

# ECON 173A – SYLLABUS (WINTER 2009)

## Foster, UCSD, February 27, 2009

Teaching Staff and Consultation Hours			
Name/Position	Times	Room	Contact Info
Carroll B. Foster (PhD/Instructor)	MWF 9 <sup>30</sup> –10 <sup>30</sup> am	ECON 110C	(858) 534-7133 cfoster@ucsd.edu
Sarah Schroeder	W, 3-4 pm	SEQ 231	slschroe@ucsd.edu
Alex Sawyer	Th, 9-10 am	SEQ 208	aivanov@ucsd.edu
Alberto Rossi	M, 9-10 am	ECON 117	agrossi@ucsd.edu

### Course Information

- Course: “Financial Markets” (641620) – MWF, 8-9 am, SOLÍS 107
- Problem/discussion section: M, 6-7 pm, PETERSON 110
- Description: Intro to investment theory; financial markets; risk and return; capital asset and arbitrage pricing models; efficient markets; bond yields; term structure of interest rates.
- Prerequisite: Ec 100A or 170A; Ec 120B
- Course webpage: <http://webct.ucsd.edu>. This course will be podcast.

### Books and Materials

- Required: Bodie/Kane/Marcus, *Investments* (8<sup>th</sup> ed.), and *Solutions Manual*, 2009. [B’ store]
- Helpful: Burton Malkiel, *A Random Walk Down Wall Street*, Norton, 1999.
- A good read: J. K. Galbraith, *A Tenured Professor*, Mariner Books, 1990.

### Calendar

- Drop w/o “W” thru F, 30 JAN; drop w/o “F” thru F, 6 MAR.
- Holidays: M, 19 JAN (MLK); M, 16 FEB (Presidents’ Day)
- Midterm: Wednesday, 11 FEB, in class.
- Final: Monday, 16 MAR, 8-11 am, SOLÍS 107 or \_\_\_\_\_.

Curve	
Gr	Points
A±	81-99%
B±	73-80%
C±	56-72%
D	50-55%
F	00-49%

### Examinations and Grading

Midterm = 100 points; cumulative final = 250. Exams are open book/notes. No rescheduled or make-up exams.<sup>1</sup> Cheating = 0 on assignment.

Course Outline and Reading List -- BKM 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>		
Top 1	INTRO TO FINANCE & INVESTING	Ch. 1, 3
Top 2	TIME VALUE OF MONEY & PERSONAL FINANCE	Notes and Discussion
Top 3	FINANCIAL SECURITIES	Ch. 2, 4
Top 4	RISK & RETURN	Ch. 5, §6.1
Top 5	MODERN PORTFOLIO THEORY	Ch. 6 - 7, §9.1
Top 6	ASSET PRICING MODELS	Ch. 8 - 10
Top 7	EFFICIENT MARKETS HYPOTHESIS	Ch. 11 - 13
Top 8	BONDS & INTEREST RATES	Ch. 14 - 16

<sup>1</sup> Please note that you MUST take the final with the rest of the class on schedule during finals week.