FIN 230

FINANCIAL MARKETS AND INSTITUTIONS

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**REQUIRED TEXT:** Saunders, A. and Cornett, M. M. (2007) Financial Markets and Institutions: An Introduction to the Risk Management Approach. 4rd Edition, McGraw-Hill.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The study of financial markets and institutions is one of the most important areas for finance and business students. One can easily recognize the importance of the subject by reviewing the financial services in his daily life: checking accounts, credit cards, life, auto, home insurance policies, pension plans and shares in mutual funds. All these services are supplied and facilitated by a variety of financial institutions. The course has been designed to enable the students to understand the existing financial markets, instruments and institutions. In addition, it is also expected to expose them to the current developments taking place in financial markets.

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

Midterm 1 (27 February – 2014) 20 marks

Midterm 2 (10 April - 2014) 20 marks

Attendance, Participation , & Case Studies 10 marks

Weekly Report 10 marks

Final Exam 40 marks

Total 100 marks

**WEEKLY REPORT:**

Write down the weekly values of:

* Commodities: Oil and Gold.
* Currencies: Euro, Pound Sterling and Japanese Yen against the Dollar.
* Indexes: Tasi and Dow. (information can be found: http://finance.yahoo.com/ and [www.tadawul.com.sa](http://www.tadawul.com.sa) )

Write down important news that affected commodities, currencies or Indexes.

In week 11 you will hand in the report with a chart of the prices and an analysis.

**Topics:**

1. Introduction & Overview – Chapter 1
2. Money Markets – Chapter 5
3. Bond Markets – Chapter 6
4. Mortgage Markets – Chapter 7
5. Stock Markets – Chapter 8
6. Foreign Exchange Markets– Chapter 9
7. Commercial Banks Industry overview– Chapter 11
8. Regulations of Commercial Banks– Chapter 13
9. Securities Firms and Investment Banks - Chapter 16

**Instructor Expectations**

* Late assignments are not accepted.
* No makeup Midterms or quizzes are allowed.
* During an exam or a quiz, any cheating student will receive a grade of zero.
* Cell phones must be turned off during class. No form of texting is allowed.

Good luck