

## Welcome Message of ECON422L721\_25U

Hello everyone, how are you?

Welcome to ECON422L721\_25U – Financial Markets and Institutions!

My name is Xiaoli Wang, and I will be your instructor for this course. Let me start by briefly introducing myself.

About 20 years ago, I came to the United States from China to pursue my Ph.D. studies. I earned my Ph.D. in Finance and an MBA from Rutgers University in 2006. After graduation, I spent a few years working in the finance industry.

My first job was as an equity analyst at Bear Stearns. How many of you have heard of Bear Stearns? It was one of the major investment banks in the U.S. and became even more famous — or infamous — as the first major financial institution to collapse during the 2008 financial crisis. (I can assure you that it was certainly not my fault!) Bear Stearns was later acquired by J.P. Morgan Chase.

After Bear Stearns, I joined Banc of America Securities, the investment banking division of Bank of America. Later, I worked for a hedge fund as their Director of Research before joining Marist College as a faculty member in 2011.

I truly love my job at Marist, and I enjoy sharing my professional experiences and academic knowledge with my students. That being said, you are always welcome to reach out to me if you would like to discuss anything — whether about the course or beyond!

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### Course Overview and Requirements

The course syllabus has been posted on Brightspace under Contents > Class Documents > Syllabus. Please read it carefully and let me know if you have any questions.

Here are a few key points to keep in mind:

#### 1. Required Textbook and Materials:

- Capital Markets. Fabozzi. 5th edition (MIT Press) , ISBN: 9780262331586
- Financial calculator

#### 2. Class Schedule and Exams

Plan your study schedule carefully! Pay close attention to exam dates and times.

- All exams will be conducted on Brightspace > Quizzes.
- You can find the detailed class schedule in the Appendix of the syllabus.
- An Excel file with the class schedule is also posted on Brightspace > Contents > Class Documents.

### **3. Assignments**

There are several assignments throughout the course.

- Pay close attention to each assignment's due date.
- Assignment details and deadlines are outlined in the teaching schedule.

### **4. Course Project**

This course includes a project.

- Project details will be posted on Brightspace > Assignments > Course Project.

### **5. Forum Discussions**

Active participation in forum discussions is required.

- Forum topics and requirements are posted on Brightspace > Discussions.
- Please be sure to contribute before each forum's closing date.

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Thank you for your attention!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Enjoy the rest of your weekend — I am looking forward to starting our class on Monday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025!

Best regards,

Xiaoli Wang