

# Syllabus

## Course Information

**Course Number:** FIN650-851 Fall (2023)

**Course Title:** Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management

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## Faculty Contact Information

**Instructor:** Kenneth A. Goodwin Jr.

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**Office Hours:** 9PM-9:30PM, Thursday and 5pm-6pm Fridays via WebEx

## Course Description

This is a course on the theory and practice of investment and portfolio theory. We will study several quantitative techniques for portfolio construction. Mathematical and statistical analysis will be used during this examination. Theories of asset pricing based upon the relationship between risk and return will be included. We will also discuss criteria for selecting specific securities in different asset classes, such as stocks, bonds, and derivatives.

We will also explore how corporations are making financial decisions in investing in digital assets (crypto-currencies, NFTs, DeFi and Blockchain application) and how these alternative assets are being valued and what types of esoteric models are available to value digital assets.

### **Topics Covered:**

- Portfolio Risk and Performance Analytics
- Markowitz Portfolio Theory
- Black-Litterman and Estimation Techniques
- Mergers and acquisitions (traditional and digital assets)
- Decisions on Digital Asset Investments (Cryptocurrency, NFTs, DeFi, Blockchain applications) • Digital Asset and traditional asset portfolio evaluation and models

Course/Learning Objectives/Outcomes: The main goal of this course is to give students exposure to core ideas in portfolio construction and risk management as well as conduct exercises geared toward the practical implementation of such ideas. Students should be conversant in the topics mentioned in the course description as well as their implementation after completing this course.

## **Textbook and Materials**

### **Required:**

- Textbook materials and case studies will be provided via Canvas in the Files section
- Have a copy of the “Wall Street Journal”. You can follow the link: <https://r.wsj.com/PROFwq4w> to get a digital-only membership for \$4 a month. We will be utilizing The Wall Street Journal Assessment Tool in class this term. In order to participate, you must first register your account. Please use the following link to register for the WSJ Assessment Tool: <https://wsjassessment.com/e/i/MjEyOC8xODY3LzIyMjYvMjY2Ng==>
- Forbes Crypto Confidential with Steven Ehrlich and Nina Bambysheva (see link below) <https://view.read.forbes.com/?qs=e2fb6899651695e3ed67eb3738b2558947671765bdb2>

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- You are also strongly encouraged to read other economic and financial publications such as *Financial Times*, *Business Week*, or *the Economist*.

### **Financial Calculator:**

A financial calculator is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED! I recommend the Texas Instrument BAII Plus financial calculator. If you have another financial calculator that you are comfortable with, you may use it. TI - BA II Plus and HP 12C are the only two calculators permitted on the CFA Exams. *It is your own responsibility to learn how to use your calculator.*

## **Course Outcomes**

- To introduce the subject of portfolio and investment management (traditional and digital assets).
- To identify factors that impact financial decision-making, implementation and evaluation
- To understand mergers and acquisitions (traditional and digital assets)

### **Learning Goal 1: Analytical & Problem Solving Skill**

**Learning Outcome 1.1** Demonstrates knowledge of concepts in corporate finance and the ability to apply these concepts to solve financial problems, such as Portfolio Risk Theorem

- **Learning Outcome 1.2** Ability to use quantitative methodologies, such as options pricing, as tools to help understand financial problems

### **Learning Goal 2: Information & Communication Skills**

- **Learning Outcome 2.1** (Oral Communication) Ability to deliver effective presentations enhanced by technology
- **Learning Outcome 2.2** (Written Communication & Information Literacy) Ability to write clear and concise reports

### **Learning Goal 3: Reflective Thinking Skills**

- **Learning Outcome 3.1** Ability to think and understand various concepts clearly

### **Learning Goal 4: Ethical Understanding & Reasoning Abilities**

- **Learning Outcome 4.1** Understand the moral implications and ethical schema of individual (financial managers and corporate executives) and corporation decisions and actions

## **Grading Scale**

**Grade Percentile Percentage**

A	4	90-100%
B+	3.5	85-89.99%
B	3	80-84.99%
C+	2.5	70-79.99%
C	2	60-69.99%
F	N/A	< 60%

## Grading Categories

### Categories Percentage

Online Participation 5%

Portfolio project 15%

Midterm Exam #1 25% \*

Midterm Exam #2 25% \*

Final Exam (Cumulative) 30% \*

## Time Commitment

This course requires not only much reading, but also requires students to stay on top of current events in reference to the content. Students will be responsible for working with their designated groups at a time and in a manner that works for all team members. Students are also responsible for addressing all deliverables of the course. Review the Course Schedule to see what will be due in the upcoming modules.

## Late Work and Make-Up Exams

**Late work will not be accepted. If you have issues completing the work in the allotted time, speak to your professor at the start of the course.**

## Sharing Information

With respect to your answers on the problem sets, midterm exam, and final exam, no common or group answers will be accepted to any question. Further, any material from the text should *not* be quoted but must be paraphrased in your own words

## Student Conduct

The NJIT University code on academic integrity, found at <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>, will be followed

in all courses.

## Student with Disabilities Codes

NJIT adheres to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (ADA) of 1990. Appropriate accommodations are provided at no cost to the student. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Dr. Phyllis Bolling, Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS), Campbell Hall, (entry level), room 205, (973) 596-3420. For further information, visit the [Student Disability Services](#) website.

## Technical Support

For assistance with the following items, please contact NJIT IST Helpdesk at: 1-973-596-2900 or <http://ist.njit.edu/support/helpdesk.php>

- UCID
- Library database access
- Webmail by Google email system
- Sessions
- Password assistance\*

For assistance with the following items, please contact Technical Support at: 1-888-789-0407 or <https://supportcenter.embanet.com/NJIT>

- Content within this course
- Assignments
- Discussion Forums
- Quizzes
- Exams
- All other items related to the running of this course

\*NJIT passwords may be changed using the [Global Password Change mechanism](#). You will need to know your current UCID and UCID password. Questions can be referred to 1-973-596-2900.

Periodic changing of passwords and strategies for managing them are best practice for anyone using a computer. All members of the university community are encouraged to review [tips for password management](#) and to change passwords regularly.

Sometimes, you will be required to use word processing and presentation software, such as MS Word and PowerPoint found in Microsoft Office. You will also need to be comfortable with various aspects of using the Internet such as:

- Search engines
- Newsgroups
- E-mail
- Ability to download files

To view certain media elements in this course, you will need to have several browser plug-ins such as Shockwave, Flash, and Adobe Acrobat on your computer. Use the links in the course to download and install the appropriate software application.

**Important:** With regards to plug-ins, ensure you are using the most recent version of each plug in you require. View the [hardware and software requirements](#) for this course.

## Browser Check

To test your web browser for compatibility in the Moodle environment, go to the [Online Support Center](#) page and select the "Check My Browser" link located on the right side.

## Other Support

Tutoring - <https://www5.njit.edu/tlc/>

In addition MTSM provides tutoring for accounting, statistics and finance courses. The students can book an appointment [Book an appointment here](#)

Support on campus

<https://www.njit.edu/studentsuccess/node/5>

<https://www.njit.edu/counseling/>