

Course Outline

RSM 230 H1 F

Financial Markets – section L0101

Fall 2022

Course Meets: Thursdays/1pm to 3pm in WO30

Webpage: <https://q.utoronto.ca>

Instructor: Maureen Stapleton
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Communications: Please communicate with us by email. Include subject line “RSM230”.
Do not use Quercus messaging.

Course Scope and Mission

This course is an introduction to financial securities and financial markets. We will discuss the nature of stocks (equities), bonds, and other financial securities. We will also discuss the structure and function of financial markets, financial institutions and market participants, as well as some tools for market analysis. While the main context is the Canadian market, we will also discuss markets in a global context. The objective of the course is to provide students with basic knowledge required to understand the nature of financial securities and markets, and be able to talk intelligently about current financial issues

Course Materials

Ross, S.A., R.W. Westerfield, J.F. Jaffe, G.S. Roberts and H. Driss, Corporate Finance, 9th Canadian Edition, McGraw Hill Education, 2022 (with McGraw Hill Connect).

This textbook will be used for our course. **McGraw Hill Connect** will be required for homework assignments. We expect to use the same textbook for your future required Rotman finance courses RSM332 and RSM333. You can purchase the textbook with Connect in hard copy or in digital form. The publisher has made available to us a special exclusive deal where your purchase of the textbook includes access to edition updates for FOUR YEARS in digital form. The University of Toronto Bookstore https://uoftbookstore.com/buy_textbooks.asp? sells hard copies of the text as well as access codes for both the digital copy of the text and Connect resources. The ISBN numbers are as follows:

Print package with Connect, 4-year access card: 9781264831302 \$159.95

Digital Connect + eBook, 4-year access: 9781264830961 \$120

Digital Connect only, no book (180 day access): 9781264832033 \$60

Additional required readings: A small number of brief readings will be posted on the course website (Quercus) throughout the semester.

Evaluation and Grades

Grades are a measure of the performance of a student in individual courses. Each student shall be judged on the basis of how well they have command of the course materials and their success in communicating their knowledge.

<u>Deliverable</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Syllabus quiz (Quercus)	1%	Monday, September 19, 4pm
Individual essay #1	5%	Friday, September 23, 4pm
Group project #1	5%	Friday, October 7, 4pm
Online homework #1 (Connect)	5%	Friday, October 14, 4pm
Mid Term Exam	20%	Thursday, October 20, noon to 2pm
Video Assignment, Part1	5%	Friday, November 4, 4pm
Individual essay #2	5%	Friday, November 18, 4pm
Group Project #2	5%	Friday, November 25, 4pm
Video Assignment (reflection)	2%	Friday, December 2, 4pm
Online homework #2 (Connect)	5%	Monday, December 4, 4pm
Final Assessment	42%	TBA - During Final Assessment period

Course Format and Expectations

Individual Essays

You will be required to write two short essays related to financial news items. The purpose is to develop your ability to analyze financial topics and to communicate your ideas clearly in written form. Details for the individual essays will be posted on the course website.

Video Assignments

Like the individual essays (above), you will be required to record a video on a finance topic using the Communicado platform. The purpose is to develop your ability to analyze financial topics and to communicate your ideas orally. You will also be required to review your video at a later date and write a reflection on your performance. Details for the video assignment will be posted on the course website.

Group Assignments

Group work is very important in business. There will be two group assignments. You will be assigned to a group by the Rotman Commerce Office. You are expected to work well with your group, and all members are expected to fully participate in each assignment. Details for the group assignments will be posted on the course webpage.

Online Homework

Homework problem-sets are accessed through your Connect account.

Support for Students

Individual essays and video assignments help you develop your communication skills. How well you communicate your ideas, in writing or orally, will be considered in the evaluation of the assignment. In your written assignments, you should aim for clarity, strong organization, concision, professionalism, and correct grammar. Your presentations should reflect strong planning and organization, clarity of speech, and an engaging demeanour. Sources, whether in written or presentation assignments, should always be correctly attributed.

Support is available through the RC Centre for Professional Skills (CPS) for students who would like help or feedback on their writing or speaking (presentations). CPS offers both individual and group appointments with trained writing instructors and presentation coaches who are familiar with the RC program and common types of business assignments. You can also access your college Writing Centres for help with written assignments.

You can [book an appointment with a writing or presentation coach](#) through the RC Centre for Professional Skills Writing Centre. For more information about writing centres, student supports, and study resources, see the [Writing and Presentation Coaching academic support page](#)

Group assignments require you to work in teams of 4 or 5 students..

Learning to work together in teams is a crucial transferrable skill you will use not only in your coursework, but also in your future careers. Support is available if you encounter common teamwork challenges such as:

- Team members feeling left out of the team.
- Team members not responding in a timely manner to communication.
- Division or quality of work among team members being unequal or unfair.
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Consult the [Centre for Professional Skills Teamwork Resources page](#) for tips, strategies, and best practices. You can also [book an appointment with a teamwork mentor](#) through the RC Centre for Professional Skills Writing Centre. Teamwork mentors can help you resolve or mitigate conflict, strategize on planning, or improve team communication.

If you are a student registered with Accessibility Services, and extensions are one of your academic accommodations, consult with your Accessibility Advisor about the teamwork in this course.

Missed Tests and Assignments (including mid-term and final-term assessments)

Students who miss a test or assignment for reasons entirely beyond their control (e.g. illness) may request special consideration.

In such cases, students must:

1. Notify the instructor AND the Rotman Commerce Program Office **on the date** of the missed course deliverable, e.g. missed test, final assessments, assignment or class (in the case of participation marks).
2. Complete a [Request for Special Consideration Form](#) and submit it along with your Absence Declaration on [ACORN](#) (please read the instructions on how to use the Absence Declaration in ACORN) within **2 business days** of the originally scheduled course deliverable.

Students who do not provide this information will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for the missed course deliverable. Students who report that they will miss a deliverable for a valid reason may have marks reassigned to their final exam.

Late Assignments

Students who, for reasons beyond their control, are unable to submit an assignment by its deadline must obtain approval from the instructor for an extension. Supporting documentation will be required as per the policy on missed tests and assignments, and a penalty may be imposed.

Statement on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Commitment to Accessibility

The University is committed to inclusivity and accessibility, and strives to provide support for, and facilitate the accommodation of, individuals with disabilities so that all may share the same level of access to opportunities and activities offered at the University.

If you require accommodations for a temporary or ongoing disability or health concern, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please [email Accessibility Services](#) or [visit the Accessibility Services website for more information](#) as soon as possible. Obtaining your accommodation letter may take up to several weeks, so get in touch with them as soon as possible. If you have general questions or concerns about the accessibility of this course, you are encouraged to reach out to your instructor, course coordinator, or Accessibility Services.

In addition to appointments offered by the RC Centre for Professional Skills, all RC students have access to their College Writing Centres. Students who require additional support and/or tutoring with respect to their writing skills are encouraged to visit the Academic Success Centre (<http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/asc>) or one of the College Writing Centres (writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres). These Centres, as well as the RC Centre for Professional Skills, are teaching facilities – not editing services – where trained staff can assist students in developing their academic writing skills. There is no charge for the instruction and support.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is a fundamental value essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree that you earn will continue to be valued and respected as a true signifier of a student's individual work and academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously.

[The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic misconduct, the process for addressing academic offences and the penalties that may be imposed. You are expected to be familiar with the contents of this document. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.

- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment (this includes collaborating with others on assignments that are supposed to be completed individually).

On test and exams

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else's answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

Misrepresentation

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) medical notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated by the procedures outlined in the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*. If you have any question about what is or is not permitted in the course, please do not hesitate to contact the course instructor. If you have any questions about appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information from the instructor or other U of T or RC resources such as the RC Centre for Professional Skills, the College Writing Centres or the Academic Success Centre.

Email

At times, the course instructor may decide to communicate important course information by email. As such, all U of T students are required to have a valid UTmail+ email address. You are responsible for ensuring that your UTmail+ email address is set up and properly entered on ACORN. For more information visit the [Information Commons Help Desk](#).

Forwarding your utoronto.ca email to a Gmail or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Gmail accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that important messages from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Recording Lectures

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Canadian Copyright Act. Students wishing to record a lecture or other course material in any way are required to ask the instructor's explicit permission, and may not do so unless permission is granted. Students who have been previously granted permission to record lectures as an accommodation for a disability are excepted. This includes tape recording, filming, photographing PowerPoint slides, Quercus materials, etc.

If permission for recording is granted by the instructor (or via Accessibility Services), it is intended for the individual student's own study purposes and does not include permission to "publish" them in any way. It is forbidden for a student to publish an instructor's notes to a website or sell them in any other form without formal permission.

RSM230 – Fall 2022 Tentative Weekly Schedule*

Class	Date	Topic(s)	Readings	Deliverables due
1	Sept 8	Introduction to Financial Markets	Ross skim Ch. 1 & 2	
2	Sept 15	Present Value	Ross: Ch. 5 (4 optional)	Sept 16 (4pm) Syllabus quiz
3	Sept 22	Present Value & NPV	Ross: 5 (cont)	Sept 23 (4pm): Individual Essay #1
4	Sept 29	Net Present Value	Ross 7.1, 7.5, 8.1	
5	Oct 6	Bonds (Debt)	Ross: 6.1 - 6.3	Oct 7 (4pm): Group project #1
6	Oct 13	Stocks (Equity)	Ross: 6.5	Oct 14 (4pm): Online HW #1
7	Oct 20	Mid Term Exam (no class)		
8	Oct 27	Portfolios	Ross; 10.1 – 10.4	
9	Nov 3	Options (Derivatives)	Ross: 23.1 - 23.4	Nov. 4 (4pm): Video Assignment (part 1)
	Nov 10	Reading Week (no class)		
10	Nov 17	Investment Funds	Readings posted	Nov 18 (4pm): Individual Essay #2
11	Nov 24	Banking	Readings posted	Nov 25 (4pm): Group project #2
12	Dec 1	Market Efficiency	Ross 14	Dec 2 (4pm): Video Assignment (part 2 - Reflection)
		Review		Monday, Dec 4 (4pm): Online HW #2

Final exam - TBA

Please note that the last day you can drop this course without academic penalty is November 16, 2022.

Other Useful Links

- [Become a volunteer note taker](#)
- [Accessibility Services Note Taking Support](#)
- [Credit / No-Credit in RSM courses](#)
- [Rotman Commerce Academic Support](#)

URL links for print

- Book an appointment with a writing or presentation coach: <http://uoft.me/writingcentres>
- Writing and Presentation Coaching academic support page: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/academic-support/writing-and-presentation-coaching/>
- Centre for Professional Skills Teamwork Resources page: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/teamwork-resources>
- Book an appointment with a Teamwork Mentor: <http://uoft.me/writingcentres>
- Request for Special Consideration Form: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/forms-requests-and-appeals/forms/>
- ACORN: <http://www.acorn.utoronto.ca/>
- Email Accessibility Services: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca
- Accessibility Services website: <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>
- University's Plagiarism Detection Tool FAQ: <https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>
- The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>
- Information Commons Help Desk: <http://help.ic.utoronto.ca/category/3/utmail.html>
- Become a volunteer note taker: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/program/volunteer-note-taking/>
- Accessibility Services Note Taking Support: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/service/note-taking-support/>
- Credit / No-Credit in RSM courses: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/degree-requirements/credit-no-credit-option/>
- Rotman Commerce Academic Support: <https://rotmancommerce.utoronto.ca/current-students/academic-support/>