



## Syllabus

### **SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT** **FIN 551: Quantitative Methods and Economics for Finance**

3 Credits  
Effective: Summer 2021

*Access to the Internet is required.  
All written assignments must be in Microsoft-Word-compatible formats.  
See the library's APA Style Guide tutorial for a list of resources that can help you use APA style.*

## FACULTY

Faculty Name: FACULTY NAME

Contact Information: CONTACT INFORMATION

[INSTRUCTOR MAY INSERT PERSONAL MESSAGE IF DESIRED]

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the first course in a series of four that will introduce topics relevant to finance and at the same time, prepare students to sit for the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Level I exam. The course provides a rigorous introduction to quantitative methods for finance, statistics, monetary policy, and business cycles for students intending to study economics and other quantitative fields. Lessons are drawn from time value of money, probability concepts, and common probability distributions. Introductory statistics are reviewed and applied to new applications and advanced modeling techniques.

## COURSE RESOURCES

Required and recommended resources to complete coursework and assignments are found on the course [Reading List](#). Access is provided through the Reading List link in your online course as well as from the library homepage (“Find Your Reading List” button).

**Note:** Required resources that must be purchased by the student are tagged “Purchase from a vendor of your choosing.” Required resources with a direct link, “Available through CityU Library”, are available electronically at no cost to students.

Students in Canada may purchase course resources from the [Canada Bookstore](#), and students outside the U.S. and Canada should contact their advisor or textbook coordinator for additional information.

## CITYU LEARNING GOALS

This course supports the following City University learning goals:

- Professional competency and professional identity
- Critical thinking and information literacy

## COURSE OUTCOMES

In this course, learners:

- Analyze fiscal and economic information to guide strategic financial decision making
- Demonstrate the ability to make investment and trading decisions
- Justify investment recommendations based on portfolio analysis
- Evaluate micro and macro-economic topics as related to financial analysis
- Compute expected return and variance in portfolio management
- Analyze types of sampling and estimation methods
- Calculate and interpret statistical values by using statistical tools
- Interpret models of trade and comparative advantage
- Evaluate major valuation theories and models

## CORE CONCEPTS, KNOWLEDGE, AND SKILLS

- Frequencies of compounding
- Chebyshev's inequality
- Types of Variables
- Hypothesis
- Supply Analysis
- Economic fluctuations & growth

## OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADING

The grades earned for the course will be derived using City University of Seattle's decimal grading system, based on the following:

<i>Overview of Required Assignments</i>	<i>% of Final Grade</i>
Instructor Determined Activities/Assignments	24%
Weekly Quizzes (8)	16%
Portfolio Management	30%
Comprehensive Final Exam	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## SPECIFICS OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

The instructor will provide grading rubrics that will provide more detail as to how this assignment will be graded.

### Instructor Determined Activities/Assignments

Whether in class, online, or in a mixed mode setting, students will be graded on their participation in classroom discussions; ability to present, explain, or defend alternative viewpoints; and the degree to which they have mastered the concepts and principles inherent in the study of business management. Written work will be assessed not only on relevance to the subject presented, but also on adherence to good written form, APA style, and professional presentation. The instructor may also choose to create additional activities to support learning in the classroom or online.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Quality of Responses	50%
Quantity of Responses	30%
Timeliness	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Weekly Quizzes (8)

Students will complete quizzes modeled after the CFA Level 1 exam. Students will have 2 attempts for each quiz. Students will receive a random selection of 20 questions for each attempt.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Accuracy of Solutions	90%
Timeliness	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Portfolio Management

Students will select a publicly traded company and apply an appropriate valuation theory (including model and technique) to create and manage an investment portfolio. Students must justify their portfolio holdings based on one valuation theory selected: a) Equity Market, b) Derivatives, c) Alternative Investments, or d) Debt Instrument Management. Students must also select an appropriate benchmark to measure performance against. At the end of the quarter, students will compare the standard deviation and return of their portfolio and the benchmark. Students will be evaluated on their ability to construct a portfolio using their selected valuation theory and appropriate benchmark, as well as to correctly calculate the ending risk and return characteristics of the portfolio versus the benchmark.

The portfolio will be submitted as an APA-formatted paper 7-9 pages in length (not including table of contents and references). Referenced articles must be from last 5 years.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
APA Style (citations, references, formatting)	10%
Style and Mechanics	10%
Resource Analysis and Use	25%
Portfolio Theory and Performance Appraisal	55%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Comprehensive Final Exam

Students will complete a comprehensive assessment at the end of the course that covers each course outcome. Students are responsible for all material covered in the course. Questions will be multiple choice.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Accuracy of Solutions	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Late Assignments**

A critical aspect of management is to meet predefined deadlines. Therefore, all assignments are expected to be submitted when due. No late assignments are accepted. Life-situations do occur. When an issue

arises coordinate with the instructor prior to the assignment's due date and the due date may be adjusted. It is in the best interest of the student to ensure that all assignments are submitted on time.

### **Participation**

Class participation will be evaluated during class. Participation includes being prepared for class discussions and contributing meaningful content when appropriate. It also includes individual effort contributed to the team project.

### **Professional Writing**

Assignments require error-free writing that uses standard English conventions and logical flow of organization to address topics clearly, completely, and concisely. CityU requires the use of APA style.

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

Students are responsible for understanding and adhering to all of City University of Seattle's academic policies. The most current versions of these policies can be found in the [University Catalog](#) that is linked from the CityU Web site.

### **Antidiscrimination**

City University of Seattle and its staff and faculty are committed to supporting our students. We value equity, diversity, and inclusion as a way of life as well as the educational opportunities it provides. City U will not tolerate any form of discrimination based on race, color, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, socioeconomic status, or religious values. If you have experienced any discrimination based on any of the above, we encourage you to report this to the University. Please report this to your instructor. If you do not feel safe reporting this to your instructor, please report to the Provost or to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

### **Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Harassment**

City University of Seattle adheres to all federal, state, and local civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination in employment and education. The University is committed to ensuring that the education environment is bounded by standards of mutual respect and safety and is free from discriminatory practices.

In the U.S., the University is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to ensure that all of its education programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender. Sex include sex, sex stereotypes, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and pregnancy or parenting status. Sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking are forms of sex discrimination, which are prohibited under Title IX and by City University of Seattle policy. City University of Seattle also prohibits retaliation against any person opposing discrimination or participating in any discrimination investigation or complaint process internal or external to the institution. Questions regarding Title IX, including its application and/or concerns about noncompliance, should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. For a complete copy of the policy or for more information, visit <https://my.cityu.edu/titleix> or contact the Title IX Coordinator.

In Canada, in compliance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, the Alberta Human Rights Act, WorksafeBC, and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta, the University believes that its

environment should at all times be supportive and respectful of the dignity and self-esteem of individuals. Discrimination, harassment and bullying conduct, whether through person to person behaviour or via electronic communications such as email or social media is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. As an educational institution, it is our responsibility to cultivate an environment of excellence, equity, mutual respect and to recognize the value and potential of every individual. The University will take all necessary steps to meet or exceed the requirements of the law to prevent discrimination, harassment and bullying. The Respectful Workplace Policy for the prevention of discrimination, harassment and bullying policy and procedure can be found at <https://www.cityu.edu/discover-cityu/about-cityu/> under the Policies section or at <https://www.cityuniversity.ca/about/>.

### **Religious Accommodations**

City University of Seattle has a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The University's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available in the University Catalog and on the my.cityu.edu student portal. Accommodations must be requested by the 20% mark of this course (e.g. day 14 of a ten-week course, day 7 of a 5-week course) using the Religious Accommodations Request Form found on the student dashboard in the my.cityu.edu student portal.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity in students requires the pursuit of scholarly activity that is free from fraud, deception and unauthorized collaboration with other individuals. Students are responsible for understanding CityU's policy on academic integrity and adhering to its standards in meeting all course requirements. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Academic Integrity Policy*.

### **Attendance**

Students taking courses in any format at the University are expected to be diligent in their studies and to attend class regularly.

Regular class attendance is important in achieving learning outcomes in the course and may be a valid consideration in determining the final grade. For classes where a physical presence is required, a student has attended if they are present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if they have posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be in the [University Catalog](#) under *Student Rights and Responsibilities* on the page titled *Attendance*.

### **Final Assignment Due Date**

Final assignments for each class at CityU must be due on or before the final date of the course as indicated in the university's course information system. Due dates that extend beyond the final date of the course may negatively impact tuition funding for students.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **Disability Services Accommodations Statement**

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements.

Please contact Disability Support Services at [disability@cityu.edu](mailto:disability@cityu.edu) or 206.239.4752 or visit the [Disability Support Services](#) page in the my.cityu.edu portal. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors.

### **Library Services**

CityU librarians are available to help you find the resources and information you need to succeed in this course. Contact a CityU librarian through the [Ask a Librarian](#) service, or access [library resources and services online](#), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### **Smarthinking Tutoring**

CityU students have access to free online tutoring offered through Smarthinking, including writing support, from certified tutors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Contact CityU's Student Support Center at [help@cityu.ed](mailto:help@cityu.ed) to request a user name and password.