

**FINC 4541-Investment Analysis**  
**Course Outline**  
**Spring 2015**  
**Thursday 7:00-9:30 pm**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. James A. Yoder	<b>Office Hours:</b>	T, R 1:00 - 2:00 PM
<b>Phone:</b>	(678) 839-4820		T,R: 3:30 - 5:30 PM
<b>Office:</b>	Adamson Hall - 205A		W 1:00 - 5:00 PM
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(You are WELCOME to drop in any time I am in the office)

**I. Catalog Description:**

Study of securities markets and security analysis for portfolio planning.

**II. Required Background or Experience:**

- A. Prerequisites: FINC 3511 or equivalent
- B. Prerequisite Justification:  
In depth knowledge of present value analysis and methods of valuation of securities is required. These topics are covered in FINC 3511.
- C. The course uses the writing skills developed in English courses and ABED 3100.

**III. Expected Outcomes:**

- A. Understand the operational mechanics of securities markets (LO 2, 3, 4, 5, 9)
- B. Develop the ability to interpret financial statements and financial information (LO 2, 5, 10)
- C. Improve analytical skills and critical thinking necessary to value and evaluate alternative investment decisions (LO 2, 3, 4, 5, 10)
- D. Improve written communications skills through preparation of investment projects (LO 1)
- E. Conduct research (library/internet) necessary to make investment decisions (LO 2, 5, 8, 10)
- F. Develop a knowledge of equity and fixed income portfolio valuation (LO 1, 10, 12)
- G. Understand the use of futures and options in portfolio management (LO 2, 4, 6, 10)
- H. Become familiar with global investment and portfolios (LO 9)

#### **IV. Text and References**

**Text:** Investments, 12<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> ed., Charles P. Jones

**Supplementary Material:** Value Line, Morningstar Mutual Funds.

#### **V. Special or Unique Student Materials:**

Financial calculator such as the TI-83I TI-BA II plus, HP-10b. **Devices with a wireless connection (e.g. iphone, Blackberry, ipad) are not allowed for test taking.**

Subscription or access to Wall Street Journal

#### **VI. Special or Unique University Facilities:**

#### **VII. Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:**

##### **A. Expanded description of the course:**

This course examines investment analysis from the standpoint of the individual. Topics include investment alternatives, security markets, trading procedures, bond valuation, stock valuation, market indices, and mutual funds.

##### **B. Instructional Methods**

1. Lecture, discussion, problem solving, and applied projects.

#### **VIII. Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:**

##### **A. Grading Policy (point basis)**

Midterm examinations (2)	200
Final examination	100
Projects/HW	As assigned

##### **B. Administrative Policies**

1. Class attendance is strongly recommended.
2. No makeup tests/quizzes.
3. You are responsible for knowledge of any administrative announcements (test information, schedule changes, etc. that are made during class).
4. Tests/quizzes will be announced in advance.
5. There is no extra credit in this course. Work submitted for credit in other courses will not count for credit in this course.

6. If you require any special conditions for attending class or taking tests, please notify the instructor during the first week of classes.
7. Requests for quiz/exam score adjustments must be made within one week of grade assignment.
8. Finance is the most quantitative major in the core and depends heavily in accounting. If you did poorly in your math and accounting courses, finance is probably not the major for you.
9. [westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf) contains important information pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class.
10. Credit Hour Policy (3 credit hours): Students in this class will spend 150 minutes per week with faculty instruction (either face-to-face or online). Generally, students can expect to spend about 450 minutes of class work outside of the classroom each week. This out-of-class work may include, but is not limited to, readings, assignments, projects, group work, research, and test preparation. The amount of out of class time required for a given outcome will vary by student
11. The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her **my.westga.edu** e-mail account on a regular basis.
12. You are required to log in to Course Den at least once a week. I am required to report if students on financial aid are still participating in the course on a regular basis throughout the semester.

## **IX. Tentative Schedule:**

<u>Week (Beginning Monday)</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
01/05	1	Introduction
01/12	2	Financial Securities
01/19	-	Retirement Accounts
01/26	4	Security Markets
02/02	5	Trading Securities
02/09	6	Return and risk
02/16	13	Economy/Market Analysis
02/23	14	Sector/Industry Analysis
03/02	16	Technical Analysis
03/09	15	Company Analysis
03/16	Spring Break	
03/23	10	Stock Valuation
03/30	10	Stock Valuation (cont.)
04/06	17	Bond Pricing
04/13	3	Mutual Funds/Port Form.

**Final Exam: April 23rd (Thursday), 8:00 – 10:00 P.M.**

**Last day to withdraw with W: February 27th**