FIN 3520 Investments Fall 2016
SYLLABUS

Reference # 14317  Time: TTh 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.  Credits: 3
Location: 133 SSB (Social Science Business Hall), North Campus
Building #11 on Campus Map – see Maps in My Gateway masthead

Prerequisite: FIN 3500 and 2.0 Overall GPA

Course Description: Financial analysis of debt and equity investments available on organized exchanges and in less tangible “over the counter markets”. Techniques of such analysis being presented in context with economic and management circumstances within the company, industry, and economy.

Body of Knowledge:
The student should gain familiarity with:
- much of the language of investments
- theories of equity and debt valuation
- the time value of money as it relates to security pricing
- the markets for securities and their valuation
- economic and industry analysis
- utilizing and interpreting financial statements to evaluate performance
- ethical decision making

Welcome to FIN 3520!

• 23 years experience in investment banking (focus on mergers/acquisitions and corporate valuations), 3 years experience in Private Client Services, and 3 years experience in securities research at A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. (now Wells Fargo Advisors) and St. Louis Union Trust Company (now Bank of America Trust Company).
• Started teaching at UMSL in 2005. Teach courses in Corporate Financial Management, Investments, and Retirement Planning.
• Interested in Behavioral Finance, High Frequency Trading, and Dividend Investing.
Instructor: James Pandjiris, CFA  
Office: 1110 Tower  
E-mail: pandjirisj@umsl.edu  
I am easier to reach by e-mail.

Office Hours: TTh 4:30 – 5:15 pm  
Phone: 314-516-6642

Required Text:  

Your course is part of the MU Digital Partnership with McGraw-Hill this semester. This means that students will **NOT need to purchase course materials in the bookstore.** They will be provided with access to a Connect Finance account (where their course materials and assignments live) on the first day of class or before. Connect Finance is an electronic platform to access electronic version (e-book) of text and from which you will submit homework and quizzes.

**There is an additional print copy (looseleaf format) that can be purchased in the bookstore by the student if a student seeks printed material and will cost an additional $45. Students do NOT need to buy the print copy.** Instead, the University will charge each student’s bursar account for the course and the materials after the drop date (this part is handled internally by the University). This offers students a savings on their course materials and ensures access for everyone on day 1. An additional bonus for everyone is that there are no access codes to deal with. This is a **Codeless Offer**.

Thus, the textbook for the course, *Essentials of Investments, 9th edition*, by Bodie, Kane, Marcus. McGraw-Hill Irwin, will be available in e-book format.

Students, please do **NOT** purchase a used book (from another student or online). You will not have access to Connect Finance and will not receive the discounted price. By registering for the
course, you will be automatically charged for access to Connect Finance and the e-book version of the text.

See the following to understand how to access Connect Finance through My Gateway. You will NOT have to access the Connect Finance site through a password.

Student Registration for Connect through My Gateway

- Sign into UMSL’s My Gateway.
- Go to your instructor’s course.
- Go to the "Tools" menu.
- Click on the "McGraw-Hill Education" link.
- Below "My Connect Section", click Go to My Connect Section.
- Follow the on-screen instructions to register.

Connect Finance is an electronic platform associated with the course’s text to provide for homework assignments and other learning aids. Connect Finance is required for access to the online homework, eBook, guided examples, Learnsmart, interactive presentations, and tegrity lectures. You can immediately access Connect Finance through your Blackboard course. No registration is required.

Our textbook is Essentials of Investments, 9th Edition. With this program, all students will be billed for their text and digital access to Connect Finance after UMSL’s final add/drop date to ensure students who drop the course, are not charged for resources they are not going to end up utilizing for the full semester. Do NOT buy a textbook or digital access to Connect yourself. Everyone who is registered for this course after the add/drop date will be billed automatically for the text and digital access to Connect.

Connect Finance has excellent study aids for each chapter. I strongly recommend your use of the site on a regular basis.

Supplementary Materials:
A financial calculator is required. This should have N, i/y, PV, PMT, and FV functions. The TI-BAlI Plus model or HP-10B model are good calculators (at about $30 at bookstore and mass merchandisers) for this and more advanced finance courses. Note: the Texas Instruments TI-
83/84 are *not* particularly friendly for financial calculations. These are primarily graphing calculators; many of my former students have found the TI-83/84 somewhat difficult, at first, to apply to financial problems. If you already have a TI-83/84, do *not buy* another calculator.

- Please get familiar with the operation of your calculator; read the handbook or go to the manufacturer’s website for guidance. **You** (yeah, *you*) are responsible for knowing how to operate your calculator. The website [www.tvmcalcs.com](http://www.tvmcalcs.com) is an excellent resource for calculators.

- Reading the Wall Street Journal or the business section of the New York Times is recommended. The Wall Street Journal may be ordered for home delivery at [http://www.WSJ.com/studentoffer](http://www.WSJ.com/studentoffer), while the New York Times is available free in red newspaper boxes around campus by inserting your student ID card. Barrons is a great weekly for investors and is available on top floor of Main Library in Reference Section.

**Course Requirements and Procedures:**

Instruction Method: Classes are a combination of lecture and discussion of problems/issues. Homework problems will be assigned frequently; most homework will be required to be submitted for grading. **Successful students** attempt the problems before class and then review answers discussed in class. **If you don’t understand a concept or a problem, raise your hand in class, see me or e-mail me.** Don’t let that concept fester. The subject matter builds on prior concepts. I get paid to answer e-mails. There will not be a tutor for this class.

**My Gateway**

I utilize My Gateway extensively during the semester. I may post articles, list future assignments, provide answers to homework problems, provide access to PowerPoint presentations, and advise on studying for exams. You may send me questions or comments (I *encourage* this activity) via e-mail on My Gateway. **If you do not have access to My Gateway at your home, I strongly recommend** you arrange to access My Gateway two to three times weekly while on campus. Access My Gateway off-campus using **Mozilla Foxfire** search engine.

*Note: I recommend you NOT take this course while also enrolled in Business Statistics course unless you are a strong*
Both courses have a lot of homework weekly. Pick one or the other.

You will submit homework exercises using Connect Finance.

I will assign some extra credit assignments that will require use of Excel.

**YOUR SUCCESS** in this course is important to me. When I believe that the programs offered by Student Retention Services (SRS) will help you academically, I will send a referral via MyConnect, the campus Academic Alert System. The SRS offers assistance tailored to specific instructional needs. Learn about the MyConnect system in the online Student Planner, http://www.umsl.edu/~umslsrs/Academic%20Intervention%20Programs/alert.html

Attendance/Participation:

Attendance will be taken and will have an effect on your grade. If your attendance is below 90% on the days on which attendance is taken, you will not receive 2% (10 points) attendance extra credit in grading. The material is cumulative and missing any class will make it difficult for the student to follow subsequent classes. **Make sure you sign attendance sheet!** Please don’t tell me at the end of the semester that you attended but you forgot to sign in.

*If you are sick,* do NOT come to class. E-mail me regarding your estimated return to class. If you have a serious family emergency or a death in the family, E-mail me to let me know of your absence and your expected return..

If you will be absent from class more than one time due to religious observance or the effects of religious observance (e.g. weakness from fasting), please contact me **BEFORE** the observance so that we can work out a schedule for you to complete assignments in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to contact me in a timely manner.

**SNOW DAYS:**

I cannot unilaterally cancel class because of snowfall, only the UMSL administration has that power and will disclose any snow closure by e-mail (if you register) and also by television and on the UMSL website. There may be a situation when school is open but you cannot get out of your street or community. **Don’t be a hero;** e-mail me of your predicament and I will not record you as absent.
Civility:
• Please turn off beepers, cell phones, and other electronic devices during class. Adherence to the Student Conduct Code is expected.
• I hope to encourage discussion, questions, and comments. While we may have differing opinions and come from different cultures, let’s respect each other’s views. Please be respectful in language and behavior.
• Hand-held phones and i-Pads may NOT be used for quizzes or exams in class.
• I am committed to insuring a positive learning environment by respecting that University policy (p. 66): http://www.umsl.edu/~studentplanner/index.html
• It is vitally important that our classroom environment promote the respectful exchange of ideas. This entails being sensitive to the views and beliefs expressed during class discussions. Please speak with me before recording any class activity. It is a violation of University of Missouri policy to distribute such recordings without my authorization and the permission of others who are recorded.

Mandatory Reporting:
Under Title IX, all UMSL faculty, staff, and administrators (with limited exception) are obligated to report any incidents of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, sexual assault, or gender discrimination to the Student Affairs office and/or other University officials. This ensures that all parties are protected from further abuses and that victim(s) are supported by trained counselors and professionals. Note: There are several offices at UMSL (e.g., Counseling Services, Health Services, Community Psychological Service, Center for Trauma Recovery, and Student Social Services) whose staff are exempt from Title IX mandated reporting, when the information is learned in the course of a confidential communication.

Assignments:
Students are encouraged to complete readings and do homework problems prior to class meetings. Homework which is assigned for credit will have to be submitted through Connect Finance before class begins. The solutions to assignments will be displayed in Connect Finance after submission of Homework assignment. Homework submitted late will NOT be counted for
grading purposes. I will NOT accept assignments submitted by text (hard copy).

**Disability**
Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in order to effectively participate in this class, please contact the **Disability Access Services Office** in 144 Millenium Student Center at 516-6554 as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are arranged in a timely fashion. Please provide me, privately, permission information and accommodations to support you in this class. Such information will be regarded as confidential.

**Self Quizzes**
Connect Finance website provides self-quizzes for virtually every chapter. I recommend you review these before/after each chapter. Some exam questions will be based on self-quizzes.

Online work through My Gateway can be sensitive to home computers; consider doing online work on My Gateway on campus with University computers or access My Gateway off-campus using **Mozilla Foxfire** search engine.

**In Class Assignments**
There may be assignments completed in class after reviewing a topic.

**Learn Smart Assignments**
In Connect Finance are Learn Smart Assignments. They are relatively short, interactive questions. These will be assigned as a way to introduce the concepts of the chapter.

**Company Report**
You will choose a publicly traded company from an approved list to provide a series of exercises leading to a recommendation regarding the company’s stock.

**Power Point Presentations**
On My Gateway, I will provide access to Power Point presentations related to most chapters discussed in class. While I may not present each presentation in the classroom, you will be responsible for the materials
Please review these presentations for quiz and exam preparation.

Exams:
5 exams will be given and approximate dates are listed herein. The date of an exam will be announced in class at least one class period in advance. The final exam will not be comprehensive. The exams will be objective, multiple-choice and may be offered online. For an exam in class, you will be allowed one side of an 8 ½ * 11 page on which you can write notes/formulae. Note that exams comprise a substantial portion of your total grade; treat them with great importance.

Extra Credit Assignments
From time to time, assignments may be offered which can be completed on a voluntary basis for extra credit up to an additional 5% (25 points) above the attendance credit. If extra credit assignments are made available, I recommend students do them; one never knows how many points are enough. Note: if you miss more than 6 classes, no extra credit will be recorded in the final grading. The final exam is NOT cumulative.

Grades:
Grades will be based on the following weightings:

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<th>Points:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Learn Smart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Company Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assigned Problems/In class</td>
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<td>First Exam</td>
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<td>Second Exam</td>
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<td>Third Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Note that “plus” and “minus” grades will be used in this course. A maximum grade on assigned work is 500 points. Extra credit points will be added to the assigned points to derive Total Points.
Letter grades will be awarded as follows:

- **A/A-** \( \geq 448.0 \) points
- **B+/B-** 398.0 to 447.5 points
- **C+/C-** 348.0 to 397.5 points
- **D+/D-** 299.5 to 347.5 points
- **F** \(< 297.5 \) points

Your Total Points will be the basis of your letter grade. A letter grade of **A** is typically about 463 points or higher. Note that a grade of A/A- is **not easy** to achieve.

In the Grade Center, the column “TOTAL” is **important**. That is your cumulative points earned semester-to-date and this column’s value changes as your assignments and extra credit are graded. Each category of assignments is worth points as shown above.

Note: Total points ending in decimals of .6 and higher will be rounded up to the higher whole number in calculating final numeric grades. Extra credit points add to your total points. Your letter grade will be based on the sum of your Assigned Points Earned and any Extra Credit points. **Extra credit points are valuable** as they add to the numerator of the fraction to calculate your percentage score out of 500 points but do **not** affect the denominator, set at 500 points.

**Academic Honesty:**
The University of Missouri-St. Louis encourages students to pursue excellence within a respectful and collegial environment and to assume responsibility for consequences of personal actions. The University requires students to reject any type of dishonest behavior. Honesty precludes seeking, providing, or receiving any form of unauthorized assistance on tests or any type of assignment. Any form of cheating on exams/assignments may result in “0” points for that exam or exercise. Please keep your eyes on your exam; do not let your eyes wander in an exam.

Any form of cheating on exams will result in “0” points for that exam or assignment. Additional penalties imposed by the Office of Academic affairs are possible. Plagiarism is the use of another person’s words or ideas without crediting that person. To avoid accusations of academic dishonesty, please submit all written work to the Safe Assign System before finalizing what you submit for evaluation. Academic dishonesty is a **serious** offense and is not worth it. The code of student conduct is available in the *Student Handbook*.

See [http://www.umsl.edu/~webdev/bulletin/student-conduct.html](http://www.umsl.edu/~webdev/bulletin/student-conduct.html).
Campus Safety

- All members of the UMSL community are invited to register their cell and office phone numbers to receive notification of any pending danger on campus. Find instructions here: http://safety.umsl.edu/police/services/3n.html
- In the event of an emergency on campus, call Campus Police at 314.516.5155. A call to 911 on a cell phone only, will go to the St. Louis County Police. The St. Louis County Police will notify UMSL Police, but this may cause a delay in response. Campus Police know the best way to escort emergency vehicles to locations on campus.
- If you do not feel comfortable walking to a parking lot, MetroLink stop, or anywhere else on campus, contact the Campus Police for an escort: 314.516.5155.

Assignment Outline & Schedule *

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>8/23</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Catch up</td>
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<td>EXAM ONE</td>
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<td>9/15</td>
<td>Chapter 22</td>
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<td>Chapter 7</td>
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<td>9/29</td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
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10/4  Catch up

10/6  EXAM 2

**Security Analysis**

10/11  Chapter 12

10/13  Chapter 13

10/18  Chapter 13

10/20  Chapter 14

10/25  Chapter 14

10/27  Catch up

11/1  EXAM 3

**Debt Securities**

11/3  Chapter 10

11/8  Chapter 10

11/10  Chapter 11

11/15  Chapter 11

11/17  EXAM 4

11/22 and 11/24  Thanksgiving Break No classes

**Derivatives**

11/29  Chapter 15

12/1  Chapter 15

12/6  Chapter 16

12/8  Chapter 16  Last Day of Class

12/13  Final Exam  5:30 – 7:30 pm
U of Missouri-St. Louis
FIN 3520 INVESTMENTS Fall 2016  Syllabus

* This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate instructional and/or student needs. It is the student’s responsibility to keep abreast of such changes. Dated: 8/15/2016