



**Carleton**  
University

**Sprett**  
School of Business

CARLETON UNIVERSITY  
BUSI 3502 A  
FALL 2023  
INVESTMENTS

**Instructor:** Dr. Mohamed Al Guindy  
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**Office Hours:** TBD  
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**Phone Number:** 613-520-2600 ext. 2377

**TA:** TBD

**Modality:** In-Person

**Pre-requisites & precluded Courses:**

BUSI 2501 or BUSI 2505 (with a grade of C+ or higher in each), and STAT 2601 or STAT 2606 and ECON 1001 and ECON 1002 and MATH 1009 (with a grade of C- or higher in each).

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**Course Calendar description from the [2023/2024 University calendar](#):**

**Course Description:**

Procedures and methods of investment analysis. Stock and bond markets. Government regulation of securities markets. Valuation of common stocks and fixed income securities. Options, warrants, convertibles and commodities.

**Learning Outcomes:**

1. provide students with the tools necessary to become successful investors or portfolio/money managers.
2. Understand how and where financial securities are traded and how they are valued
3. Develop an understanding of how investors allocated funds across different financial instruments.

4. Appreciate various aspects of modern financial markets as well as emerging current and future trends.

### Required Text

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Bodie et al., **Investments**, 10<sup>th</sup> Canadian Edition, McGraw-Hill, Ryerson, 2022.

### Suggested Texts/Readings

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Malkiel, B., **A Random Walk Down Wall Street**, Norton.

Graham, B., **The Intelligent Investor**

Graham, B., **Security Analysis**

Newspapers/Magazines: *Globe and Mail – ROB, Financial Post, Wall Street Journal, Barrons, The Economist*

Problem sets will be placed on the course website on a regular basis. It is expected that all students complete the sets to be adequately prepared.

### Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation (including due dates):

	<b>Weighting</b>
Weekly lecture reflections	5%
Term Test I (Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> )	20%
Term Test II (Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> )	15%
Trading Project (see below)	15%
Final Exam	45%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Bonus:</b> FinTech Presentation	up to 1% (time permitting)
<b>Bonus:</b> Class attendance	up to 2%

**Two Term Tests** will be held **in-person, in class, at the beginning of class on October 5<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup>**. Material covered up to and including the class before the term test is eligible to be addressed. A student who does not write the midterm exams will automatically receive a grade of zero unless this is due to a medical or otherwise **emergency** with the appropriate **documentation**. Makeup exams will only be administered on Tuesday Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday Nov 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm for the two tests respectively; no exceptions.

The **Final Exam** will be a comprehensive test, covering material from the entire course. More information about the midterm and final will be provided in class as the term progresses.

The weekly lecture reflections are a **one-page** reflection that you submit on Brightspace before midnight on the day after the lecture (i.e., Friday). The reflection consists of a short summary of the lecture (in your own words), a reflection that demonstrates your understanding of the material, and 2 practical take-aways from the lecture (that either help you make investment decisions or enhance your understanding of financial markets).

The attendance bonus is based on attending weekly classes. Attending all classes will result in a bonus of 2%; partial bonus marks will also be awarded for the number of classes attended.

The Trading project – on StockTrak is described in detail in this outline; you may participate in this project individually or with a partner of your choice.

### Course Schedule:

Topic	Textbook chapter
Investment Environment	1
Financial Markets and Instruments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money Market</li> <li>• Fixed Income</li> <li>• Equities</li> <li>• Derivatives</li> </ul>	2
Trading and Securities markets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing Securities</li> <li>• Trading and Market Orders</li> <li>• Regulation</li> </ul>	3
Risk & Return <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utility Theory, Risk Aversion, and Portfolio Mathematics</li> <li>• Hedging and Insurance</li> <li>• Probability Theory</li> </ul> Capital Allocation to Risky Assets	5, 6
Risky Portfolios <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risky Portfolios and the Risk-Free Asset</li> <li>• Efficient Allocation</li> </ul>	7
CAPM	9
Index Models & Arbitrage Pricing Theory (APT)	8, 10
Market Efficiency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical/Fundamental analysis</li> </ul> Behavioural Finance	11, 12

Bond Portfolios <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prices and Yields</li> <li>• Term Structure</li> <li>• Duration/convexity, portfolios</li> </ul>	14, 15, 16
Derivative Assets (time permitting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Futures</li> <li>• Options</li> <li>• Valuation</li> </ul>	20, 21, 22
Portfolio Optimization Techniques/Active Management (time permitting)	24
Financial Technologies (FinTech) (time permitting)	Class notes

### Trading Project – StockTrak

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Suppose you inherited \$1,000,000. In order to keep the money, you must create a portfolio that is appropriate for your age in terms of asset allocation (local and international equities (US and ADRs), cash, etc.), is invested according to the required schedule below (temporary cash is ok if opportunities are being explored) and is worth more than \$1,000,000 by the end of the semester. You can trade on the North American exchanges only, you cannot trade on margin but you can short sell, and you will venture into options and futures trading toward the end of the semester to properly hedge (although we will not be covering options or futures until possibly the end of the semester – read chapters 20, 21, 22 to gain additional insights). As well, please read chapters 12, 17 & 18, and *Security Analysis* to get a better understanding of valuations. Your grade will be based on your total portfolio return and Sharpe ratio calculated at the end of the semester (see grid below). To fully understand the Sharpe Ratio, please read chapter 24. You can attempt this project alone, or you can team up with one other classmate; no more than **TWO** students per account, no exceptions. To register, please go to

<https://www.stocktrak.com/members/register?session=BUSI3502,Fall23>

and follow the instructions, note the class name is ‘BUSI3502A\_Fall2023’. You will need to ensure your (or both) student name(s) is (are) listed fully in the registration, or the missing name will not receive marks at the end of the semester. Make sure that ‘BUSI3502A,Fall2023’ is listed in the class name. I believe there is a discount code attached to the new Bodie/Kane book. The rules and instructions for trading are located on the right hand margin of that page, and on the pull down menus at the top.

Important notes:

- Registration opens on September 8; trading begins on September 15 and ends on December 8.
- Failure to register by September 22 will result in the deletion of your account and a zero on the project – no exceptions.
- Please read the trading restrictions on the website carefully.
  - o 300 trade limit through the period
  - o \$3 minimum stock price for trading
  - o No day trading
  - o Rationale for each trade must be provided

- o Cash trading only, no margin
- o liquidity restriction for trade requires fill order to be no more than 25% of daily volume
- The marking matrix is below – note that, as in real market conditions, your performance is relative to the other participants.
- Please read the trading schedule below carefully. Any deviations will result in a grade penalty.

	Top Value Tercile	2 <sup>nd</sup> Value	3 <sup>rd</sup> Value
Top Sharpe Ratio Tercile	15	12.5	11
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sharpe ratio	12.5	11	9.5
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sharpe ratio	11	9.5	8

### Trading Schedule (by market close each day):

**By Sep. 22:** Invest (long only) *at least* 40% of your portfolio (\$400,000) in at least 8 different securities (\$3.00 or higher) across at least 3 different sectors as defined by the S&P500. The stocks chosen do not have to be within the S&P500, just use the sector/industry guides. You can certainly invest more than this, and across different countries through ADRs, but all transactions must be long equity purchases only.

**By Oct. 6:** While continuing to manage your long investments, increase equity stake to at least 70% of your total available cash. Continue to maintain exposure to at least 8 different securities over at least 3 different sectors. As well, you must now short at least 2 securities for sale amounts of at least \$20,000 each. Note that you are able to cover your short positions at any time after Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**By Oct 20:** keeping at least 70% long (you must maintain a 70% long exposure - 8 diff securities, 3 sectors min.), you can continue to hold your two (at least) short positions **and** you must now start to hedge with options. You do not need to maintain your shorts if you choose. The only available options strategy(s) you can attempt are as follows; A minimum of \$5k worth of the underlying, and no more than the total worth of the underlying placed into a protective put and/or a covered call.

A **protective put** is purchasing a put option contract on a stock (or index) that you presently own. It will protect against downside. If the stock (or index) rises, the put is worthless, but you've made money on the stock (or index). This will mitigate much risk. You cannot purchase a put that exposes you to more than the total quantity of shares you own. Recall that contracts are (usually) written on 100 shares of the underlying – make sure you are not overexposed - make sure that you are mindful of how many shares your contracts are tied to.

A **covered call** is selling (writing) a call on a stock (or index) that you own. It will generate a premium since you sold it, and it can help defer losses should the stock price fall. If the stock price rises, you deliver for a profit. Protective puts and covered calls are far cheaper than shorting, and can give you much added leverage to reduce exposure far more efficiently. Note that if you choose to keep your shorts, you still need to invest in options.

**By Nov 10:** Keeping the previous 3 assignments in tune, maintaining at least a 70% long equity stake, and maintaining your shorts (if you choose to keep them), your protective puts or your covered calls, you must now enter into options trades independent of your

holdings. Choose any strategies you like, buying, writing, spreads, combos, etc., trading no less than \$5,000 and no more than \$20,000 worth of the underlying asset in each strategy (absolute values if you choose to write). *This does not mean \$20,000 worth of options, rather \$20,000 worth of the underlying!!.*

**By Nov. 24:** Again, keeping all previous entries in check, enter into at least 2 futures contract transactions on any commodity only, with a notional value not to exceed \$50,000 each (i.e., not the margin amount, the underlying amount). At this point, your portfolio will consist of at least 70% long equity exposure across sectors, at least one form of a hedge worth at least \$5,000, and futures exposure on no more than \$50,000 notional.

**By Dec. 8:** Window-dressing time now. Your trading assignment for this last installment is to package your portfolio so that the market sees what you're holding. In the real world, you would typically modify your holdings for your quarterly report so that it reflects what you want people to see, not necessarily what you have done. Use this as an opportunity to modify or liquidate so that you can solidify your ranking...but be careful...excessively volatile investments at this point may certainly give you an opportunity to increase your returns, but they will also decrease your Sharpe ratio.

**NOTE:** If, at any time, your portfolio does not satisfy the required parameters for the trading date, you will be penalized 1 mark per offense per trading period. In other words, if you do not trade in 2 futures contracts by Nov. 27<sup>nd</sup>, you will be docked 1 mark. Or, for example, if you do not have 70% of your portfolio invested long in equity in any given trading period, you will also be docked 1 mark, etc. The maximum amount of marks that you can be docked via trading penalties is limited to 6. In other words, it is possible to get 0 out of 10 on this project. However, if you satisfy all requirements, the minimum you can receive on this project is a 5 out of 10 regardless of your performance.

## FinTech Presentation

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This is a chance to earn up to an extra 1% bonus on the course if you choose to participate! The format will be a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation that you deliver in groups of 5 students. Presentations will take place in class on December 7<sup>th</sup>. You can form your own group and choose your own topic under the theme of FinTech and emerging topics in investments. There will be a sign-up sheet and topics will go on a first-come-first-served basis. This is your chance to have fun while teaching your classmates something new! Sample topic ideas include, but are not limited to:

- Cryptocurrencies (pick only one topic from below):
  - Illegal transactions using Bitcoin
  - Initial Coin Offerings
  - Blockchain technology outside of finance
- Peer to peer lending
- Robo advising
- High-frequency and algorithmic trading
- Social media in financial markets
- Artificial Intelligence (A.I) in financial markets
- Another topic of your choice!

**Contribution to Learning Goals of the Program (BCom, BIB):**

<b>Program Learning Goal</b>	<b>Competencies Not Covered</b>	<b>Competencies Introduced (only)</b>	<b>Competencies Taught But Not Assessed</b>	<b>Competencies Taught and Assessed</b>
<b>BC1 Knowledge</b> <i>Graduates will be skilled in applying foundational business knowledge to appropriate business contexts.</i>				<b>X</b>
<b>BC2 Collaboration</b> <i>Graduates will be collaborative and effective contributors in team environments that respect the experience, expertise and interest of all members.</i>		<b>X</b>		
<b>BC3 Critical Thinking</b> <i>Graduates will be discerning critical thinkers, able to discuss different viewpoints, challenge biases and assumptions, and draw conclusions based on analysis and evaluation.</i>				<b>X</b>
<b>BC4 Communication</b> <i>Graduates will be effective and persuasive in their communications.</i>				<b>X</b>
<b>BI5 Global Awareness (BIB ONLY)</b> <i>Graduates will be globally-minded.</i>			<b>X</b>	

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Course Sharing Websites

Materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

### Required calculator in BUSI course examinations

If you are purchasing a calculator, we recommend any one of the following options: Texas Instruments BA II Plus (including Pro Model), Hewlett Packard HP 12C (including Platinum model), Staples Financial Calculator, Sharp EL-738C & Hewlett Packard HP 10bII

### Group work

The Sprott School of Business encourages group assignments in the school for several reasons. They provide you with opportunities to develop and enhance interpersonal, communication, leadership, follower-ship and other group skills. Group assignments are also good for learning integrative skills for putting together a complex task. Your professor may assign one or more group tasks/assignments/projects in this course. Before embarking on a specific problem as a group, it is your responsibility to ensure that the problem is meant to be a group assignment and not an individual one.

### Grading

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 34), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

Grades entered by Registrar:

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

DEF = Deferred

### Academic Regulations

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

### Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

### Pregnancy Accommodation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is



known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

[carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Religious obligation**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website:

[carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc)

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

<https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

### **Academic Integrity**

Violations of academic integrity are a serious academic offence. Violations of academic integrity – presenting another's ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data,

unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the degree and will not be tolerated.

Process: If an alleged violation occurs, all relevant documentation will be forwarded to the Dean. If the allegation proves true, the penalties may include; a grade of Failure on the submitted work and/or course; academic probation; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; suspension from full-time studies; suspension from all studies at Carleton; expulsion from Carleton, amongst others. **For a first offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally be a zero on the submitted work and at least a minimum full grade reduction of the final course grade. For a second offence, at a minimum, the penalty assigned will normally lead to a suspension from studies.**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy which is available, along with resources for compliance at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **Sprott Student Services**

The Sprott Undergraduate Student Services Office offers program advising and overall student success support. Our team is available to discuss your academic goals and your program progression plans. We can also work with you to develop strategies for success, including study skills for Business. If you experience any difficulty this term or if you would like to access support, please contact our team at [bcom@sprott.carleton.ca](mailto:bcom@sprott.carleton.ca) or at [bib@sprott.carleton.ca](mailto:bib@sprott.carleton.ca).

### **Centre for Student Academic Support**

The Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS) is a centralized collection of learning support services designed to help students achieve their goals and improve their learning both inside and outside the classroom. CSAS offers academic assistance with course content, academic writing and skills development. Visit CSAS on the 4th floor of MacOdrum Library or online at: [carleton.ca/csas](http://carleton.ca/csas).

### **Important Information:**

- Students must always retain a copy of all work that is submitted.
  - All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.
  - For us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid CARLETON address. Therefore, in order to respond to your inquiries, please send all email from your Carleton CMail account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://carleton.ca/its/get-started/new-students-2/>
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