



Introduction to Investments

Course Syllabus

Welcome to **FC250x**

By the time you complete this course, you will become familiar with the general structure of primary and secondary equity markets from a domestic and international perspective. Beginning with introductory finance notions of risk and return, we examine qualitative concepts such as market efficiency and valuation. These tools should enable you to build valuation models for common stocks. Through this process, you will also learn how professional financial analysts should evaluate companies. The course is suitable for students seeking eventual employment with a brokerage company, investment company or financial services company with responsibilities in evaluating and selecting equity securities for investment portfolios.

Professor Badrinath is currently the Chairperson of the Centre for Capital Markets and Risk Management at IIM-Bangalore. He is on leave from San Diego State where he teaches in the Investments and Risk Management areas. His Ph.D is in Finance from the Krannert Graduate School of Management, Purdue University. He has a PGDM in Finance from IIM-B, and an MA from St. Stephen's College. His research has appeared in leading academic publications such as the Journal of Finance, The Journal of Financial Economics, The Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Risk and Insurance, the Journal of Banking and Finance and the Journal of Business. Collectively, these papers have been cited several hundred times. Additionally some of his research has been funded by the Fulbright Foundation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Financial Executives Research Foundation. At Rutgers, he received college wide and University-wide teaching awards. At San Diego, he has received awards for Outstanding faculty and for Outstanding faculty contributions to the College of Business. He has served as the faculty advisor to the Aztec Equity Fund -- a student managed equity portfolio. He has also served as a consultant in cases involving utility rate setting and in anti-takeover legislation.



COURSE AGENDA

Week	Section Name	Topics Covered	Start Date	Recommended Completion Date
0	INTRODUCTION TO INVESTMENTS	OVERVIEW FOR THE COURSE MESSAGE FROM THE INSTRUCTURE APPROACH TO THE COURSE	26/04/2016	03/05/2016
1	INTRODUCING MARKETS, PARTICIPANTS AND PERFORMANCE	REAL VERSUS FINANCIAL ASSETS HISTORY OF STOCK MARKETS, PLAYERS, FUNDS FINANCIAL ANALYSTS ROLE FOR RETAIL INVESTORS RATES OF RETURN – REVIEW AND MORE	26/04/2016	03/05/2016
2	MARKET STRUCTURE	MEASURING EXPECTED RETURNS, DISCUSSING RISK TYING RISK AND RETURNS TO PRICING ASSETS MARKET INDEXES PRIMARY MARKETS TYPES OF MARKETS TYPES OF ORDERS	03/05/2016	10/05/2016

3	TRADING LOCATIONS AND PRACTICES	STOCK EXCHANGES TECHNOLOGY IN TRADING HOW MARGIN WORKS ADVANCED MARGIN CONSIDERATIONS SHORT SELLING – BASICS SHORT SELLING – GAMES AND STRATEGIES SETTING THE VALUATION STAGE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS – MEASUREMENT ISSUES ECONOMIC ANALYSIS – POLICY ISSUES	10/05/2016	17/05/2016
4	BASICS OF VALUATION	BUSINESS CYCLES AND INDICATORS INDUSTRY AND COMPANY ANALYSIS APPROACHES TO EQUITY VALUATION INTRODUCING TECHNICAL ANALYSIS	17/05/2016	24/05/2016
5	FUNDAMENTAL VALUATION ANALYSIS	INTRODUCING FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS – NOTIONS OF VALUE COMPARABLES VALUATION DISCOUNTED CASH FLOW VALUATION: OVERVIEW DCF BUILDING BLOCKS MULTI-STAGE DCF MODELS SUSTAINABLE GROWTH EFFICIENT MARKETS – THEORY EFFICIENT MARKETS – EVIDENCE	24/05/2016	05/06/2016



TIME COMMITMENT

Course Length

- 5 Weeks
- Each week is released across the globe on *Tuesday at 03:30 h UTC*.

Weekly Commitment

5 hours per week. This includes the time spent in going through the course materials and taking up the assessments.



GRADING & CERTIFICATION

Grading Scheme

You will be evaluated continuously through-out the course. There are self-assessment questions provided along with most topics in each week. However, these are not graded, and are only for your practice.

At the end of each week's content, there will be an evaluation, provided as a separate section and this will be graded.

The table below tells you the percentage weightage given to each topic (or week).

Week	Section Name	Weightage (%)
0	INTRODUCTION TO INVESTMENTS	0
1	INTRODUCING MARKETS, PARTICIPANTS AND PERFORMANCE	20
2	MARKET STRUCTURE	20
3	TRADING LOCATIONS AND PRACTICES	20
4	BASICS OF VALUATION	20
5	FUNDAMENTAL VALUATION ANALYSIS	20
TOTAL		100


You will be deemed pass in the course, if you obtain 50 % overall.

Click the [Introduction to Investments](#) course enrolment page to pursue a verified certificate.



ASSESSMENTS

Graded Assessments Instructions

Sub-sections that include graded assessments will have a **Timer** icon  along with the assessment due date.

Please ensure the following:

- Click the **Save** button to save your answer. These answers will not be graded at this stage.
- Click the **Check** button at the end of every question to record your choice and get your answer graded.

Note:

- Please check the number of attempts specified for each assessment.



DISCUSSION

All registered participants of a MOOC on edX will have access to a course-specific online discussion forum. Participation in such forums is encouraged because it contributes significantly in the form of peer learning. Discussion forums are commonly used in online courses to provide learners an opportunity to reflect on, discuss and share knowledge gained from the online content. Participation in these forums is strongly encouraged by the course staff.

Download the [IIMBX Discussion Forum Guidelines](#) PDF for more information.

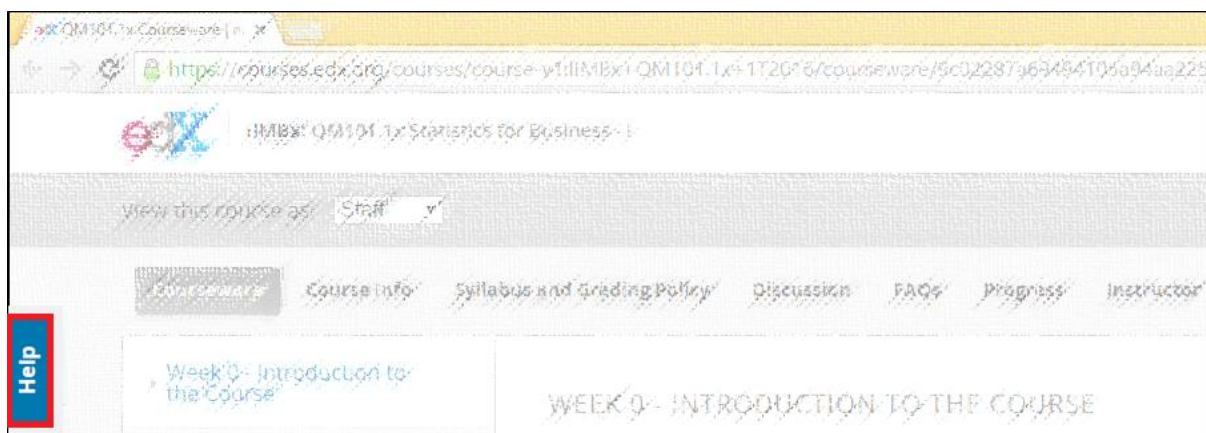


GETTING HELP

For course-related questions, use the discussion forums.

For general edX-related queries, visit [Student FAQs](#) on the edX website.

For any technical issues, use the **Help** button on edX course page (screenshot attached below).





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