

Course Syllabus
MFIN 508 - Financial Markets and Institutions
Koc University M.S. Finance Program

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Course Outline

Lecture 1: An overview of the financial system and the fundamentals of financial institutions

Lecture 2: Understanding the fundamentals and behavior of interest rates

Lecture 3: The stock market and the theory of rational expectations

Lecture 4: Central banking and the conduct of monetary policy

Lecture 5: Commercial banks and regulation

Lecture 7: Investment banks and securities issuance

Lecture 8: Investment companies (e.g., mutual funds, hedge funds, private equity funds)

Popular Press

I strongly urge you to read *The Wall Street Journal* daily. Also, I will distribute you copies of some of the recent articles (as well as relatively older but interesting articles) from the WSJ and other publications (*Fortune*, *The Economist*, *Financial Times* etc.). These articles are fair game in the exams.

Exams

We will have one midterm and one final exam. The final exam will be comprehensive. There won't be any make-up midterm or final exams. You may request a re-grade of your exam only during the one-week period after the respective exam date (after that week, no re-grades will be considered). Please note that I will re-grade the entire exam, and your score may increase OR decrease as a result of the re-grade.

Grading

The grading components are:

<i>Grading Component</i>	<i>Weight</i>
Attendance and Participation	20%
Midterm	35%
Final Exam	45%

Academic Honesty

(From: Teaching Guide, Koç University College of Administrative Sciences and Economics)
“Honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals. Students and faculty adhere to the following principles of academic honesty at Koç University:

Individual accountability for all individual work, written or oral: Copying from others or providing answers and information, written or oral, to others is cheating.

Proper acknowledgment of original author: Copying from another student’s paper or from another text without written acknowledgment is plagiarism.

Study or project group activity is effective and authorized teamwork. Unauthorized help from another person or having someone else write one’s paper or assignment is collusion. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion are serious offenses resulting in an F grade and disciplinary action.”