FINC 4542- Portfolio Management  
Course Outline: Fall 2012  
R: 7:00-9:30

**Instructor:** Dr. James A. Yoder  
**Office Hours:** T, R: 12:30 - 2:00 PM  
**Phone:** (678) 839-4820  
**Office:** Adamson Hall – 205A  
**E-mail:** jyoder@westga.edu

(You are WELCOME to drop in any time I am in the office)

*The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her my.westga.edu email account on a regular basis.*

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 Outcome:** ([www.westga.edu/~accfin/outcomes.htm](http://www.westga.edu/~accfin/outcomes.htm))

A. Understand the operational mechanics of securities markets (LG 4, LG 7)

B. Improve analytical skills and critical thinking necessary to value and evaluate alternative investment decisions (LG2, LG 8)

C. Improve written communications skills through preparation of investment projects (LG 1)

D. Conduct research (library) necessary to make investment decisions and build and manage portfolios (LG 3, LG 9)

E. Develop a knowledge of equity and fixed income portfolio management (LG 8)

F. Understand the use of futures and options in portfolio management (LG 8)

G. Become familiar with global investment and portfolios (LG 5)
IV. Text and References

Text: Investments: 11th edition, Charles P. Jones. Solutions to problems from the book are on the UWG library course reserve page. The password is “invest.”

Supplementary Material:

Value Line, Morningstar Mutual Funds.

WSJ, BusinessWeek, or other business periodical

V. Special or Unique Student Materials:

Students will need access to internet, Excel or other spreadsheet program.

A financial calculator with a cash flow button is required. Examples: TI BAII plus, TI-83, TI-83 plus. Devices with a wireless connection (e.g. Iphone, Blackberry, Ipad) are not allowed for test taking.

Subscription or access to the Wall Street Journal

VI. Special or Unique University Facilities:

None

VII. Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:

A. Expanded description of the course:

The second part of the course examines investment portfolio formation, management and evaluation. Topics include efficient markets, portfolio theory, capital market theory, portfolio performance evaluation, and the use of derivative securities.

B. Instructional Methods

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

The portfolio construction process is discussed in conjunction with applied projects.

2. Videotapes:
VIII. Methods of Evaluating the Outcomes:

A. Grading Policy (approximate)

- Midterm examinations (2) 200 points
- Final examination 100 points
- Projects/quizzes As assigned

B. Extra Credit: There is no extra credit in this course beyond that explicitly stated in the course syllabus.

C. Work From Other Courses: Work submitted for credit in other courses will not be accepted for credit in this course.

D. 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.
IX. Tentative Schedule:

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Final Exam: December 6, (Thursday, 8:00 – 10:00 pm)

Last day to withdraw with grade of “W” is October 12