



Lincoln University

BA 344 – International Securities and Foreign Exchange

COURSE SYLLABUS

Spring 2021

- Instructor:** Professor Themis D. Pantos, Ph.D.,
Lecture Schedule: Wednesday: 12:30 – 3:15 PM
Credits: 3 units / 45 lecture hours
Level: Mastery 2 (M2)
Office Hours: Monday, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM or by appointment
E-mail: tpantos@lincolnuca.edu
Phone: 510-250-6113
- Textbooks:** International Money and Finance (2017). Melvin & Norrbin, 9th edition ISBN-13: 978-0128041062, ISBN-10: 0128041064
- Tools:** A basic handheld calculator is required. Other mobile devices will not be allowed. Supplemental materials (such as periodical, article, or case study) will be provided in class.
- Last Revision:** January 18, 2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course includes an overview of the foreign exchange market (Forex), foreign securities, international equities markets, international debt securities, futures and options. The course describes the fundamental principles and operations on these markets.

Prerequisite: BA 140 or BA 303

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

To introduce students to the basic concept of international currency, securities, and futures markets, foreign exchanges including their specifics and time shifts, trading techniques, market analysis, investment strategies, and risk management to optimize investment and minimize risk.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES*

	Course LO	Program LO	Institutional LO	Assessment Activities
1	Understand how international financial markets work	PLO 1	ILO 1b, ILO 2b	Assignments, Midterm and Final Examinations
2	Be familiar with the modern trading approaches	PLO 2	ILO 1b, ILO 2b, ILO 4b	Assignments, Midterm and Final Examinations
3	Be able to implement a trading strategy in accordance with financial and business objectives	PLO 5	ILO 4b, ILO 5b	Assignments, Midterm and Final Examinations

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

This is a direct classroom instruction course. The course will be conducted in the form of lectures and discussions on each topic shown in the class schedule below. Assignments and projects require students to actively use resources of the library. Detailed guide to business resources of the library as well as the description of Lincoln University approach to information literacy are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](http://ctl.lincolnuca.edu) website (ctl.lincolnuca.edu).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

While in class, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Professionalism includes regular attendance, participation in class discussions, civil conduct, and ethical behavior, etc. If a student is observed coming to class late often, being disrespectful to peers, texting or using mobile devices, or carrying on personal conversations during lecture, the grade will be reduced based on a demerit system and the student would be subject to disciplinary penalties from the University.

Homework Assignments:

Every student needs to read the PowerPoint Slides according to the syllabus timetable in preparation for the upcoming class session. Higher education is about learning how to learn. So, in acquiring new knowledge, always pay attention to the learning objectives of each chapter or topic. In addition, you will enhance your understanding by solving the chapter problems to be assigned in class. Of course, you are welcome to bring questions to class for discussion by reading ahead of each classroom lecture. Achievement is assured when done repetitively.

* Detailed description of learning outcomes and information about the assessment procedure are available at the [Center for Teaching and Learning](http://ctl.lincolnuca.edu) website (ctl.lincolnuca.edu).

GRADING POLICY:

Your performance in this course will be evaluated under the following Grading Scheme.

COURSE ASSESSMENT METHODS	GRADING SCALE
Midterm Exam: 30%	A = 94-100
Final Examination: 50%	A- = 90-93
Assignments: 20%	B+ = 85-89
Total: 100%	B = 80-84
	B- = 75-79
	C+ = 70-74
	C = 65-69
	C- = 60-64
	D+ = 55-59
	D = 50-54
	F = Below 50

The mid-term and final exams will include both types of theoretical and empirical questions and problems that are like the term assignments. They are designed to test both theory and problem solving. There will be NO “make-up credit” or “extra credit” work during and after the semester. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grading system based on class performance and notification to the students about any change during the semester. Assignments are to be completed on time during the course. Late assignments will result in a reduced grade. Mid-term and final exams cannot be made up if missed unless there is a documented emergency. You are responsible for keeping apprised of any change in syllabus. If you plan to be sick on exam days, please do the exam a day earlier before getting sick. The key to success in this course is communication and interaction. Thus, we will have to work as a team. First, we will create a positive learning environment where everyone can participate without fear. Second, relevant reading and problem assignments will be presented and discussed in class. When in doubt, ask.

Scholastic Dishonesty:

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who violate rules of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including failure in the course and/or other actions from the University. The key to success in this course is communication and interaction. Thus, we will have to work as a team. First, we will create a positive learning environment where everyone can participate without fear. Second, relevant reading and problem assignments will be presented and discussed in class. When in doubt, ask.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lectures		Topic	Chapters	
#			Lectures	Textbook
1	Week1	Money and Currency	Ch. 1	Notes
2	Week2	Trading Money	Ch. 2	Ch. 1
3	Week3	Markets, Prices and Market making	Ch. 3	Ch. 2
4	Week4	Interest Rates	Ch. 4	Ch. 3
5	Week5	Brief History of Foreign Exchange	Ch. 5	Ch. 4
6	Week6	Foreign Exchange Spot Market	Ch. 6	Ch. 5
7	Week7	Foreign Exchange Arbitrage and Spot Market	Ch. 7	Ch. 5
8	Week8	Foreign Exchange Forwards	Ch. 8	Ch. 6
9	Week9	Midterm Examination	Ch. 1-8 as in lectures	
10	Week10	(a) Foreign Exchange Futures (b) Foreign Exchange Swaps	Ch. 9 Ch. 10	Ch. 7 Ch. 8
11	Week11	(a) Foreign Exchange Options (b) Exotic Options and Structured Products	Ch. 11 Ch. 12	Ch. 9 Ch. 10
12	Week12	The Greeks of the Options	Ch. 13	Ch. 13
13	Week13	Cryptocurrencies	Ch. 14	Notes
14	Week14	Hedging Topics and Techniques	Ch. 15 and Notes	
15	Week15	Comprehensive Final Examination	Ch. 1-15 as in lectures	

ADDENDUM: SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE MATERIAL

The PowerPoint slides are designed to give students a head start in learning course materials in a concise and coherent fashion. They are not intended to substitute, but complement, the textbook and classroom lectures. Don't just read; you need to absorb and understand the body of knowledge through a synthesis of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Thus attending classroom lectures and completing exercises and assignments are critical to your success.