

FIN3703B – FINANCIAL MARKETS

AY2025/2026 Semester 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims to give students a general understanding of the different financial markets and institutions in the context of both the U.S. and Singapore. We will also discuss the financial assets traded in these markets, the financial services and instruments these institutions offer, and the mechanisms and characteristics influencing the value of these assets and instruments

PREREQUISITES

- FIN2704 or FIN2704X
- Basic understanding of Excel Spreadsheet functions and/or the use of a financial calculator.

INSTRUCTOR

Mr. Winston Low
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COURSE MATERIALS

- Recommended: YEO, Wee Yong (2019), Financial Institutions and Markets: with a Singapore Perspective, 1st edition, Pearson Education.
Link for e-Book: <https://shopee.sg/product/849371650/23276183412>
Online access via NUS Libraries: <https://linc.nus.edu.sg/record=b4701158>
- Supplementary: MISHKIN, Frederic S. and Stanley G. EAKINS (2018), Financial Markets and Institutions, 9th edition, Pearson Education.

Students are encouraged to follow financial and economic news covered in the Financial Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Economist, or the Business section of the Straits Times.

[NUS Libraries portal](#) provides access to paywalled articles in many newspapers.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Class Participation	10%
Canvas Quizzes	10%
Test 1	30%
Test 2	20%
Group News Sharing	5%
Group Project	25%
Total	100%

I. Class participation (10%)

Class participation, from clarifying questions to insightful comments, is greatly encouraged. Class participation also includes participation in Kahoot quizzes, in-class polls, etc.

Your active participation will transform this class into a great learning experience for everyone, including myself.

II. Canvas quizzes (10%)

There will be Chapter Review quizzes posted on Canvas each week as a means of reviewing the material covered for that topic.

Marks are accorded as long as students attempt each quiz on time.

III. Test 1 (30%) and Test 2 (20%)

A closed-book digital assessment will be held in **Week 6 and Week 12 (TBC)**

You may bring up to **TWO** calculators and **ONE double-sided A4-sized help sheet** for these tests. The examinable syllabus of each test will be finalized closer to each test date.

IV. Group News Sharing (5%)

Each group will be assigned a week (week 4, 7, 8, 9 or 10) to make a simple presentation to the class from a recent news article. The focus is on the group's ability to relate the event to class materials and to enhance their peers' interest in the topic.

V. Group Project (25%)

Each group will complete **ONE** project and submit a PPT/PDF presentation deck electronically through Canvas.

Please label it in the following format: "Group#_Topic#" with the correct group number and topic number. The deadline for this submission is **31st Oct 5pm**.

The project presentation is during class time on week 13.

Group members are expected to contribute equitably to the project and will receive the same grade for the assignment. Peer appraisals will be done to get feedback of each team member's contribution.

More details will be provided in class during the semester.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change):

Week	Lesson	Topic	Reference		Deliverable	
			Yeo 2019	M&E 2018		
1 (14/8)	Lecture 1 & Lecture 2	Introduction & Financial Institutions	1-2	1-2; 7-8 & 20-22		
2 (21/8)	Lecture 3	Banks I	3	9; 17-19; 23		
3 (28/8)	Lecture 4 & Lecture 5	Banks II & Interest Rates	3 & 4	9; 17-19; 23 & 3-5; 11-12		
4 (4/9)	Lecture 6	The Debt Market	4	3-5; 11-12	News sharing	
5 (11/9)	Review Week					
6 (18/9)	Test 1 (during class time)					Lectures 1-6
Recess Week						
7 (2/10)	Lecture 7	The Equity Market I	5	13	News sharing	
8 (9/10)	Lecture 8	The Equity Market II	5	13	News sharing	
9 (16/10)	Lecture 9	The FX Market	6	15-16	News sharing	
10 (23/10)	Lecture 10	The Derivatives Market	7	24	News sharing	
11 (30/10)	Review Week					Project due 31/10@5pm
12 (6/11)	Test 2 (during class time)					Lectures 7-10
13 (13/11)	Group Project Presentations					

Academic Honesty & Plagiarism

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is “the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own” (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism. Students should adopt this rule – You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard. In case of any doubts, you should consult your instructor.

Additional guidance is available at:

<https://nus.edu.sg/campusconduct/>

Statements and E-Resources on Plagiarism:

<https://www.nus.edu.sg/celc/statements-and-e-resources-on-plagiarism/>

Academic Integrity Essentials:

<https://libguides.nus.edu.sg/new2nus/acadintegrity>