



Syllabus

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT **FIN 555: Equity, Derivatives, and Alternatives**

3 Credits
Effective: Summer 2020

*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:

Contact Information:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the third 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. In this course students will learn the role of market organization and structure within companies and industries. This provides details in defining market efficiency, equity securities, derivatives, pricing, valuation, alternative investments, and marketing instruments.

COURSE RESOURCES

To find a list of the required and recommended resources for this course, please consult your [Course Document Lookup](#).

COURSE OUTCOMES

In this course, learners:

- Outline the possible alternative investments within a company.
- Evaluate the overall role of company structures and financial markets.
- Explain the function of derivatives, pricing, and valuation.
- Analyze the role of market efficiency within the stock market.
- Examine the purpose of equity securities within corporations.
- Provide recommendations to a company based on industry trends.
- Describe the role of market organization and structures.

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/Discussion Board	24%
Equity Valuation Project	30%
Weekly Quizzes	16%
Comprehensive Final Exam	30%
TOTAL	100%

SPECIFICS OF COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

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

Instructor Determined Activities/Discussion Board

The instructor will provide a set of activities that support the course outcomes and major assignments of the class. These activities are done in class or on the discussion board and could include: preparation for major assignments, discussion of relevant/current topics, knowledge checks, content exploration, peer-review, journals, other alternate online tools, and/or other activities as determined by your instructor. Descriptions are provided by the instructor in the course.

<i>Components</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
Writes clearly, concisely, and grammatically	25%
Appropriately references readings, material in course sessions and other postings	25%
Adds insightful or new ideas, comments, or questions relevant to the activity and/or to other students' posts	25%
Meets requirements of the activity in a timely manner	25%
TOTAL	100%

Equity Valuation Course Project

Please see the Equity Valuation Report Instructions for further details on the course project. Referenced articles must be from the last five years.

<i>Components</i>	<i>Number of Points</i>
Business Description	15
Industry Overview & Competitive Positioning	30
Investment Summary	50
Valuation	50
Financial Analysis	50
Investment Risks	30
Corporate Governance	15
Conclusion	10
<u>Appendix</u>	<u>50</u>
Total	300

Weekly Quizzes

Students will complete weekly 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. Students have 60 minutes to complete each quiz and must complete at once.

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

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. The assessment will consist of about 60 multiple-choice questions. Students will have 2 attempts, with 4 hours to complete the assessment. Assessment must be completed at once.

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

COURSE POLICIES

Late Assignments

Students are expected to meet submission requirements for assignments in a timely manner. Evaluation includes an assessment of timeliness. Late assignments jeopardize your learning and may also penalize your classmates as most assignments will not be returned to students until all students have submitted their work. Late submission of assignments may be penalized up to 50% of the grade per late week. Your instructor will provide additional details.

Any absences or late submissions must be approved before the scheduled assessment date, by your instructor. Not completing an assessment in a timely manner will result in a grade of zero unless a student has been preapproved by the instructor to complete the assessment at an alternative time.

Participation

Whether in class, online, or in a mixed mode setting, students will be graded on their participation in classroom discussions; their 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 Strategic Management. Written work will be assessed not only on relevance to the subject presented, but also on adherence to good written form and professional presentation.

Students are expected to be actively engaged in a discussion or other activities. Active engagement means contributing substantive, thoughtful and reflective responses. For online classes, students must post their initial responses during the first three days of the week, and their responses to other students' postings during the last four days of the week.

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

You 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.

Title IX Statement

Non-Discrimination & Prohibition of Sexual Misconduct

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. You 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](#) in the section titled *Scholastic Honesty* under *Student Rights & Responsibilities*.

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 s/he is present at any time during the class session. For online classes, a student has attended if s/he has posted or submitted an assignment. A complete copy of this policy can be found in the [University Catalog](#) in the section titled *Attendance Policy for Mixed Mode, Online and Correspondence Courses*.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Disability Resources

If you are a student with a disability and you require an accommodation, please contact the Disability Resource Office as soon as possible. For additional information, please see the section in the [University Catalog](#) titled *Students with Special Needs* under *Student Rights & Responsibilities*.

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

As a CityU student, you have access to 10 free hours of 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.edu to request your user name and password.