the upcoming exam. Examples include but are not limited to the following:

- Copying from another student during an examination or allowing another to copy your work.
- Unauthorized collaborating on a take home or online assignment or examination.
- Using unauthorized notes during a closed book examination.
- Using unauthorized electronic devices during an examination.
- Taking an examination for another student.
- Asking or allowing another student to take an examination for you.
- Changing a corrected exam and returning it for more credit.
- Preparing answers or writing notes in a blue book (exam booklet) before an examination

Academic Integrity

The "Bearcat Commitment," affirms that students will act with integrity, pursue excellence, respect others, and engage productively. With this Baruch College Bearcat Commitment in mind, please be reminded that Baruch College is committed to policies and practices that promote equality, equity, opportunity, and access in all of its educational programs and activities. Civility in all Baruch College online, hybrid and in-person classes, activities—and respect for the opinions of others—are essential strategies to promoting an academic environment in which everyone can learn and do their best work. In an academic environment, we must learn to disagree without being disagreeable; this means that courteous behavior and respectful discourse are required always in our Baruch College classrooms and in all our related educational programming and activities.

Schedule of Classes

Please see next page for a complete schedule of class meetings, activities and readings, related assignments including due dates. Also included are the dates of the three quizzes and final exam. **Please note that the schedule of classes is subject to change**. **Please make sure to log in to Brightspace frequently**. Check for schedule changes including assignments and dates of the quizzes.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Expected Lecture Date	Activities and Readings	Homework Assignments
Monday January 27 **Wed Jan 29-No Class**	Course Introduction	No Assignment Due
Monday February 3 Wednesday February 5	Reading - Chapter 1 (Investments: Background and Issues)	Chapter 1 Homework Due Wed 2/12/25
Monday February 10 **Wed Feb 12-No Class**	Reading - Chapter 2 (Asset Classes and Financial Instruments)	Chapter 2 Homework Due Wed 2/19/25
Mon Feb 17-No Class **Tuesday February 18** Wednesday February 19	Reading - Chapter 2 (Asset Classes and Financial Instruments) Reading – Chapter 3 (Securities Markets)	Chapter 3 Homework Due Wed 2/26/25
Monday February 24 Wednesday February 26	Reading – Chapter 3 (Securities Markets) Reading - Chapter 4 (Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies)	Chapter 4 Homework Due Wed 3/5/25
Monday March 3 Wednesday March 5 **Thursday March 6**	Reading - Chapter 4 (Mutual Funds and Other Investment Companies) Reading – Chapter 5 (Risk, Return and the Historical Record)	Chapter 5 Homework Due Wed 3/19/25
Monday March 10 Wednesday March 12	**Monday March 17 Quiz 1 (Chapters 1,2,3,4)** Reading – Chapter 5 (Risk, Return and the Historical Record)	Chapter 6 Homework Due Wed 3/26/25
Monday March 17 Wednesday March 19	Reading – Chapter 6 (Efficient Diversification)	Chapter 7 Homework Due Wed 4/2/25
Monday March 24 Wednesday March 26	Reading - Chapter 7 (Capital Asset Pricing and Arbitrage Pricing Theory)	Chapter 8 Homework Due Wed 4/9/25
Mon Mar 31-No Class Wednesday April 2	Reading - Chapter 8 (The Efficient Market Hypothesis)	No Assignment Due
Monday April 7 Wednesday April 9	Reading – Chapter 9 (Behavioral Finance and Technical Analysis)	Chapter 9 Homework Due Wed 4/23/25
Monday April 21 Wednesday April 23	Reading – Chapter 10 (Bond Prices and Yields)	Chapter 10 Homework Due Wed 4/30/25
Monday April 28 Wednesday April 30	**Monday April 28 Quiz 2 (Chapters 5,6,7,8,9)** Reading – Chapter 13 (Equity Valuation)	No Assignment Due
Monday May 5 Wednesday May 7	Reading – Chapter 13 (Equity Valuation) Prepare for Final Exam	Chapter 13 Homework Due Wed 5/14/25
Monday May 12 Wednesday May 14	**Monday May 12 Quiz 3 (Chapters 10,13)** Prepare for Final Exam	No Assignment Due
Yet to be scheduled	**Final Exam**	No Assignment Due