

FIN310 Investment Analysis

School: School of Business and Creative Industries

2026 | Trimester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

You will explore both direct and indirect investments, including securities, managed funds, and derivatives. You will learn to apply principles of portfolio management, including risk–return optimization, to design and manage diversified portfolios. The course will also help you understand how factors such as foreign exchange risk, taxation, and changing market conditions influence portfolio performance and investment strategy, enabling you to make informed and effective investment decisions.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Interactive online learning activities.	1hr	Week 1	11 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Scheduled face to face workshops.	2hrs	Week 1	11 times
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Interactive online learning activities.	1hr	Week 1	11 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Scheduled online workshops (Recorded).	2hrs	Week 1	11 times

1.3. Course Topics

Role and scope of investments; investment environment and market transactions

Investment return, risk, and modern portfolio concepts

Share and bond investments, including valuation

Derivative securities: options and futures contracts

Managed funds investment

Evaluating portfolio performance

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business
1 Use analytical thinking to identify and evaluate investment related problems.	Creative and critical thinker Ethical	PC3, PC3.1, PC6
2 Exhibit initiative and apply innovation and strategic thinking to make investment decisions.	Empowered	PC3, PC6, PC6.2
3 Work effectively with teams from diverse backgrounds, display effective leadership behaviours and effectively communicate to a range of stakeholders.	Engaged	PC2, PC2.1
4 Interpret and analyse financial information and apply relevant concepts to suggest innovative solutions.	Knowledgeable	PC1.1, PC6.2

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
ASSOCIATION TO ADVANCE COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS	
PC1.1	Written Communication
PC2	Collaboration
PC2.1	Teamwork
PC3	Creative and Critical Thinking
PC3.1	Problem Solving
PC6	Career-ready
PC6.2	Discipline Knowledge

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

ACC211

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Practice quiz will be made available to students in week 3.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Case Study	Individual and Group	50%	2,500 words	Week 7	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Written Piece	Individual	50%	1,500 words	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Investment plan and analysis

GOAL:	This task includes an individual component, in which you will develop a brief investment plan, and a group component, where you will collaborate in teams of 3–4 to solve a practical investment problem and prepare a formal written report. The group task is used to assess assurance of learning for Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation. The following Program Competency will be assessed: PC2.1: Demonstrate an understanding of effectively managing and working in teams in a business context. Please refer to the task instruction sheet on Canvas for full details and guidance on completing both the individual and group components.		
PRODUCT:	Case Study		
FORMAT:	<p>This is a group assessment. Prepare a formal written report in groups of 3-4 students.</p> <p>This task is being used for measuring assurance of learning towards Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation. The following Program Competency will be assessed:</p> <p>PC2.1: Demonstrate an understanding of effectively managing and working in teams in a business context</p> <p>Details are provided in the assessment area in Canvas.</p>		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	PC2.1: Knowledge and application of effective group processes	3
	2	Use of interpersonal skills when engaging with team member	2
	3	Acknowledgement and facilitation of strengths and skills of team members	2 3
	4	Individual contribution to the group task	1
	5	Presentation and communication style, and appropriate referencing	2
	6	Demonstrate knowledge of various types of investments, and critically analyze and evaluate the key issues involved	1 4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies		

All - Assessment Task 2: Problem Set

GOAL:	Demonstrate knowledge and application of the main areas of investment management.		
PRODUCT:	Written Piece		
FORMAT:	This is an individual assessment. Written responses to compulsory questions will be required. The questions will involve a mix of calculations and discussion on content covered throughout the course. Details will be provided via Canvas.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Dermonstrate knowledge of key investment principles and apply them in problem-solving and discussion.	1 4
	2	Accuracy of interpretation and analysis of financial information.	4
	3	Use of proper terminology and concise, well-structured explanations.	4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies		

6.4. Assessment to competency mapping

PROGRAMME DELIVERY MODE	ASSESSMENT TYPE	TITLE	COMPETENCY	TEACHING METHODS
2020 UNISC BUSINESS SCHOOL STANDARDS UNDERGRADUATE				
All delivery modes	Case Study	Investment plan and analysis	PC1.1	Practiced, Assessed
			PC2.1	Practiced, Assessed
			PC3.1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			PC6.2	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
	Written Piece	Problem Set	PC3.1	Taught, Practiced, Assessed
			PC6.2	Taught, Practiced, Assessed

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Recommended	Scott B. Smart, Chad J. Zutter	2020	Fundamentals of Investing, Global Edition	14th	Pearson
Recommended	Lawrence J. Gitman, Michael Joehnk, Roger H. Juchau, Brett Wheldon, Sue Wright	2011	Fundamentals of Investing	3	Pearson

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty

From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty

More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au