

Fixed Income Securities (Postgraduate)

FIN-ISS409

Course Description

This course covers the valuation and application of a wide variety of fixed income securities and their derivatives. Fixed income securities are financial claims including pure discount bonds, coupon bonds such as Treasury notes and corporate bonds, floating rate notes, callable bonds, among many others, issued by public or private entities. In the first half of the course, we focus on yield curve construction, duration and convexity, and formal term structure models. The goal is to introduce you to at least one equilibrium model and one no-arbitrage model, and to analytical tools used in interest rate modeling and risk management. In the second half of the course, we first focus on interest rate derivatives such as interest rate swaps, bond options and interest rate options, including caps, floors and swaptions, and the management of callable debt. We then look beyond interest rate risk, and study other risks that can be inherent in fixed income securities such as credit risk, illiquidity risk, and the risks stemming from securitization.

Required Texts

Bond Markets, Analysis, and Strategies, 9th Edition by Frank J. Fabozzi

Other Reading materials will be provided through your student center

Prerequisite

Financial Management and postgraduate status needed. Please consult your advisor if you are a non-degree seeking student

Course Requirements

Course Component	Weight
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
Project	20%
Class Participation	10%

Learning Outcomes

- Identify and distinguish between the different types of fixed income securities;
- Demonstrate how to apply derivative instruments to hedge the risks and enhance the returns of fixed income securities;
- Make use of analytic tools in bond portfolio management and interest rate risk management;
- Identify various sources of credit risk and apply structural models to estimate the risk;
- Critically evaluate structured products related to fixed income securities and derivatives.

Evaluation and Grading

A	93-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-66
B+	87-89	C	73-76	D-	60-62
B	83-86	C-	70-72	F	0-59

Course Hours

The course has 20 class sessions in total. Each class session is 150 minutes in length, for a total of 3000 minutes of in-class time. Students are expected to spend 15-20 hours per week outside of class. The University awards **4** credits for this course. Different universities may count course credits differently. Consult officials at your own home institution.

Attendance

Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. The University's policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any absence may impact on the student's grade. Moreover, **the University's policy is that a student who has more than 3 absences will fail the course. Arriving late or leaving early will count as a partial absence.**

Academic Honesty

The University expects all students to do their own work. Instructors will fail assignments that show evidence of plagiarism or other forms of cheating and will also report the student's name to the University administration. A student reported to the University for cheating is placed on disciplinary probation; a student reported twice is suspended or expelled.

Disability Accommodation

Any student who needs special accommodation due to the impact of disability should inform the University within 10 days before the program starts.

Tentative Schedule

Class	Contents	Readings
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the Course • Pricing of Bonds 	Chapter 1-2
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring Yield 	Chapter 3
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bond Price Volatility 	Chapter 4
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors Affecting Bond Yields and the Term Structure of Interest Rates 	Chapter 5
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Fixed Income Securities and their features 	Selected reading in Chapter 6-15
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Fixed Income Securities and their features 	Selected reading in Chapter 6-15
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bond Portfolio Management Strategies • Bond Portfolio Construction 	Chapter 24-25
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Bond Portfolio Management 	Chapter 26
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liability-Driven Strategies 	Chapter 27
	Midterm Exam	
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securitization I 	Handouts
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securitization II 	Handouts
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest Rate Futures 	Chapter 29
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest Rate Options 	Chapter 30
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest-Rate Swaps, Caps, and Floors 	Chapter 31
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit Default Swaps 	Chapter 32
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of Bonds with Embedded Options 	Chapter 18
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Callable Debt 	Handouts
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring Credit Spreads 	Chapter 21
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review 	
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam 	