The Cameron School of Business at University of St. Thomas

1. Course Information

COURSE TITLE: Special Topics in Finance: CFA Review

COURSE NUMBER: FINA 4393

COURSE SECTION: A

CREDITS: 3 hours

SEMESTER: Spring 2015

PREREQUISITES: Department Approval

ROOM: Welder 220

2. Instructor Information

NAME: Joe Ueng, Ph.D., CFA

OFFICE LOCATION: Welder Hall, Room 225

OFFICE PHONE: 713-525-2114

OFFICE HOURS: Monday: 1:00-3:10, 4:25-5:30 p.m.
               Wednesday: 1:00-3:10, 4:25-5:30 p.m.
               Tuesday: 11:30-12:00 a.m.

FAX NUMBER: 713-525-2110

E-MAIL: ueng@stthom.edu
3. Course Catalog Description

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a comprehensive study of the core concepts of securities analysis and portfolio management. Topics include financial performance evaluation, asset valuation, quantitative methods, financial reporting, financial analysis, investment analysis, portfolio management, and alternative investments. Additionally, the course is designed to prepare students to take the CFA exam level I.

4. Program Learning Goals

The Masters of Business Administration has six goals. When students complete the MBA degree at the University of St. Thomas:

**Goal 1. They will be effective communicators.**
- Objective 1: Graduates will deliver a compelling oral presentation.
- Objective 2: Graduates will write professional quality documents.

**Goal 2. They will be effective team members.**
- Objective 1: Graduates will demonstrate appropriate group techniques to participate in a team task that results in effective performance.
- Objective 2: Graduates will demonstrate effective leadership skills in a group project.

**Goal 3. They will be ethical decision makers.**
- Objective 1: Graduates will recognize the ethical issues implicit in a business situation.
- Objective 2: Graduates will describe and use ethical frameworks applicable to business situations.
- Objective 3: Graduates will develop a variety of ethical alternatives for resolving or at least addressing, a problem in business.

**Goal 4. They will be globally aware.**
- Objective 1: Graduates will perform a global business situation analysis.
- Objective 2: Graduates will formulate global business strategy.
- Objective 3: Students will evaluate global business strategy.

**Goal 5. They will be able to integrate knowledge across multiple business**
disciplines.

- Objective 1: Graduates will identify business problems and opportunities that result from factors internal and external to the organization.
- Objective 2: Graduates will apply quantitative and qualitative techniques from the different business disciplines to address problems and opportunities.

**Goal 6. They will be knowledgeable about multiple business disciplines**

**MSF (Master of Science in Finance) Program Learning Goals**

The Masters of Science in Finance has six goals. When students complete the MSF degree at the University of St. Thomas:

**Goal 1. Core of Finance Knowledge**

MSF graduates will be knowledgeable in the critical areas in the field of Finance. Graduates will:

- demonstrate competency in the key fields of Corporate Finance, Investments, Banking and Financial Institutions, Risk Management, and International Finance when they apply the knowledge in the required courses to solve Finance problems.

**Goal 2. Analytical and Critical Thinking Skills**

MSF graduates will be analytical and critical thinkers. Graduates will:

- Objective 1: demonstrate skills in analyzing financial reports
- Objective 2: identify and evaluate complex financial problems by integrating the skills learned in the core Finance area.

**Goal 3: Value System**

MSF graduates will anchor financial aspects of business activities in ethics and human values. Graduates will be able to:

- Objective 1: identify and apply principles of ethical leadership and accountability as applicable to the financial aspects of business decisions
- Objective 2: assess workplace behaviors and financial aspects of business decisions in terms of human values, ethical norms, and societal impact.

**Goal 4: Global Awareness**

MSF graduates will be aware of global influences on financial decision-making. Graduates will be able to:
Objective 1: demonstrate the knowledge of global financial and foreign exchange markets.

Objective 2: identify the impact of global financial changes on multinational enterprises.

Goal 5: Teamwork & Leadership
MSF graduates will be able to work effectively on team projects with individuals from diverse groups. Graduates will be able to:

Objective 1: demonstrate appropriate group techniques to participate in a team task

Objective 2: compile diverse contributions to produce a comprehensive outcome

Goal 6: Communication Skills
MSF graduates will be effective communicators. Graduates will be able to:

Objective 1: prepare written reports on financial issues.

Objective 2: deliver effective presentations on financial issues.

6. Texts, Readings, Materials

REQUIRED TEXT
Kaplan CFA (Charted Financial Analyst) Review books 1-6 2015

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS
A financial calculator with an IRR function. The Hewlett Packard 10 B or 10 B II is recommended.

The Wall Street Journal
The Wall Street Journal is one of the most widely read journals of business. I encourage you to read this paper every day. We will refer to it often in class. MATHtv.com provides a comprehensive review on math and quantitative topics. All quantitative skills needed to master this course are covered in this website. Please review those relevant sections and you are responsible for learning those fundamental materials.

7. Instructional Methods
Class time will be devoted to lecture, discussion, and analysis of CFA exam problems and materials.

8. Technology
Blackboard course management system will be utilized to post online materials.
10. **Course Policies**

1. **Participation**
   
   You should prepare for ALL regularly scheduled classes prior to class meeting. Also, you are expected to arrive on time and stay in class until the class period ends. If you know in advance that you will need to leave early, please notify the instructor before the class period begins.

2. **Comments and Questions**
   
   Comments and questions are encouraged to share with the whole class. Private discussion or chatting with your peers are discouraged and will be viewed as destructive for the learning environment. Please respect the class by not doing so.

3. **Participation**
   
   Participation performance is determined by your contribution to the learning process in class. It includes, but not limited to, comments, personal insights, constructive questions.

4. **Attendance**
   
   Attendance is expected and required. If you missed three or more classes, your course grade, at the instructor's discretion, will be reduced by one letter grade. If you missed more than six classes, at the instructor's discretion, the grade will automatically become an F.

5. **Use of Cell Phone**
   
   The use of cell phone is discouraged during the class period. Unless for important reasons, please try not to use it.

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**Accommodations**

The University of St. Thomas abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education "solely by reason of a handicap." If you have a documented disability that may impact your performance in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to Counseling and Disability Services which is located on the second floor of Crooker Center. Contact the Center at 713-525-6953 or 713-525-3162.

**Academic Honesty**

Ethical conduct is essential to a community of scholars and students searching for truth. Anything less than total commitment to honesty and honorable conduct undermines the efforts of the entire community. Academic integrity lies at the very heart of any institution of higher learning. In the Cameron School of Business, students and faculty are expected to commit to a code that exemplifies each individual's honor and integrity. Any conduct that violates this
standard and betrays the respect of others is a matter of grave concern and, accordingly, is deemed unacceptable
11. Grading Processes

Grades of this class will be determined by one final exam and class attendance. Final exam counts for 40%, class attendance counts for 60%.

Final grade:  
93-100   A  
90-92    A-  
87-89    B+  
84-86    B   
80-83    B-  
70-79    C   
below 70 F

12. Course Tentative Schedule*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Tentative Topic</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan. 13</td>
<td>Introduction to Securities Analysis and Portfolio Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan. 20 Tue.</td>
<td>Financial Reporting and Analysis</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Jan. 27 Tue.</td>
<td>Financial Reporting and Analysis</td>
<td>7,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Feb. 3rd Tue.</td>
<td>Financial Reporting and Analysis</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Feb. 10th Tue.</td>
<td>Financial Reporting and Analysis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb. 17th Tue.</td>
<td>Financial Reporting and Analysis</td>
<td>9,10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Feb. 24th Tue.</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Mar. 3rd Tue.</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Mar. 10th Tue.</td>
<td>Corporate Finance</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Mar. 17th Tue.</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>4,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Mar. 24th Tue.</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>5,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Mar. 31 Tue.</td>
<td>Equity Investments</td>
<td>13, 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Apr. 07 Tue</td>
<td>Fixed Income</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Apr. 14 Tue</td>
<td>Fixed Income</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Apr. 21 Tue</td>
<td>Derivative Investment</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Apr. 28 Tue</td>
<td>Portfolio Management/ Alternative Investments</td>
<td>12, 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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</tbody>
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Mission Statement: Cameron School of Business

The Cameron School of Business will serve students of diverse backgrounds, providing them the necessary professional skills for a changing global economy, and instilling in them a deep appreciation for ethical behavior as the hallmark of a successful and fulfilling business career. The Cameron School will provide its students a timely and comprehensive business curriculum, with opportunities for specialized study in major business fields. The faculty will provide quality teaching, as this is the core of our mission. As an extension of our teaching mission, the faculty will engage in scholarly activity and service to the University, the profession, and the community.