About the Student Investment Trust and FIN3525:

Mission Statement: In the belief that equity investing is crucial to the financial success of all members of society, we aim to promote the stock market, not as a dark, mysterious place, but as a vehicle of opportunity.

The Student Investment Trust is an UMSL student organization, which allows all students (even outside the College of Business Administration) to participate. If you want to take it (FIN3525) for credit, the prerequisite is FIN3500. Students can take it for 1 credit hour a semester up to three semesters. It is your choice whether you want to take it for credit or not.

We have a portfolio of about $300,000 (which belongs to the University) in stocks and options. The day class manages part of that and the evening class manages the rest. The students familiarize themselves with the portfolio and other stocks through presentations that they make. Then the class votes on proposals to buy or sell. Some students know quite a bit and have had experience buying and selling stocks. Most students do not, so the opportunities are great to learn a lot and to have some fun with the decisions.

We have won $20,000 in contests by making portfolio choices compared to other four-year universities in the St. Louis region. Members of the Student Investment Trust and FIN3525 make these decisions also.

The Student Investment Trust currently makes four $500 awards to students annually based on the returns we have been able to generate.

As stated above, students can take it for 1 credit hour a semester up to three semesters. If they need the three hours to fit their graduation plans and do not have three semesters before graduation, they can take both the day and evening class one semester and one of the classes the other semester (for a total of 3 credits). They may also take a 1 hour independent study with me during their second semester in FIN3525 to finish up their 3 credit, two semester sequence, if they are unable to schedule both classes in one semester.

The Fall 2017 semester will be our first semester in the new College of Business Administration building's Trading Room, equipped with 7 new Bloomberg Terminals. Becoming familiar with these Terminals will be a terrific boost to any career surrounding investments and economics. Come visit us any Thursday during the semester when classes are in session. The day class meets from 2:00 until 3:15 PM. The evening class meets from 8:20 until 9:35 PM.

Thanks for requesting this information.