

# Introduction to Investments

FIN - 2100 001

## Course Description

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An introductory course to the subject of investments. Topics include: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, ETFs, options, futures, real estate, collectibles & commodities. Covers the fundamentals of compound interest, securities markets, risk & return, market efficiency, asset allocation, portfolio management & behavioral finance. It is recommended students complete FIN 1050 prior to taking this course.

Semester: Fall

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

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- Explain how securities markets work.
- Demonstrate understanding of the various investment vehicles.
- Research and analyze the value of a financial security.
- Collaborate in making investment recommendations.
- Communicate using appropriate investing terminology.
- Evaluate the risk profile of different asset classes and individual securities.
- Identify how behavioral biases affect investment decision-making.
- Implement portfolio management concepts.

## College Wide Student Learning Outcomes

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- Students think critically.

- Students communicate effectively.
- Students develop quantitative literacies necessary for their chosen field of study.
- Students develop civic literacy & the capacity to be community-engaged learners who act in mutually beneficial ways with community partners.
- Students develop the knowledge & skills to work with others in a professional & constructive manner.
- Students develop information literacy.
- Students express themselves creatively.
- Students develop computer literacy.

## Course Prerequisites

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There are no prerequisites for **Introduction to Investments - Fin 2100**.

## Engagement Plan

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I will respond to email within 24 hours.

I will offer feedback on major assignments within three (3) days.

The best way to contact me is through the Canvas Inbox or at [joe.howell@slcc.edu](mailto:joe.howell@slcc.edu).

## Required Text or Materials

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**Title: No Textbook required for this course. Use the Weekly Notes.**

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at [ads@slcc.edu](mailto:ads@slcc.edu).

## Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

Coursework	Points	Located	Details		
Exam 1	100 points	Under <i>Quizzes</i> or <i>Assignments</i> tab.	Students have <u>unlimited</u> time during the 5-day exam period to complete their exams & double-check all answers. Students may use the <i>Weekly Notes</i> & information on the course website during the exams.	Exam 1 Opens Friday, 10/10 at 12 noon.	Exam 1 Closes Wednesday, 10/15 at 12 noon.
Exam 2	100 points	Under <i>Quizzes</i> or <i>Assignments</i> tab.		Exam 2 Opens Friday, 11/14 at 12 noon.	Exam 2 Closes Wednesday, 11/19 at 12 noon.
Exam 3	100 points	Under <i>Quizzes</i> or <i>Assignments</i> tab.		Exam 3 Opens Friday, 12/12 at 12 noon.	Exam 3 Closes Wednesday, 12/17 at 12 noon.
Career Assignment	75 points	Under <i>Assignments</i> tab.	Review instructions & information on the course website. Provide thorough responses & meet all minimum requirements for the length of your responses.		Submission Deadline is Thursday, December 11 at 11:30 PM.
Behavioral Finance Assignment	75 points	Under <i>Assignments</i> tab.	Review instructions & information on the course website. Provide thorough responses & meet all minimum requirements for the length of your responses.		Submission Deadline is Thursday, December 11 at 11:30 PM.
Investment Assignment	75 points	Under <i>Assignments</i> tab.	Review instructions & information on the course website. There is no submission required for this assignment as students work throughout the semester buying/selling stocks.		Deadline is Thursday, December 11 at 11:30 PM.
<b>Total Points Possible</b>	<b>525 points</b>				

## EXAMS

Students will take three (3) unit exams which will cover the material from class lectures & other learning activities.

All exams are taken online & are located on the course website under the *Quizzes* or *Assignments* tab. You may use your notes & the *Weekly Notes* during the exams. You will have access to your exam only once. If you open the exam and do not finish, it will count as zero on your grade. If there is a system problem while you are taking an assessment, promptly email me through the Canvas Inbox or at [joe.howell@slcc.edu](mailto:joe.howell@slcc.edu).

If you miss one of the three (3) unit exams, you will have the option of replacing your one missed unit exam by taking the comprehensive final exam. I strongly recommend

students avoid missing a unit exam because taking the comprehensive final exam is very difficult. Students who need to take the comprehensive final exam will need to give me written notice one week prior to the scheduled final exams.

If an emergency arises, please email the instructor or leave a voicemail message (801.957.4396) for possible alternatives.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Completing all three (3) assignments is an opportunity to earn points. Directions for completing & submitting all assignments are located on the course website under the Assignments tab. If you have any questions about the assignments, email me through the Canvas Inbox or at [joe.howell@slcc.edu](mailto:joe.howell@slcc.edu).

## Assignment Schedule

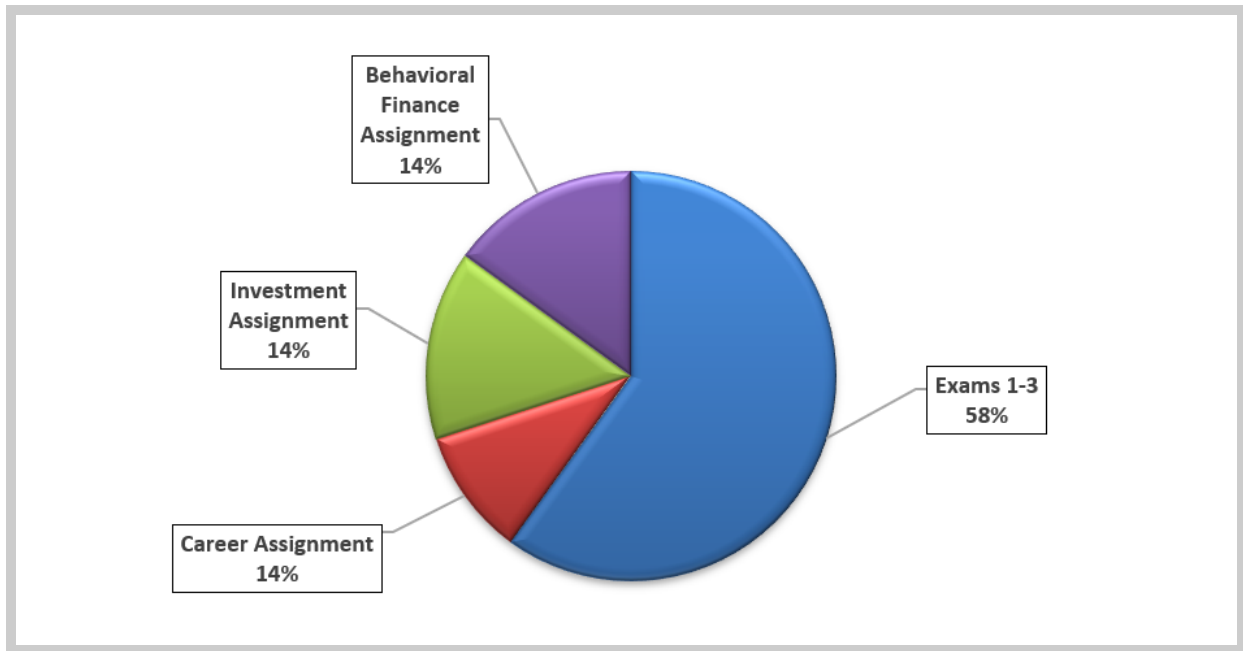
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Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
10/15/25	<a href="#">Exam 1</a>	Quiz	100
11/19/25	<a href="#">Exam 2</a>	Quiz	100
12/11/25	<a href="#">Behavioral Finance Assignment</a>	Assignment	75
12/11/25	<a href="#">Career Assignment</a>	Assignment	75
12/11/25	<a href="#">Investment Assignment</a>	Assignment	75
12/17/25	<a href="#">Exam 3</a>	Quiz	100

## Grading Scale

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## **POINTS DISTRIBUTION**



## **GRADING**

In accordance with the Grades & Reports Section in the SLCC General Catalog, exams, assignments & final grades are generally distributed according to the following percentages:

100 - 95%	=	A	76 - 73%	=	C
94 - 90%	=	A-	72 - 70%	=	C-
89 - 87%	=	B+	69 - 67%	=	D+
86 - 83%	=	B	66 - 63%	=	D
82 - 80%	=	B-	62 - 60%	=	D-
79 - 77%	=	C+	59% or less	=	E

An average grade is a C. Each course is a new opportunity for you to demonstrate how well you have learned. Grades in other courses, schools or colleges etc. may not be relevant to this course's final outcome. A & B grades are earned by genuine above-average performance. Final grades will be available after the end of the semester in your My SLCC account.

Any student who has questions about his/her past performance &/or final grade in this class must communicate with the instructor no later than 30 calendar days following the

end of relevant semester. After the 30 calendar-day time period has passed, the student's final grade, as posted, will not be changed.

## How to Navigate to Canvas

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## Online Tutoring

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Students at SLCC have access to online tutoring through Canvas. From your Canvas course click Online Tutoring in the course navigation and follow the steps to set up an appointment. If this is your first time using the Online Tutoring we recommend you click "Take a Tour" to familiarize yourself with the service.

Note that students only receive 480 minutes of tutoring time each semester. After that we encourage you to use the resources found through this link:

<https://www.slcc.edu/tutoring/index.aspx>

If you have any additional questions reach out to [elarningsupport@slcc.edu](mailto:elarningsupport@slcc.edu).

## Institutional Policies

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As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page.

## Learning Support and Tutoring Services

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We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or

want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

## [Advising and Counseling Support Services](#)

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At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

## [Student Academic Calendar](#)

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As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)

## [Additional Policies](#)

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### **STANDARDS & EXPECTATIONS**

- Take responsibility for your own learning. To earn a respectable grade in college-level courses requires considerable & consistent effort on your part.
- All coursework is to be completed individually.
- Be aware of all deadlines. Coursework deadlines are listed on the course website & in the syllabus. Various semester dates & deadlines can be found in the SLCC Academic Calendar.

- **September 16** is the **Last Day to Drop Classes** with a 100% refund. A few days prior to this date, a Canvas Announcement will be sent to the class reminding students of this Drop deadline.
- **October 28** is the **Last Day to Withdraw** from Classes (No Refunds). A few days prior to this date, a Canvas Announcement will be sent to the class reminding students of this Withdrawal deadline. Please be aware that if you request a withdrawal after this deadline, you must have an extenuating circumstance & provide documentation.
- Contact the instructor if assignments, materials or readings require clarification.
- Your instructor will assist in your learning but the ultimate responsibility to learn lies with you the student. Your success in this course & what you learn is directly related to the effort you exert.

### **AUDITING CLASSES**

Students who wish to “sit in” on a class for a learning experience without having to participate or complete coursework may choose to audit a class. Please be aware that students who audit classes will still pay tuition but will not earn a letter grade or receive credit hours. Visit the following website for more information about auditing classes:  
<https://www.slcc.edu/registrar/registration/auditing-classes.aspx>.

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- If you experience a problem with an assignment, quiz or final exam, please email me through Canvas or at joe.howell@slcc.edu.
- Canvas has 24/7 support if you encounter a problem: 1-844-334-0397 (toll-free) or 801-957-5125 (Option 1).
- If you experience login or system problems, contact the SLCC Help Desk at 801.957.5555 or by email at: [Help.Desk@slcc.edu](mailto:Help.Desk@slcc.edu).

***"Invest in yourself. Your career is the engine of your wealth." - Paul Clitheroe***

