

Victoria International Applied Finance Programme
School of Economics and Finance

MMAF501 NZ CAPITAL MARKETS (KIWICAP)

Trimester One 2010

COURSE OUTLINE

Contact Details

The course coordinator is Dawn Lorimer, Room RH306. Preferred contact is by email. Email address: Dawn.Lorimer@vuw.ac.nz

The administrator for this course is Anna Potts, RH307. She can be contacted on (04) 463 6148 or viaf-programme@vuw.ac.nz

Withdrawal from Courses:

Information available via

Withdrawal dates: Late withdrawals with Associate Dean (Students) permission
(See Section 8: Withdrawals - from the Personal Courses of Study Statute)

<http://policy.vuw.ac.nz/Amphora!~~policy.vuw.ac.nz~POLICY~00000001743.pdf>

Withdrawal dates: refunds:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds.aspx>

Block Release Times

9:30am Tuesday, 13th April – 12:30pm Thursday, 15th April 2010
And 9:30am Tuesday, 15th June – 12:30pm Thursday, 17th June 2010.

A detailed schedule of each block release course will be supplied closer to the April and June sessions.

Attendance at all sessions of both block releases is compulsory.

Course Content

Kiwicap is about the principal capital markets of New Zealand, their associated institutions, and their economic role. After a brief survey of principles of markets and financial intermediation and disintermediation, the course opens with a short historical account of events of the last decade or so, leading to financial liberalisation and the evolution of more sophisticated capital markets. The fixed interest markets are the next studied, treating bonds, CDs, notes, swaps and other traded instruments in some detail. The associated players are outlined, including fringe institutions. An account of the Banking system follows, covering payment and settlement mechanisms, prudential regulation, monetary regulation, with emphasis also on the role of the

Reserve Bank. The role of the Futures and Options Exchange is considered, with a survey of its contracts, procedures, trading rules and environment. Equity markets are covered, including the NZSE and the new issue process, together with a consideration of equity derivatives. The FX markets are also treated in depth, including derivatives such as cross currency interest swaps and their uses in hedging FX exposures. Throughout, emphasis is placed on an understanding of the economic role of these markets in achieving allocational efficiency, as well as themes relating to the internationalisation of NZ capital markets in recent years.

Course Learning Objectives

Students should be able to:

- Apply first principles to construct and evaluate financial cash flows
- Develop simple spreadsheet models and employ these in financial problem solving
- Demonstrate the pricing of financial instruments and investment yields, correctly applying the financial maths behind such calculations
- Explain the operations of New Zealand's deregulated financial system
- Describe the instruments, institutions and markets that constitute the financial system, and the roles which various institutions play
- Explain what we ideally seek in a financial system

These learning objectives will be assessed via two major assignments, two tests and performance at the two releases.

Course Delivery

The contact hours of the course will be during the two block releases detailed above. During the rest of the trimester, students will be expected to be engaged in self directed study using their textbooks and material posted on Blackboard, and completing assignments which will be posted on Blackboard.

Expected Workload

Total average workload of 200 hours. During the approximately 6 weeks of term prior to each block release, students will need to allow about 14 hours per week for study, research and preparation of assignments for this course. The two block courses each involve approximately 18 hours of work.

Group Work

There will be some group work based on discussion questions at the block releases. Whilst this is not formally assessed, participation in this will be factor in determining the marks awarded for participation as detailed below.

Readings

The two textbooks provided for the course are:

- (1) *Kiwicap: An Introduction to New Zealand Capital Markets*, 2nd ed., by Roger Bowden and Jennifer Zhu, 2005.
- (2) *Financial Maths for Managers*, NZ 3rd ed., by Dawn E Lorimer, 2010.

Materials and Equipment

It is necessary to bring a calculator to the block courses. A good financial calculator such as the HP17BII or HP10BII is strongly recommended. During tests students will be allowed to use calculators, but not hand held or other computers.

Assessment Requirements

The following schedule of assessment applies:

Tests:	One test at each block release session based on reading assigned for period leading up to the block release and material presented at the block release (30% each). Please bring your calculator.	60%
Participation:	For your efforts at the block release sessions and for tutorial questions.	2%
Assignments:	Two major assignments that count together for 38%. <u>The first assignment (18%) is due Monday 29th March, 2010.</u> <u>The second assignment (20%) is due Monday 31st May, 2010.</u>	38%
Total Assessment:		100%

Examinations

MMAF501 has no formal examination, but does have the two tests detailed above.

Penalties

Each of the assignments will be marked out of a maximum that diminishes by 5% for every day late, with a weekend counting as one day. The date of submission shall be taken as the date of delivery. Please carefully read the assignment guidelines for details of how assignments should be submitted. There will be a final cut off date, one week after the due date for each assignment, after which no assignment can be accepted. The assignments will each carry a specified word limit. If an assignment exceeds the word limit, credit will be given only from the beginning of the assignment up to the word limit. No credit will be given for the portion of work extending beyond the word limit.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To pass, a student must attend all sessions of both block release courses.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected at the start of the trimester, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Additional information including assignment questions, details of the block course schedule, feedback on course assessments, etc will be provided via Blackboard, email or by post. Students are responsible for ensuring that the VIAF administrator, (email: viaf-programme@vuw.ac.nz), has their up to date email and postal addresses.

If you have, or become aware of, any health condition that could prevent you attending a VIAF compulsory block release, then you should notify the Programme Director immediately, preferably by email, dawn.lorimer@vuw.ac.nz.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

For the following important information follow the links provided:

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

AVC (Academic) Website: information including: Conduct, Academic Grievances, Students with Impairments, Student Support

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca/studenthelp/>

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/mentoring/