

Faculty: Science and Technology and Engineering

Course: **Introduction to financial markets**

Programme: Study Abroad in Engineering

Semester: 1 – Fall

ECTS credits: 6

Duration: 45 hours

Language of instruction: English

Instructor: Marçal Flores I Puigvert

Course Description

This course proposes an introduction to financial markets. Through concrete examples, you will learn the vocabulary, concepts and main problematics of finance.

Prerequisites

None.

Attendance and punctuality policies

Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Any presentation or activity missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of certified medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than three classes in any course half a letter grade will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence. Seven absences in 6 ECTS courses or four absences in 3 ECTS courses will result in a Fail grade. Notice that there is a minimum of 80% attendance.

Students will be marked ABSENT from any class if they arrive more than 20 minutes late. Students will not be permitted to enter the class unless the professor specifically accepts it. Even if the instructor allows students to join the class, they will still be marked as absent for that lesson.

Absences can be justified in the following cases: Death of a first-degree relative, serious illness of the student/ first-degree relative or obligation to attend legal affairs. In all these cases a document or receipt must be sent via e-mail to studyabroad@uvic.cat adding your professor in copy. Important! In case of injury/ illness of the student, a medical document issued in Vic* needs to be provided.

*Medical documents accepted: physical doctor's notes which contain the hospital's stamp and signature in handwriting OR digital doctor's notes which contain the doctor's valid digital signature (a digital signature is valid when it shows the authentication of the person who signs and prevents the pdf to be modified after being signed).

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to understand the main issues of economics events, understand the actual economic situation of Europe and also know basic notions of investment in financial.

Method of presentation

- Lectures and discussions: Lectures with appropriate visual support provide the theoretical content of the sessions. Class discussions facilitate the students' ability to connect reading and lectures, analyzing or applying concepts.
- Class participation: Students are expected to participate in group activities and in the discussions based on the course readings and cases proposed.
- Home exercises: Students are expected to solve several exercises during the semester.

Required work and assessment methods

- *Cases, reading and exercises (70%). Preparation, development and discussions related to exercises will be highly valuable for the success of the course both at individual and group level.*
- *Validation exam (30%). Individual test*
- *No activity will be recovered. Not even the exam. In case of failing the subject, a remedial work will be done on the current situation of the economy.*
- *The exam will be on January 7*

	<i>E1</i>	<i>E2</i>	<i>E3</i>	<i>E4</i>	<i>E5</i>	<i>E6</i>	<i>T</i>
<i>%</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>30</i>

Contents

Unit One: Different functions of financial markets.

Week 1. Course presentation. Questions and things you would be interested in learning about the economy and financial investments. What do you expect about the subject.

Week 2. Functions of financials markets. Price determination. Funds Mobilization. Liquidity. Risk sharing, Easy Access, Transaction costs and capital formation.

Week 3. Exercises and discussions.

Unit Two: Main players (banks, central banks, governments) and markets.

Week 4. What are Banks, Investment Banks, Corporations, Institutions, Investors, Bonds, stocks and capital. Exercises and comments.

Unit Three: Financials instruments.

Week 5. Cash, Derivate instruments, Foreign Exchange Instruments.

Unit Four: Money, Interest rate, Bond and Debt

Week 6. Definitions. Relationship Between each other.

Week 7. Exercises and Discussions.

Unit Five: Equity Market and Derivatives Products

Week 8. What is a Equity market. Uses of derivatives products

Week 9. Indicators of stock market

Week 10. Exercises and comments.

Unit Six: Financial Crisis

Week 11. What is a Financial Crisis.

Week 12/13. Financial Crisis of 2007-2009

Week 14. Other kind of Crisis. Crisis of Covid.

Week 15. Comments. Review for the exam.

Recommended reading (but we won't work on it in class)

-You can be a stock market genius. Joel Greenblatt.