

Course Title	:	Selective Topics in Banking and Finance
Coordinators	:	Prof. Xiangdong Wei and Dr. Kent Lai
Course Code	:	IBF612
No. of Credits/Semester	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Lectures and Seminars
Teaching Hours	:	39 hours
Category in Prog.	:	MIBF Elective
Pre-requisite	:	None

Brief Course Description:

This course will provide an overall understanding of the different aspects of the capital markets through selective seminars and lectures. Specifically, it will cover the topics in stock market, private equity funds, hedge funds, banking sector, securitization and currency and money market. Upon the completion of this course, students will develop a deep understanding and strong analytical skills of the different dimensions and functions of the capital markets.

Indicative Contents:

1. Monetary Policy and Linked Exchange Rate System in Hong Kong (Prof. WEI Xiangdong, 5 & 12 Sept.)
2. Basel I and II Capital Accords (Dr. Kent Lai, 19 Sept. & 3 Oct.)
3. Future of Renminbi (Dr. PENG Wensheng, Chief Economist, Barclays Bank, 27 Sept.)
4. Ethical Issues in the Financial Service Industry (Prof. Robin Snell, 10 Oct.)
5. Operations and Training of Investment Bank (17 & 24 Oct., tentative)
6. Venture Capital (1 Nov., tentative)
7. Islamic Finance (8 Nov., tentative)
8. Insurance Markets in Greater China (15 Nov. tentative)
9. TBA
10. Part I. Current Banking Environment in the US;
Part II. Establishing and Operating “de novo” Bank in California (Mr. Robert Oehler, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Alliance Bank, 28 Nov.)

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students shall be able to

1. discuss the pros and cons of the monetary policy and linked exchange rate system in Hong Kong;
2. describe the Basel I and Basel II Capital Accords and their impacts on commercial banks;
3. observe ethical practices in the finance industry
4. analyze the future of Renminbi
5. depict the role of venture capital
6. explain the operations of investment bank
7. beware of and respond to the special concerns in Islamic finance
8. take advantage of the opportunities in the insurance markets in greater China

Teaching Method:

Lectures and Seminars will be used to discuss the theories and their relevant practical issues. Deeper understanding of the concepts and analytical skills will be developed through supplementary readings, classroom discussions, exercises and term research papers. Distinguished speakers who have senior experiences from leading international investment banks, commercial banks, mutual funds, insurance company and so on will be invited to speak on their expertise.

Measure of Learning Outcomes:

Quizzes will be given to test the comprehension of basic concepts and factual information. Two research papers will be used to gauge the students' integration and application of knowledge.

Assessment:

Quizzes and continuous assessment: 50%

Research Papers: 50%

Recommended/Supplementary Readings:

TBC