TEACHING GUIDE - 2026-2027

Financial Markets & Institutions

UGRA_003933

Departments	Department of Economics, Finance & Accounting
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	2
Teacher responsible	Gabriela Ariadna Dumitrescu - ariadna.dumitrescu@esade.edu

Course Goals

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

- Identify the basic characteristics of the range of financial instruments.
- Evaluate the range of financial instruments.
- Apply concepts relevant to financial markets and financial institutions, such as the flow of funds, levels of interest rates and interest rate differentials, to current events or topical issues.
- Explain the mechanics and regulation of financial securities exchanges
- Identify and explain how symmetric versus asymmetric information affects the structure and operation of the financial system.
- Analyze and research current issues and challenges in the financial markets and understand how financial markets and institutions affect or are affected by the global and local communities.

Previous knowledge

Basic course in Financial Economics

Prerequisits

Basic course in Financial Economics

Teaching methodology

The pedagogical approach will be based on active learning, flipped-learning and teamwork. The appropriate teaching method will be chosen depending on the learning objectives of each class session. During class, students will be discussing case studies, listening to lectures, watching and discussing videos, use tutorials, exercises, trading simulation and personal coaching to lead students towards becoming a confident professional equipped with experience and the skill set needed in modern business.

All students are expected to prepare ahead of class. They should read the required articles, contribute their ideas and to their teams, and come well prepared for class debate.

Student attendance in class is mandatory. If you are taken ill, or experience an unforeseen emergency, please advise your teammates and your professor as soon as possible. Catching up with the rest of your team will be your

responsibility.

Description

Short description

Financial markets play an important role in the efficient functioning of a market economy. Financial institutions are any establishments that make these markets function efficiently. This course gives a basic introduction to the main features of financial markets and institutions.

Topics cover financial markets organization, related financial institutions and assets that are traded on these markets, including money, bond, equity and derivative markets. We also analyze the relationships among financial institutions, monetary policy and the stability of the economy as a whole. Financial Markets and Institutions will provide a foundation for your further study of Finance, as well as an essential component of your managerial education about the world in which business operates.

This course explores the function, pricing, and institutional structures of financial markets. Our intent is to understand the differences between these instruments and the institutions that operate in today's financial markets. Understanding the economic foundations of these intermediaries, in addition to the institutional instruments, and developing your analytical and research skills, will prepare you not only for today's job market, but will also help to increase your educational flexibility in adapting to future changes.5

Bibliography

Bodie Z., Kane A., and A. Marcus, Investments, McGraw-Hill, 2011 (Book)
Fabozzi F., Modigliani F. and F. Jones, Foundations of Financial Markets and Institutions, Pearson, 2010 (Book)

Activities

Written and/or oral exams

Role-play exercises and simulations

Teamwork

Presentations

Essays

Case study analyses

Content

#	Topic
1	Overview of the financial system and financial institutions
2	Money Markets, Capital Markets, Derivative Markets
3	Financial Crises and Regulation
4	Trading Strategies
5	ESG Investing
6	New Trends in Finance • Fintech • Alternative Investing • Mutual Funds • Exchange Traded Funds

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Group project	Home Assignment	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%
Group project	Presentation of a research topic	Retake and ordinary round	20.00%
Individual or team exercises	Engagement and trading activities	Retake and ordinary round	25.00%
Written and/or oral exams	Final Exam	Retake and ordinary round	35.00%

PROGRAMS

- BBA20-Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Undergraduates: Business)
  - BBA20 Year 4 (Optative)
  - BBA20 Year 3 (Optative)
- BBA23-Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Undergraduates: Business)
  - BBA23 Year 3 (Optative)
  - BBA23 Year 4 (Optative)
- BBA25-Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) (Undergraduates: Business)
  - BBA25 Year 1 (Optative)
  - BBA25 Year 3 (Optative)
- DBAI23-Double Degree in Business Administration and Artificial Intelligence for Business (Undergraduates: Business)
  - DBAI23 Year 4 (Optative)
- GBD20-Double Degree in Business Administration and Law (Undergraduates: Law)
  - GBD20 Year 4 (Optative)
  - GBD20 Year 2 (Optative)
  - GBD20 Year 5 (Optative)
  - GBD20 Year 3 (Optative)
- GBD23-Double Degree in Business Administration and Law (Undergraduates: Law)
  - GBD23 Year 4 (Optative)
  - GBD23 Year 5 (Optative)
  - GBD23 Year 3 (Optative)