FINC 4571 - Derivative Markets
Expanded Course Outline
T,R 5:30 – 6:50 PM
Spring 2014

Instructor:  Dr. James A. Yoder
Office Hours:  T, R:  1:00 - 2:00 pm
Phone:  (678) 839-4820
T, R:  3:30 - 5:30 pm
Office:  Adamson Hall – 205A
W:  1:00 - 5:00 pm
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:
An in-depth study of options and futures markets. Topics will include the institutional structure of options and futures markets, pricing models, and hedging techniques.

II. Required Background or Experience:
A. Prerequisites: FINC 3511

B. Prerequisite Justification: Knowledge of present and future value relations and stock and bond pricing is used.

III. Expected Outcomes: (www.westga.edu/accfin/outcomes.htm)
A. Improve communication effectiveness (LG 1).

B. Apply basic quantitative skills to business problems (LG 2).

C. Have an understanding of political, legal, and ethical considerations that affect economic environments and business decision making (LG 5).

D. Expand mastery of spreadsheet and word processing skill (LG 3).

E. In-depth understanding of specific areas in the Finance curriculum (LG7, LG 8, LG9) as follows:
   1. Students will be able to discuss institutional characteristics of futures and options markets.
   2. Students will be able to apply option and futures pricing models.
   3. Students will be able to describe basic investment strategies involving options and futures.
   4. Students will be able to use futures and options to hedge portfolios.
IV. **Text and References:**

Text: *An Introduction to Derivatives & Risk Management* 9 or 8 edition) Chance & Brooks

Solutions to problems from the book are on the UWG library course reserves page. The password is “invest.”

Supplementary Material: Subscription or access to *Wall Street Journal*

V. **Special or Unique Student Material:**

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

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

VII. **Expanded Description of Course and Instructional Method:**

A. Expanded description of the course:

This course is in two distinct parts. The first half of the course examines options. Call and put option features are explained the mechanics of trading are described. Options will be valued by the Black-Scholes and other pricing models. Option strategies and their use in portfolio management will be examined.

The second part of the course examines futures. Common futures contracts and their trading mechanics are described. Principals of futures pricing and hedging strategies are examined. Option on futures will also be covered.

B. Instructional Methods

Lecture, discussion, problem solving, and applied projects.

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 encouraged
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. If you require any special conditions for attending class or taking tests, please notify the instructor during the first week of classes.
6. 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: April 22, (Tuesday 5:00 – 7:30 P.M.)

Last day to withdraw with grade of “W” is February 26th.