**Course Syllabus**

**Semester Fall 2023-2024**

**Dr. Bader Alhashel**

**FIN 422 – Financial Markets**

**Lecture Time and Location:**

**FIN 426 / 1A+2A**

**Contact Information:**

**Location** : Department of Finance & Financial Institutions – 4th floor

**Email** : bader.alhashel@ku.edu.kw

**Phone #**  : 24988495‬

**Office Hours** : After Class or by appointment

**Social Media** : MS Teams

**Teaching Assistant:**

**Name** : TBA

**Location** : Department of Finance & Financial Institutions – 4th Floor

**Email** : TBA

**Office Hours** : TBA

**Tutorial** : TBA

**Course Description:**

This course is an advanced-level course designed to provide the student with a conceptual understanding of how financial markets work, how they are structured, how prices and yields are determined and provide insight into the many different types of risks that exist in financial markets. The student should already have knowledge of basic managerial finance, macroeconomics, microeconomics, and money and banking (including monetary theory). The material covered in the course is theoretical, descriptive and applied.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

The learning outcomes for this course, listed below, relate to the learning goals of the College of Business Administration Undergraduate Program, which can be found in the appendix at the end of this syllabus. The numbers in parenthesis indicate to which specific learning goal the outcome relates.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Understand the structure and operation of global financial markets. (LG2, LG5)
2. Understand the various factors that affect the operations of financial markets. (LG5)
3. Recognize the key characteristics of equity, fixed-income and derivatives markets. (LG5)
4. Understand the fundamentals as well as the determinants of interest rates
5. Be able to recognize and evaluate the risks that exist in financial markets. (LG2, LG5)
6. Have knowledge of the international aspects of financial markets.
7. Be able to analyze and solve financial problems. (LG5)

**Required Material:**

**Textbook** : Saunders, Cornett, and Erhemjamts (2022), *Financial Markets and Institutions*. (8th ed.). McGraw Hill

**Additional Material** : Other material, including course PPT Slides are available on MS Teams.

**E-Learning System** : MS Teams

**Course Requirements and Policies:**

**Participation:** Participation is an important component of this course. Reading the assigned material and coming prepared to class will enable you to effectively contribute to the discussions.

**Assignments:** There will be multiple assignments throughout the semester covering various topics. These assignments will require that you use Excel to apply what you have learned in class. The purpose of the assignments is to help you understand the material, tie the concepts, and expose you to real-world problems and situations.

**Exams:** There is a total of 5 quizzes. Students will be notified of the exam dates at the beginning of the semester; however, the instructor retains the right to change the dates.

**Attendance:** Attendance is not mandatory. However, there is a bonus of 3 points for attendance. If you plan to attend you should arrive before class starts. No student will be allowed in after the class has started.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3, Section 2). A copy of the student guide can be accessed online on:

<http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku_content/kuw055940.pdf>

Please carefully note all sources and assistance when you turn in your work. Under no circumstances should you take credit for work that is not yours. You should neither receive nor give any unauthorized assistance on any deliverable. If you have any questions about what constitutes “unauthorized assistance” please email me before the deliverable is submitted.

**Writing Style:** Students must refer to APA writing style for their assignments and report writing. Refer to the English Language Center for help.

**Grading:**

The scores in this course will be the weighted average of the following items:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Weight** | **Description** |
| 10 | Participation |
| 50 + 5 | 5 Quizzes + bonus |
| 5 | Assignments |
| 40 | Final  *Note: If your grade in the Final Exam is higher than that of Your quizes, I will assign your Final Exam grade in its place by reducing the weight of quizes and assigning more weight to the final exam.* |
| 3 | Attendance Bonus |
| 113 | TOTAL |

**Grade Distribution:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Range** |
| A | ≥ 95 |
| A- | ≥ 90 and < 95 |
| B+ | ≥ 87 and < 90 |
| B | ≥ 83 and < 87 |
| B- | ≥ 80 and < 83 |
| C+ | ≥ 77 and < 80 |
| C | ≥ 73 and < 77 |
| C- | ≥ 70 and < 73 |
| D+ | ≥ 65 and < 70 |
| D | ≥ 60 and < 65 |
| F | < 60 |

**Important Dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| 28/10/2023 | Last day to drop a course |
| 25/12/2023 | Last day of classes |
| 9/1/2024 2 pm – 4 pm | Final Exam |

**Tentative Course Schedule:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Topic & Chapter** | **Assignments** |
| 1 | Ch. 1: |  |
| 2 | Ch. 1 + Ch. 2 |  |
| 3 | Ch. 2 | **1st Quiz** |
| 4 | Ch. 3 |  |
| 5 | Ch. 4 |  |
| 6 | Ch. 4 | **2nd Quiz** |
| 7 | Ch. 5 |  |
| 8 | Ch. 6 |  |
| 9 | Ch. 6 | **3rd Quiz** |
| 10 | Ch. 7 |  |
| 11 | Ch. 8 |  |
| 12 | Ch. 8 | **4th Quiz** |
| 13 | Ch. 9 |  |
| 14 | Ch. 10 |  |
| 15 |  | **5th Quiz** |