



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND OFFICE ADMINISTRATION COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2025

BA2040 (EC): Investment Fundamentals – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR: Amy Rawluk, CPA, MBA
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Monday 11:30am – 1:00pm and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30am or
OFFICE HOURS: email

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the fundamental investment concepts of risk and return, portfolio diversification, asset allocation, portfolio evaluation, ratio analysis, and innovative types of investment products available in the marketplace.

PREREQUISITE(S):

BA1050 and BA1110

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Fundamentals of Investments: Valuation and Management 10th Edition (2024).
McGraw Hill LLC. Jordan, Miller Jr., and Dolvin.



All students must have access to Connect. You must have an access code in order to gain access to the online resources. McGraw-Hill Connect™ is a web-based assignment and assessment platform that gives students the means to better connect with their coursework, and with the important concepts that they will need to know for success now and in the future. If you have purchased a used book, you will have to purchase an access code separately. Instructions to do this are available in the Registration Module.

Students are responsible for all fees associated with ProctorU, a live proctoring service for online exams. Fees are paid when you schedule your exams through ProctorU.

Pricing per exam is as follows:

60 minutes or less - \$16 USD

61-120 minutes - \$25 USD

121 - 180 minutes - \$31 USD

For device software and network requirements, please see NWP's minimum device requirements at [doc.php\(nwpolytech.ca\)](http://doc.php(nwpolytech.ca)).

DELIVERY MODE:

Asynchronous (online) - This type of course will be delivered online through NWP's learning management system. There are no set class times and students attend remotely and asynchronously.

This is a paced self-study course and is delivered entirely online using MyClass (D2L) and Connect. You will be evaluated several times throughout the course so that you can assess how you are doing as you work through the material. The SmartBooks, quizzes, and exams have specific due dates to help you finish the course on time. However, you may complete and submit these evaluations before their due dates.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- The student will be able to calculate expected returns and variances for a security.
- The student will be able to calculate expected returns and variances for a portfolio.
- The student will understand the importance of portfolio diversification and the importance of asset allocation.
- The student will understand the difference between expected and unexpected returns.
- The student will understand the difference between systematic risk and unsystematic risk.
- The student will understand the security market line and the capital asset pricing model.
- The student will be able to calculate the best-known portfolio evaluation measures.
- The student will be able to calculate a Sharpe-optimal portfolio.
- The student will understand the basics of futures markets and how to obtain price quotes for futures contracts.



- The student will understand the risks involved in futures market speculation.
- The student will understand the basics of option contracts and how to obtain price quotes.
- The student will be able to price options using the one-period and two-period binomial models.
- The student will be able to price options using the Black-Scholes model.
- The student will understand the basic types of corporate bonds.
- The student will be able to explain how callable and convertible bonds function.
- The student will understand the process of top-down analysis.
- The student will be able to explain the importance of the required rate of return.
- The student will be able to explain the relationship of monetary and fiscal policies to economic activity.
- The student will be able to identify industry sensitivity to business cycles.
- The student will be able to evaluate future industry prospects by analyzing the business cycle.
- The student will be able to define fundamental analysis at the company level.
- The student will be able to describe the importance of EPS forecasts.
- The student will be able to estimate the P/E ratio of a company.
- The student will be able to use the beta coefficient to estimate the risk of a stock.
- The student will be able to define options and discuss why they are used.
- The student will be able to describe how options work and give some basic strategies.
- The student will be able to describe the structure of futures markets.
- The student will be able to describe the steps involved in the portfolio management process.
- The student will be able to assess related issues such as asset allocation.
- The student will be able to use measures of return and risk to evaluate portfolio performance.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page [Transfer Alberta](#)

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

Stock Market Game	15%
Assignments	12%
Quizzes	8%
Midterm Exam (Ch. 11-14)	27%
Final Exam (cumulative)	38%

- ✓ In order to receive credit for BA2040, you must achieve 50% on the final examination and a course composite grade of at least D (50%). You are strongly encouraged to complete all assignments and exams—you will receive a zero (0) for any missed assignment or exam.

GRADING CRITERIA

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

Week Beginning	Chapters Covered	Additional Information
September 3 (Wed)	Introduction / Ch. 11	<i>Familiarize yourself with Connect and myClass and begin learning course materials</i>
September 8	Chapter 11	
September 15	Chapter 12	
September 22	Chapter 12	<i>Quiz #1 due Sept 26</i>
September 29	Chapter 13	
October 6	Chapter 13/ Chapter 14	
October 13	Chapter 14	<i>Quiz #2 due Oct 17</i>
October 20	Midterm Exam – 27%	Chapters 11-14
October 20	Chapter 15	
October 27	Chapter 15/ Chapter 16	
November 3	Chapter 16	<i>Quiz #3 due Nov 7</i>
November 10	Fall Break – No Classes	
November 17	Chapter 19	
November 24	Chapter 19/ Chapter 18	
December 1	Chapter 18	
December 8	Chapter 20	<i>Quiz #4 due Dec 11</i>
December 13 – 20	Final Exam – 38%	Cumulative

- ✓ An additional detailed schedule will be provided in myClass. It is your responsibility to review the deadlines in the detailed schedule as well as in Connect.
- ✓ The above schedule may be revised at the discretion of the instructor based on class requirements.
- ✓ **The midterm exam for this course is scheduled for October 20. Do not plan any activities during this time.**
- ✓ **The final examination will be scheduled by the registrar's office. Do not plan any activities during examination week.**



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Student Conduct

As a student, it is your responsibility to read, understand, and comply with the college's academic policies, which are reviewed regularly, updated and posted on the polytechnic website. If you have any questions regarding these policies, please contact Student Services.

Time Management

The expectation for this course is that students read/review the text material prior to class; see white text pages for concepts/theory. Adopting and adhering to effective learning habits in this course will likely take up a great deal of time so plan your schedule accordingly. It is difficult to catch up once a student falls behind in readings and exercises.

Email correspondence to your instructor must be sent from your NWP student email account. Emails should be professionally formatted and include a subject, correct spelling and grammar, and a reference to course material and/or textbook pages, etc.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available: [Student Rights and Responsibility Policy](#)

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page. [Policies Directory | Northwestern Polytechnic](#)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Quizzes

- Students will be allowed two attempts at each quiz.
- The highest grade on any quiz attempt is recorded on the dashboard.
- All quizzes must be completed before the expiration of the pre-set due date or the student will receive a mark of zero (0) for any missed labs.
- Once the quiz has been started, you must complete the entire quiz within the 60-minute time limit. Logging off or losing the internet connection during the quiz will result in a grade based only on the proportion of the exam that has been completed. It is imperative that the student has a reliable internet connection when attempting an exam.

Final Exam

- 2 hours will be given for the final exam to be written.
- The final exam will be cumulative and will account for 38% of the final grade.
- The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during exam week(s).
Do not plan any activities during this time.
- Approved calculators and approved translation devices are the only electronic devices allowed during the final examination. No programmable calculators will be allowed. Textbooks or notes will not be allowed in the examination area. Cell phone calculators may not be used in examinations.
- **In order to receive credit for BA2040, you must achieve 50% on the final examination and a course composite grade of at least D (50%). You are strongly encouraged to complete all assignments and exams—you will receive a zero (0) for any missed assignment or exam.**

Other

- Rewrites/rescheduled exams will not be given. If there is an excusable absence, the weighting of the missed exam will be added to the final exam weighting. If the absence is not excusable, a grade of 0% will be given.
- In order to get the most out of class regular attendance and active participation are encouraged.
- The student is responsible for any missed content due to missing a class (excused or unexcused).
- Photographing and/or recording course content is strictly prohibited.

USING PROCTORU:

This course uses ProctorU Live for online exams. To utilize this service, you are required to complete the following steps:

- Create a ProctorU account by clicking the ProctorU link in the course.
- Download and install the Guardian Web Browser, Google Chrome, and the ProctorU extension.
- Schedule each exam at least 3 days (72 hours) in advance. If you miss this deadline, you cannot take the exam.
- Pay for the proctoring service. The fees are exclusively your responsibility and in no event shall be the responsibility of Northwestern Polytechnic.

For more detailed instructions [click here](#), and for video instructions [click here](#).

Before each exam, you must complete a room scan with your web camera, during which you will show your surroundings to a live proctor.

The invigilator will ask to view (but not collect or store) your student identification to verify your identity and will remotely access your computer to unlock the exam. When monitoring your actions via video streaming, the invigilator may possibly record your actions if they suspect academic integrity behavioural issues. You will be verbally notified if/when recording begins.

The collection of and access to the personal information listed above is permitted under subsection 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, RSA 2000, c F-25, which states, "No personal information may be collected by or for a public body unless that information relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the public body." In addition, subsection 39(4) states, "A public body may use personal information only to the extent necessary to enable the public body to carry out its purpose in a reasonable manner."

Records Retention: Any video records of you created by ProctorU will be kept by ProctorU for a maximum of 7 days in order to make a decision about any possible academic integrity infraction, after which time it shall be permanently deleted. All other personal information collected and stored by ProctorU within your profile account will be permanently deleted if the account has not been used after one year.

Consent to Store Personal Information Outside Canada

ProctorU is an American company. An agreement is in place between ProctorU and Northwestern Polytechnic by which ProctorU will take reasonable steps to protect your personal information from unauthorized access and disclosure. Information about how ProctorU protects your privacy can be found in their [Privacy Policy](#).

By using the ProctorU service via Northwestern Polytechnic, you consent to the storage of and access to your personal information outside of Canada.

This consent is in effect from the day you register with ProctorU and expires one year after completion of your exam.

Additional privacy and liability information regarding the use of ProctorU is available on the NWP website.