FIN 5315  Securities Analysis — Fall 2003 (Section 13849), Saturday 8:00 am - 12:50 am College of Business Admin 311

NOTE: This class meets from August 30 to December 6. This may be modified if new information is received as the class gets underway. In previous semesters, Saturday classes started later and concluded earlier than the regular, Monday-through-Friday classes.

Catalog Copy: An in-depth study of the techniques of market and security analysis. Special emphasis is placed on the development of portfolio theory, application of the theory to real-world situations, and the evaluation of portfolio management. Prerequisite: FIN 4310 or FIN 5311 or departmental approval.

I. Instructor: Dr. Anthony F. Herbst, BUSN 248, <aherbst@utep.edu>, Dept. Tel. 747-5245  Web: http://utminers.utep.edu/aherbst
Office hours: 1630-1750 (4:30pm-5:50pm) Tuesdays, Wednesdays and by appointment. E-mail anytime.

II. Course Resources:

(1) Required Textbooks


(2) The Wall Street Journal is also required. Barron's is strongly suggested. (Student discount subscriptions for the semester are available from the instructor the first class meeting.) Barron's, a weekly, may be shared by two or three persons.

(3) Stock Trak™ investment/trading simulation. (Two or three – at most three – may share one account. In a shared account all will receive the same mark for the results.) The cost is about $25 for the semester.

(4) E-mail is required. A free account at UTEP is available if you do not have one at home or work. This must be opened immediately because your instructor will communicate course information by e-mail and by posting to a UTEP server for the course. You will need to get a recent version of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader if you do not already have it.
(Most new software that comes on a CD-ROM has the Acrobat reader on it; it is quite large if you need to download a copy.) NOTE: I receive about a hundred e-mail messages each day — if you want me to read and answer yours, be sure to put the course (FIN5315) on the subject line.

III. Course Objectives: The course is designed to offer an in-depth study of the techniques of market and security analysis and portfolio construction and management.

IV. Special Assignments: (1) Each individual student will analyze his or her own investment situation over the term of the course, and will in essence act as his or her own financial planner in preparing a formal personal investment plan for the next five years.

(2) Each individual student will also manage a hypothetical investment portfolio over the course. This will be done through Stock Trak™, and costs about $21 for the semester. Students who wish to may share an account, but that is not recommended. Stock Trak has a toll-free 800 phone number to which orders are placed, and a Web page where orders may be entered and accounts checked. Detailed printed reports of individual portfolio activity are provided to students and instructor.

(3) Student will each have two or three companies on which they will be analyst experts. And each will belong to a reporting group that will provide the class with a brief (5 minutes or so) every week on the subject it covers.

Everyone is expected, and required, to use computers in their analysis, record keeping, and report preparation – beyond what Stock Trak™ provides. This work may be performed in the College of Business’ CALC lab if you like or do not have access to a computer outside of UTEP.

V. Instructional Methodology: Lecture and discussion, guest speakers, discussion, student presentations. This is an interactive class and active participation is required.
VI. BASIS FOR COURSE GRADE:  □ □ NOTE THE DATE □ □

Final Exam ................ 50% Final Exam December 6
StockTrak™ Simulation ...... 15
Reports ...................... 15
Other' ....................... 10
Personal Plan ............... 10

100%

"Other" includes being prepared for class, regular, voluntary class participation in discussions of assigned readings, and the analysis of cases or special reports that may be assigned, for which the quality as well as quantity of participation is important.

VII. Attendance: Regular attendance is expected and required. After two unexcused absences additional absences will significantly and adversely affect the course mark. Anyone who anticipates missing more than two classes is advised to take the course another time.

VIII. Desired Course Content:

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Class Coverage (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment basics</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Financial analysis</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valuation</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market efficiency, fundamental and technical analysis</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Risk, return, and portfolio principles</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment companies</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Equity securities</td>
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<td>Debt securities</td>
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<td>Options</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Futures contracts</td>
<td>10</td>
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ANALYSIS/REPORTING GROUPS

STOCK MARKET - FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS

STOCK MARKET - TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

OPTIONS (STOCKS AND FUTURES)

FINANCIAL & COMMODITY FUTURES

FEDERAL RESERVE WATCH, MONEY MARKETS

INTERNATIONAL CONDITIONS

PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE MONITORING

BOND MARKET

OVER-THE-COUNTER STOCK MARKET

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS