SYLLABUS
Hashemite University
College of Economics and Business Administration
Department of Banking and Finance
Special topics in finance and Insurance, FIN441
First Semester 2017/2018

Instructor: Prof. Samer AL-Rjoub
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Students Hours: STTH: 12:00 – 1:00PM

Learning Objective: The course is designed to familiarize students with some of the latest topics and developments inFinance ,and how to use that information in decision-making when the available information set is at best incomplete, uncertain and evolving. Topics to be discussed are:pricing of IPO's, stock buying decision, credit risk and the measurement of probability of default,financial analysis,financial modeling, building indices,and captive insurance, catastrophic bonds,pricing of insurance products,and medical professional liability insurance. This process involves ingenuity, practicality, and tolerance of ambiguity, group effort, and an ability to innovate and brainstorm. Maximum benefit is achieved when students participate fully in this aspect of the course and engage in a productive exchange of ideas.

Methodology: This course is a combination of lecture, cases presentation, and discussions.

Topics Covered:

1- stock buying decision
2- credit risk and probability of default
3- pricing IPO's
4- what banks looks at when you ask for a credit?
5- portfolio models
6- option-Pricing Models
7- building indices
8- economic cycles and leading indicators
9- investment decisions under behavioral finance
10- captive insurance and catastrophe risks
11- pricing of insurance products
12- medical professional liability insurance

Attendance: A regular student should attend all classes and lab sessions when needed. A student may be drop from a course and denied entrance to its final examination if his attendance is under limit determined by the University Council. **If you come to class after 5 minutes when the class starts or leave before the class adjourns you will be considered absent for that session.**

Grading: The final grade for this course will be determined as follows:

Item*	**Weight%**
Assignment and participation	20
Midterm	40
Final	40
Total	100%

*No make-up tests without a written medical excuse or documentation of extraordinary circumstances.

Text: selected chapters from different books will be discussed in class. Some of the main texts are:

1- Portfolio Construction, Management, and Protection, Robert A. Strong, 5thEd. South-Western.
2- Financial Middling, Simon Benninga. 4th Ed. MIT press.
3- John C Hull , Risk Management andFinancial Institutions, 4th Edition
4- George E. Rejda, Principles of Risk Management and Insurance, 12th Edition; Boston: Pearson/Addison-Wesley.

Web Sites:**https://tradingeconomics.com**, **http://www.macrotrends.net**, **http://www-2.rotman.utoronto.ca/~hull/**, **https://www.mathsisfun.com/**