

FIN3703B – FINANCIAL MARKETS
AY2026/2027 Semester 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course seeks 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. We provide an assessment of the structure and efficiency of these markets and introduce the applications and implications of digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI) on financial markets and institutions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course students should be able to:

- Explain the roles and functions of major financial markets and institutions in the context of mainly the U.S. and Singapore.
- Understand the characteristics and uses of major financial assets and instruments.
- Analyse how financial institutions manage risks associated with lending, trading, liquidity, and market operations.
- Discuss the regulatory, ethical, and systemic implications of deploying AI in financial markets, financial intermediation, and trading activities

PREREQUISITES

- FIN2704 or FIN2704X

INSTRUCTOR

Mr. Winston Low (winstonlow@nus.edu.sg)

Office: BIZ2 #02-17

COURSE MATERIALS

- Recommended Text: 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 Text: 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	12%
Canvas Quizzes	10%
Test 1	30%
Test 2	20%
Group Project	28%
Total	100%

I. Class participation (12%)

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 7 and Week 12 during the regular lesson time (refer to the tentative schedule below).**

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 Project (28%)

Each group will submit **ONE** PPT/PDF presentation deck and **TWO** peer reviews electronically through Canvas.

The project presentations are spread out from Weeks 5 to 11 (refer to schedule below).

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.

SCHEDULE (Subject to Change):

Week	Lesson	Topic	Reference		Deliverable
			Yeo 2019	M&E 2018	
1 (10/8)	No Class – Public Holiday				
2 (17/8)	Lecture 1 & Lecture 2	Introduction & Financial Institutions	1-2	1-2; 7-8; 20-22	
3 (24/8)	Lecture 3	Banks I	3	9; 17-19; 23	
4 (31/8)	Lecture 4	Banks II	3	9; 17-19; 23	
5 (7/9)	Lecture 5	Interest Rates	4	3-5; 11-12	Group Project
6 (14/9)	Lecture 6	The Debt Market	4	3-5; 11-12	Group Project
Recess Week (19 Sep – 27 Sep)					
7 (28/9)	Test 1 (during class time)				Lectures 1-6
8 (5/10)	Lecture 7	The Equity Market I	5	13	
9 (12/10)	Lecture 8	The Equity Market II	5	13	Group Project
10 (19/10)	Lecture 9	The FX Market	6	15-16	Group Project
11 (26/10)	Lecture 10	The Derivatives Market	7	24	Group Project
12 (2/11)	Test 2 (during class time)				Lectures 7-10
13 (9/11)	No Class – Public Holiday				

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>