GLOBAL CAPITAL MARKETS

Course Synopsis

The goals of this course are (1) to expand students' awareness and understanding of the financial markets, products offered and the interplay of macroeconomics on asset market movements and valuation; (2) give students a better understanding of the positions available and the functions of those positions within the investment banking and financial services fields; and (3) give students the opportunity to meet and interact with professionals who are working in the field. Students will be required to keep up to date on the current financial news, markets and the global economy.

We will explore the financial markets and the role of investment banks as intermediaries. The class will focus on the impact of current events on financial markets within various divisions and functions of an investment bank: sales and trading, corporate finance, research and wealth management.

Assignments and Grading

The class will be graded on the basis of three papers (10%, 10% and 25%), one final exam (25%), daily preparation/market journals (15%) and class participation (15%)

Required Reading

Students will be required to read either the Wall Street Journal or the Financial Times on a daily basis. The Finance Journal will require additional information from Bloomberg.

Optional Reading (Books)


“Too Big to Fail”, Andrew Sorkin, Viking Press 2009


“The Quants”, Scott Patterson, Random House 2010

Course Outline

Section 1: Introduction to Global Capital Markets

Topics:
- The Basics of Raising Capital
- The Market Players
- Monetary and Fiscal Policy
- How Decisions are Made
- Inside the Trading Room
- Options

Paper 1 (Due on July 10)

Section 2: The Markets in Depth

Topics:
- Market Lingo
- Inside Equities
- Inside Fixed Income
- Inside FX
- Inside Commodities

Paper 2 (Due on July 17)

Section 3: The Future of the Markets

Topics:
- Technology and the Markets
- Regulation
- New Products: Bitcoin

Paper 3 and Finance Journal (Due on July 24)

Paper Topics will be assigned during the class and will be determined by the most recent events in the Global Capital Markets. The first two papers will be no more than two pages and the third paper will be no more than three pages (doubled spaced).