uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Financial Economics

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024) Review date: 24-04-2023

Department assigned to the subject: Business Administration Department

Coordinating teacher: SERRANO JIMENEZ, PEDRO JOSE

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits: 6.0

Year: 2 Semester: 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

- Mathematics for Economics I
- Mathematics for Economics II

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Compute present and future values of cash-flow streams to compute the net present values of different real and financial investments.
- Have a basic knowledge of the functioning of financial markets and of the way in which investment decisions are
- Understand the risk-return tradeoff. Understand how diversification affects risk.
- Have a clear understanding of the difference between systematic and diversifiable risk and know how to measure each
- Understand how interest rates are set and the principles of valuation of fixed income securities.
- Know the basic types of derivatives and understand why and how they are used in risk management.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

Financial Economics

- -1. Introduction to Financial Markets
- a. Financing investment in the economy
- b. Financial markets and trading financial assets
- -2. Financial Mathematics
- a.Introduction: The time value of money
- b.Simple and compound interest. Equivalent interest rates.
- c.Present and Future Values.
- d.Annuities
- -3. Investment Appraisal
- a.Cash flows
- b.Determining current and future values
- c.Net present value of an investment project
- d.Internal rate of return
- e.Other valuation techniques
- -4. Risk and Return
- a.Mathematical representation of a portfolio
- b.Expected portfolio returns
- c. Variance and standard deviation
- d. Finding the minimum variance portfolio
- e.Graphical representation of expected return and standard deviation of a portfolio
- -5. Portfolio Theory
- a.Diversification Effect
- b. Assumptions of the Mean-Variance Analysis
- c.The Efficient Frontier
- d.The tangency portfolio

- -6. The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)
- a.Relationship between risk and expected return
- b.The CAPM model
- c.The CML and The SML
- d.Portfolio Beta
- -7. Fixed Income Securities
- a. Valuation of fixed income
- b.The term structure of Interest Rates
- c.Forward interest rates
- d.Default risk
- e.Risk Management
- -8. Derivatives Products
- a. Types of derivatives
- b.Pricing Principles

Reference text books:

- Brealey R., S. C. Myers and F. Allen (2016), Principles of Corporate Finance, 12th edition, McGraw Hill.
- Bodie, Z., Kane, A. and Marcus, A. J. (2017), Essentials of Investments, McGraw Hill (10/e).

Other useful books:

- Essentials of Corporate Finance, 9/e edition, Stephen Ross, Jeffrey Jaffe, and Randolph Westerfield, 2017
- Grinblatt, M. and S. Titman (2003), Financial Markets and Corporate Strategy, McGraw Hill.

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LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Learning activities comprise:

- 1.- Theory Sessions. The instructor of the course teach the basic concepts of the topic. Classnotes are provided to the students.
- 2.- Solution to exercises. The student must solve the test to assess his/her degree of knowledge of the different concepts.
- 3.- Exercises Sessions. The instructor of these sessions solves the exercise sets provided to the students.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Grades will be awarded according to the following criteria

- -Homework, problem sets and/or group cases (20%)
- -Midterm exam (30%)
- -Final exam (50%)

% end-of-term-examination: 50

% of continuous assessment (assigments, laboratory, practicals...): 50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Brealey, Myers and Allen Principles of Corporate Finance 12/e, McGraw-Hill,, 2017
- Zvi Bodie, Alex Kane, and Alan J. Marcus Essentials of Investments, 10th Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin, 2017

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Mark Grinblatt and Sheridan Titman Financial Markets and Corporate Strategy, McGraw-Hill, 2011
- Ross, Westerfield and Jordan Essentials of Corporate Finance, 8/e, McGraw-Hill-Irwin, 2013