COURSE NUMBER: FI 313 PA
COURSE TITLE: Personal Investing
COURSE TIME FRAME: TR, 9:30-10:50 A.M.

PREREQUISITES: Junior standing

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Steigner
OFFICE: Cremer Hall, Room 402
TELEFONE: (620) 341-6932
E-MAIL: tsteigne@emporia.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays, 12:00 – 3:30 PM
Thursdays, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
And by Appointment!

COURSE MATERIAL

REQUIRED TEXT:

SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS:
(Readings from Business Week, The Wall Street Journal, Money, and other investments and general business periodicals.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Students will learn not only how to identify successful investment opportunities, but how to anticipate and deal with investment problems and controversies as well. In this course, we gradually develop key concepts, while covering all the necessary background material. Only essential formulas are included in this course.

TOPICS COVERED:
- Background
- Security Analysis
- Fixed-Income Securities
- Derivative Securities
- Investment Management
This course provides opportunities to improve and expand on various skills, valuable for your future employment, such as academic knowledge, economic background, awareness of news events, writing skills, presentation skills, critical thinking, teamwork, and technological know-how. All these skills are beneficial for your future career, and many assignments can be included in your job application portfolio to further enhance your marketability.

Quizzes (200 Points):
Students will keep track of their progress by taking written exams at the end of each learning block (corresponds to the “topics covered” above). Exact dates are displayed at the end of the syllabus in the course schedule. Each exam is worth 40 points.

To expand the textbook knowledge, students will work in pairs on presentations, written reports and videos to analyze “real world” events:

Student Presentations (100 Points):
The first 10 chapters, beginning with chapter 2, will be presented by student pairs. The presenting team is responsible for presenting the material, handouts for their peers, in-class exercises, and the incorporation of relevant videos. The instructor will be available for any questions during the preparation process. Student presentations will typically be on Tuesdays, and the presentations will be evaluated by the peers. The more relevant the information is to your peers and the more engaging the presentations are, the higher the ratings will be! A sign-up sheet for team presentations will be available in class. Teams that present later in the semester are naturally expected to meet and exceed previous presentations in terms of quality. FYI: Each team should practice their presentation at least once in the actual classroom. A well-rehearsed presentation will be apparent to your peers (lack of rehearsal will too!). Recording yourselves and viewing your presentation prior to the “live” event will help you improve your presentation performance.

Bi-Weekly News Analysis (140 Points):
Each student team will pick at least 3 economic/finance related news stories each 2-week period. The stories will be evaluated from the Keynesian as well as from the Austrian Economics perspective. For example, you can compare and contrast the views of Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman (Keynesian) on topics with the views of Austrian representatives. Each team has the opportunity to present their own view of the subject matter at the end of the paper. This can consist of (dis)agreeing with one group, and you would support your (dis)agreement with specific arguments, and/or take an alternative stand that neither group has expressed. If team members find themselves with opposing views, you are free to state both viewpoints. The recommended length for the papers is 2-5 pages. The more passionate your team is about a topic and the more research is being conducted, the longer the write-ups tend to be. Please try to stay within 5 pages if possible. Your personal opinion has no influence on the grading, but the soundness and logic of your arguments do. Each analysis is worth 20 points.
**Midterm Assignment: Investment Portfolio Video (100 Points):**

For your midterm project each student team will prepare a youtube video presenting, comparing and contrasting investing advice following a) the conventional (Keynesian) investing strategy and b) a strategy that is based on Austrian economics thought. How will investment portfolios look like and how do they differ from each other? You have great freedom to execute this assignment anyway you want to, and creativity will be rewarded. Grading is competitively, and the best three teams will earn an extra 10, 20, or 30 points. Your personal opinion has no influence on the grading, but the soundness and logic of your arguments do.

**Final Assignment: Economic Outlook (100 Points):**

For your final project each student team will write an essay on what the US economy will look like in 3 years, and how your predictions influence your investment advice. Each team will read at least one book by a Keynesian author and one book by an Austrian author. The essay should reflect the basic ideas of the books, in addition to other resources that your team uses, but your team can decide which ideas to agree and disagree with. The essay should show evidence of extensive research on the topic and include a reference list of at least 10 respectable resources. The recommended length of the essay is 2-5 pages. Grading is competitively, and the best three teams will earn an extra 10, 20, or 30 points. Your personal opinion has no influence on the grading, but the soundness and logic of your arguments do.

**Grading Scale:**

Grades will be assigned using the following system:

- **A=** 576 and above Points
- **B =** 512-575 Points
- **C=** 448-511 Points
- **D =** 384-447 Points
- **F =** 383 and below Points

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**OTHER COURSE INFORMATION**

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

To get the most out of this course, you should attend every class meeting. The material for which you are responsible each week is contained in the course outline that is attached to the end of this syllabus. It is expected that you have read the material prior to coming to class. Students who miss class repeatedly are subject to automatic withdrawal from class.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Assignments, course announcements, syllabus adjustments, and grades will be posted on Blackboard. Students are responsible to keep themselves updated by regularly checking the Blackboard Web Site. If it is necessary for the instructor to send out emails, email addresses saved in Blackboard are used.
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: In the event of a tornado evacuation from the classroom, use the stairwell in the middle of the building and go to the first floor hallway. If anyone needs special assistance to get down the stairs, please let the professor know the first day of class so that we can arrange for class members to be prepared to help you.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: At Emporia State University, academic dishonesty is a basis for disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, activities such as cheating and plagiarism (presenting as one’s own the intellectual or creative accomplishments of another without giving credit to the source or sources). The faculty member in whose course or under whose tutelage an act of academic dishonesty occurs has the option of failing the student for the academic hours in question and may refer the case to other academic personnel for further action. Emporia State University may impose penalties for academic dishonesty up to and including expulsion from the university. This policy is provided according to the Kansas Board of Regents directive. The student has the right to appeal the charge of academic dishonesty in accordance with the university’s Academic Appeals Policy and Procedure as set forth in Section 9A-04 of the Faculty Handbook.

Please note: Any students who engages in academic dishonesty in this class and is being found out will receive an F as their final course grade this semester. It is the students’ sole responsibility to familiarize themselves with the meaning of academic dishonesty at the beginning of the semester. The instructor is available for any questions on this topic.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Emporia State University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to contact the Director of Disability Services and the professor as early in the semester as possible to ensure that classroom and academic accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. All communication among students, the Office of Disability Services, and the professor will be strictly confidential. Office of Disability Services is located at 001 Memorial Union. Contact info: (620) 341-6637, (620) 341-6646 TTY, or email disabser@emporia.edu.
Class Schedule – FI 313
(The schedule below is tentative and subject to adjustment as the class proceeds.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week of August 22</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Understanding Investments</td>
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<td>Week of August 29</td>
<td>Chapter 2: Investment Alternatives</td>
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<td>Week of September 5</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Indirect Investing</td>
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<td>Week of September 12</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Securities Markets</td>
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<td>Week of September 19</td>
<td>Chapter 5: How Securities Are Traded</td>
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<td>Week of September 26</td>
<td>Chapter 13: Economy/Market Analysis</td>
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<td>Week of October 3</td>
<td>Chapter 14: Sector/Industry Analysis</td>
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<td>Week of October 10</td>
<td>Chapter 15: Company Analysis</td>
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<td>Week of October 17</td>
<td>Chapter 16: Technical Analysis</td>
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<td>Week of October 24</td>
<td>Chapter 17: Bond Yields and Prices</td>
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<td>Week of October 31</td>
<td>Chapter 18: Bonds: Analysis and Strategy</td>
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<td>Week of November 7</td>
<td>Chapter 19: Options</td>
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<td>Week of November 14</td>
<td>Chapter 20: Futures</td>
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<td>November 21 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Chapter 21: Portfolio Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Chapter 22: Evaluation of Investment Performance</td>
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Quizzes:

1. Background: Thursday, September 29
2. Security Analysis: Thursday, October 27
3. Fixed-Income Securities: Thursday, November 10
4. Derivative Securities: Tuesday, November 22
5. Investment Management: Thursday, December 8

Bi-Weekly News Analysis:

Tuesday, September 6
Tuesday, September 20
Tuesday, October 4
Tuesday, October 18
Tuesday, November 1
Tuesday, November 15
Tuesday, November 29

Midterm Assignment:

Thursday, October 6

Final Assignment:

Tuesday, December 6
Please turn in this form by August 25

I hereby acknowledge that I have received and read the course syllabus for Personal Investing, FI 313 PA, Fall Semester 2011. I fully understand all covered issues, and I have no further questions regarding the conduct and/or grading system in this class. I further agree to abide by all points/issues as outlined in the course syllabus.

Student Signature          Print Name          Student ID #          Date