

A: Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Date: **MAY 1997**  
 B: Faculty: **COMMERCE AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION** New Course:  
 Program: **FINANCIAL SERVICES STUDIES** Revision of Course Information form: **MAY 1995**  
 C: **FINC 350** D: **INVESTMENT FUNDS IN CANADA** E: **3**

Subject &amp; Course No.

Descriptive Title

Semester Credit

F: Calendar Description: This course provides an introduction to understanding the regulatory environment in which mutual funds operate; specifically, the nature, type of mutual funds, financial analysis of varying product lines, differences in product attributes, and taxation implications.

Summary of Revisions:

1997-05 Section: H

G: Type of instruction: Hrs per week

Lecture:	3	Hrs.
Laboratory:		Hrs.
Seminar:	1	Hrs.
Clinical Experience:		Hrs.
Field Experience:		Hrs.
Practicum:		Hrs.
Shop:		Hrs.
Studio:		Hrs.
Student Directed Learning:		Hrs.
Other (Specify):		
Total:	4	Hrs.
Semester Total (4 x 15 wks):	60	Hrs.

H: Course Prerequisites:  
**FINC 210 and (ACCT 210 or ACCT 235) and BUSN 330**

I: Course Corequisites:  
**nil**

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:  
**nil**

K: Maximum Class Size:  
**35**

L: College Credit Transfer   
 College Credit Non-Transfer   
 Non-Credit

M: Transfer Credit: Requested:   
 Granted:

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned Credit as appropriate:

BCOU  
 SFU  
 UBC  
 UNBC  
 UVIC  
 Other:



Course Designer(s): E. Carter

  
 Dean: J. Sator

  
 Vice-President, Instruction: J. McKendry

  
 Registrar: P. Angus

**N: TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS TO BE PURCHASED BY STUDENTS**

Walker, Peter. Investment Funds in Canada, Latest Edition. Montreal: The Institute of Canadian Bankers. Investment Funds in Canada Workbook. Montreal: The Institute of Canadian Bankers, Latest Edition.

Hirt, Geoffrey and Stanley Block. Fundamentals of Investment Management, Latest Edition. Chicago: Irwin Publishing.

Available computer worksheet templates will be used in order to assess financial and fund performances.

**O: COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course the candidate will be able to:

1. Develop a sensitivity to the customer's objectives and ability to match financial need with the appropriate mutual product.
2. Develop an awareness of investment funds constraints and regulations and ability to translate this knowledge into meaningful responses to an investor's questions.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the terminology, theory, and mechanics of investment fund operations.
4. Explain how economic and market forces affect the value of a fund's shares.
5. Discuss and be able to differentiate the differences, product attributes, fees, valuation methods amongst all the investment funds.
6. Conduct a complete financial analysis, evaluation, comparison of mutual funds.
7. Explain the organizational and operational set-up of mutual funds, fee structures, offering prices, mechanics of buying and selling.
8. Be able to structure, analyze, compare auditors' reports on the performance of mutual funds, including a review of balance sheets, income statements, statements of changes in financial position.

**P. COURSE CONTENT**

1. Introduction to investing and investment funds.

2. The organization and operation of mutual funds.
3. Buying and selling mutual fund securities.
4. Overview of mutual funds markets.
5. Types of securities into which investment funds invest.
6. Financial statement analysis.
7. Risk/return trade-off. Evaluation of risk and assessment of return.
8. Methods of calculating and offering (buying) prices.
9. Purchasers' legal and contractual rights.
10. Share redemption and withdrawal plans.
11. Management and other fees.
12. Regulation and ethical behaviour.
13. Life insurance.
14. Sales practices.

#### **Q. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION**

Material will be presented within a lecture/discussion/application environment. Students will be required to obtain prospectuses, offering memoranda, and other funds publications to be used in term projects and regular assignments.

#### **R. COURSE EVALUATION**

Term examinations (2)	40%
Term project	20%
Written assignments	20%
Final examination	<u>20%</u>
	<u>100%</u>