

Summer School Course Evaluation Results 2018

FM230 Alternative Investments

Session 1

How would you rate the course overall?



Suitability of content



Level of course content



Coordination of classes



Usefulness of marked assignments



Timeliness of receiving feedback



Quality of course materials



Quality of course content



Teaching Staff

Avg. Francesco Nicolai (Class teacher)	
Avg. Simona Risteska (Class teacher)	
Avg. Karamfil Todorov (Class teacher)	
Avg. Ran Shi (Class teacher)	4.3
Avg. Fabrizio Core (Class teacher)	
Avg. Dr Hongda Zhong (Lecturer)	
Avg. Dr Dong Lou (Lecturer)	

Note: Summer School ratings have a 4.2 benchmark for excellence.

FM230

What did you like best about the course?	What did you like least about the course?	What one thing would you change about the course?	Is there anything else you would like to comment on?
Challenging content	too fast to understand	I would add more exercises to prepare for the exam.	We have no practice or guidelines to prepare for exams, which makes the course hard.
Classes	No previous exams before the midterm	3 hours lectures are maybe too long	Iâ€™m very satisfied
Course content; speed of course	Class work and following excel sheets, very difficult and no real instruction	Change class structure and use of excel	No
course material	exams are extremely difficult and sometimes include concepts not covered in class	make exams based off of course information	nope!
Course was great to get deeper insights into finance!	Was difficult to follow the exam pattern due to lack of previous year question practice.	Extend the duration of classes. Coming from one of the top ranked engineering schools, we are schooled and trained for several hours before we actually sit for a test(be it any kind of test). Although it is summer school, still four hours lecture a day isnâ€™t really enough to learn so many concepts in three weeks (at least, in my opinion).	No. I have two more sessions here and I hope to learn and experience more in the coming weeks!
Covering so many subjects and still manage to keep somewhat of a red line	Not having the subjects in the lecture before having practice classes.	Having about the subjects in the lectures before having about it in the lecture classes	would be nice if the material not was from 2009, when the powerpoints were created. Furthermore, it would be nice if the professor shared more about the latest empirical findings in the area - not very motivating telling stories from 10 years ago, we have all heard them before.
Fabrizio is an amazing teacher in class.	the toughness of exams, a lot of material covered	make it a tad bit easier,,, people are also here to see london.	nope

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Hongda, the lecturer is great, very well explained knowledge	Dong, the lecturer made this course complicated and unable to follow with the previous entry requests.	Could be making Hongda's lecture goes first and then Dong's hedge fund lecture	Not a great experience on student hall(Northumberland)
I liked how real life situations applied to what we were being taught. It was more practical than what I study back home.	I wish the class works were more related to the lectures. I felt as if i knew most of the things taught in class.	I would emphasise more the use of excel.	I really liked how organized and well prepared the course was.
I liked how the classes built off the lectures and were practical. I felt as though what I learned was actually relevant for my future.	I didn't like the pace but it comes with the nature of a three week course. It is very difficult to keep up and fully understand the information.	I would have the lecturers write out the problems instead of just reading the slides and answers.	Nope.
i really enjoyed going over the HW in class	I had trouble with the length of the lecture. I would frequently get tired and not be able to concentrate.	Possibly have online lectures, allowing students to learn on their own time.	no
I really enjoyed the class examples	I thought the class portion of this course was not integrated well into the exam	Not as many guest speakers	no
It really challenged me. I felt as though I've learned a lot in a short period of time, and all of the information was relevant.	It did move extremely fast, and at times it felt as though I was reading through the course more than I was being taught.	I would give sample problems before the midterm, just so students know what to expect.	Nah
It was a good topic	The Pre Req were not at all enough to be able to take this course and the lectures were dry	Tell the students exactly what they are walking into before they spend 4000 dollars to come	You guys allowed me to join a class i fully was not prepared for and then didnt let me switch

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It was at a sufficiently deep level while also being very practical.	The fellow students were not selected carefully enough - many people did not take the course/ school seriously enough and they clearly did not have ANY interest in Finance. This was a highly demotivating aspect.	The course contents do not need any change to be implemented.	Maybe implement a light dress code. I am not saying everybody should wear shirt and a suit to classes but attending lectures in flip-flops and bermuda shorts shows a serious lack of respect towards the school, as well as the lecturers. Also, as already stated, more rigorous selection process, in order to only offer places to those people who have a genuine interest in Finance. Maybe a motivational letter/ short essay question/ short Skype or personal interview.
it was very well organized and extremely practical relative to what i plan on doing in the real world	the test questions would sometimes have nothing to do with what we learned	i would add a project instead of a midterm	no
Learning how to value every asset plus the private equity one	Too much to study and high pace	Course content should be reduced	There should be only one paper for the entire course that makes it easier to study
Lecture	Class	Time	No
Organization of content	No office hours or supplemental assistance outside of lecture/class	Class/lecture coordination. Content should be covered in lecture first before working on exercises in class. This is counter productive	Mr. Fabrizio is an excellent instructor
Part one given why Dong Lou, and he guest speakers he brought.	Too much excel work which sometimes can get a bit complicated and can be forgotten very quickly.	More condensed materials, focus on the most important subjects.	Overall a good and balanced course.
The amount of content	The speed at which lectures were going through the material	Pace of lectures	Lecturers assume majority of class have a somewhat solid finance background which is simply not true

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The applicability of the course to real life.	The speed of the course. Went way to quickly.	Have better notes on the lectures.	no
The classes were very beneficial	Lectures were long and sometimes boringg	The class - lecture timing system	No
The content	Some concepts are difficult	Some topics	No
The content is well-organized and useful.	The class content is a bit complicated.	Nope.	Nope.
The content, the lectures and classes. The FM230 was just what I was hoping for, to get knowledge of how these investment vehicles work and operate. What I like best though was probably the guest lecture from Toscafund Chief Economist.	Sometimes it went too fast, in the classes it was a little bit easier to understand even though the high tempo, but sometimes during the lectures the tempo was just too fast, felt like I did not have time to make notes.	I would enjoy more case studies, for example, if we would be given three startups and we would have to value them (as homework) and then choose one and argue why. Maybe do some 'team work' exercises.	Lastly I would like to thank you for this experience. My time at LSE has been very interesting, giving and fun.
The Course structure	The exam was very tough for an undergraduate	Requirements	It was great
The course work was highly interesting and my knowledge on the subject matter certainly increased. The lecturers were good and always happy to answer questions. Also the high amount of excel work was very fun and interesting to play around with.	In the second half it felt like we were trying to cover just a little too much work and ran out of time without completing everything.	Possibly lesson the work in the second half slightly to ensure that it doesn't feel too rushed	No

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The excel practicals for the students to get a hands on experience. The instructor was really helpful and dedicated.	For relatively inexperienced students, like me, the course felt a little intensive. I feel that introductory finance must be a compulsory prerequisite rather than an optional one.	Nothing concrete, as such.	Nope.
The IT skill training of the class work	To many content including in the lecture	Having more class work than lecture	Nope
The LBS and PE topics.	The timing of classes. Most of the times we did stuff in class that we should have seen in the lecture.	Timing, first lecture then the class.	No
The lectures	My class Teacher was not helpfull	Change class teacher	No, Thank you.
the practicality of the course	it was a bit tough for me	nothing	no
The second half of the course was quite useful for my future career and my tutor, Simona by far exceeded all expectations.	I would have preferred a greater degree of focus and complexity in the LBO section and a midterm that is reflective of what is studied	The Mid Term, which had a portion not representative of the material taught. Furthermore, having office hours would really improve the learning experience.	My experience with the course has been amazing due to my tutor, Simona who takes on the initiative to really explain the intuition behind concepts. I would recommend this course to my friends and university mates based solely on how great Simona is at teaching.
The topic was fascinating and the lecturers and my class teacher (Mr. Fabrizio) was great	my lodging	A week more wouldn't be too much to fully get the topic.	The mid-term was hard since we didn't know what it would look like

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The unique material being presented	Some topics were too advanced for a shortened course	Focus on either Hedge Funds or Private Equity, not both	No
the way that both lecturers used examples from today to put the theory into practice	the classes were not great. They were just about putting numbers into excel and getting answers, with little thought given to what actually was happening and the intuition/principles being used	the lectures and classes were out of sync - the class was covering content first, then the lecture, when it should have been the other way. Especially because the class was about doing questions	Yes. I was underwhelmed by the quality of invited speakers but particularly Savvas Savouri who spoke in the first half of the course about Brexit. To be quite honest, he was a terrible ambassador for the LSE. He began his talk by highlighting his net worth and how valuable his time was - hardly inspiring and such an odd way to talk to aspiring students. Throughout his talk he proceeded to criticise the relationship between finance and economics at LSE, but more worryingly he said that diversity in education was the reason for the decline in the financial sector. He specifically targeted humanities students - research ...
This course was incredibly interesting. The course packets (powerpoint slide printouts) were excellent. The subject material was very interesting as well.	I did not like the class sections as much. My class teacher was good, but the assignments were incredibly heavy in Excel, and I spent more time trying to catch up by typing in the right Excel equations then actually learning.	Make the Class Sections less focused on Excel, more focused on solving problems, going over difficult concepts from class.	While this was not an issue for me, I know other people think that this class should have required a finance class as a prerequisite. When I enrolled, it said any introductory microeconomics class would suffice as a prerequisite. It was not a problem for me, as I have taken finance classes before, but it would have been very hard to understand the concepts in this course without a decent foundation in finance.
Using excel to do calculations, very practice	Too intensive but I understand that	No	Wish have a 6 week section
very interesting	very hard	make it simpler	no
Was great but I realised that I did not want to pursue a full finance degree. It helped me understand my abilities better and helped me understand what I want out of life more	Nothing	Nothing	No
Well the course in itself is one of a kind and a must for all finance graduates	I felt the course was pretty intense and did not get time to understand things to the fullest.	Inclusion of crypto assets	No

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