**2024 – 2025**

Module Information Handbook

FIN2

TCHE426

by

Module Convenor:

Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoang Anh

*This module handbook is posted prior to the beginning of the term. I reserve the right to make minor changes during the term. I will notify students, in class, when those changes, if any, are made.*

**PART 1 Module Description**

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| **MODULE CODE** | TCHE426 | **MODUL LEVEL** | | 4th year - Undergraduate | |
| **MODULE TITLE** | **FIN2** | | | | |
| **LECTURER(S)** | Nguyen Thi Hoang Anh, PhD, CFA, FRM | | | | |
| **CREDIT VALUE** | 3 Credit Hrs. | |  | |  |
| **PREREQUISITES** |  | | | | |
| **COREQUISITES** | None | | | | |
| **DURATION OF MODULE** | One semester | | | | |
| **TOTAL STUDENT STUDY TIME** | 90 hours (45 contact hours, 45 private study hours) | | | | |
| **INSTRUCTOR(S) WEB LINKS** | <https://canvas.instructure.com/enroll/9ELGPE>  Alternatively, they can sign up at https://canvas.instructure.com/register and use the following join code: 9ELGPE | | | | |
| **TEXTBOOK WEB LINK** |  | | | | |

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| **AIMS** | | | | | | |
| Portfolio management is both an art and a science. It is a dynamic decision-making process, one that is continuous and systematic but also requires a great deal of judgment. This course enables students to apply a comprehensive approach to the theory of analyzing, valuation and investing methodology in assets. After finishing the course, students have knowledge on the nature and laws of movement of the price of such securities as equities, fixed-income assets, derivatives and other types of assets. Since then, students can choose among different classes of assets and make investment decisions. Furthermore, students should be able to manage risk associated with the investment and make suitable adjustments according to the established strategy.  In the evolving landscape of finance, effective portfolio management is essential for investors aiming to maximize returns while mitigating risks. This course is designed to equip participants with the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary to navigate this complex field using one of the most powerful programming languages available today—Python. This course will cover a comprehensive range of topics, beginning with the fundamentals of portfolio management. Participants will learn about key concepts such as efficient portfolios, performance measures, and the various elements that constitute a robust investment strategy. Through hands-on experience with Python libraries like NumPy and Pandas, students will gain insights into how to analyze financial data, implement multiple investment strategies, and optimize portfolio allocations. | | | | | | |
| **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLOs)** | | | | | | |
| ***On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:***  ***Knowledge***  **CLO1:** Understand the objectives and meaning of financial analysis and investment.  **CLO2:** Understand and have ability to apply methodologies for selecting assets.  **CLO3:** Understand and have ability to establish an investment strategy.  **CLO4:** Have ability to apply various methodologies to analyse securities.  **CLO5:** Understand and have ability to apply investment methodologies based on established strategies.  **CL06:** Understand and have ability to apply adjustment methods for the investment methodology.  **CL07:** Understand and have ability to return evaluation methods  ***Ability***  **CLO8**: Have ability to analyse, evaluate and create reports, as well as establishing and adjusting investment strategies appropriately.  **CLO9**: Have information technology skills, have ability to use English in Finance.  ***Autonomy and responsibility***  **CLO10:** Be able to work individually and in a team in a constantly changing environment. Be able to present ideas, guide and lead others in finding solutions to the assigned tasks throughout the project.  **CLO11:** Have creative thinking, ability to lead professionally, make presentations and defend individual opinions, actively guide and supervise the work of other team members to complete the task. | | | | | | |
| **MODULE LECTURERS** | | | | | | |
| This module will be taught by:  *Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoang Anh, CFA, FRM*  Email: [nguyenthihoanganh.cs2@ftu.edu.vn](mailto:nguyenthihoanganh.cs2@ftu.edu.vn)  (Please put TCH426 in the subject line)  **Office hours**: I will hold office hours by appointment. Please email me to schedule a time. I will also allocate Monday and Wednesday afternoon to answering email questions about the course. If your question is urgent, please indicate this in the subject line and I will try to respond sooner.  *Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoang Anh is a Lecturer in Finance in the Foreign Trade University. She’s given courses in Principles of Finance, Money and Banking, Financial Markets and Institutions, Derivatives Instruments, Corporate Finance and Portfolio Management. She has a first-class degree in Foreign Trade Economics from the Foreign Trade University (Vietnam), an MSc in International Money and Banking from the University of Birmingham (UK), and a PhD in Finance from the University of Exeter (UK).*  *Her research interests lie in the areas of financial econometrics, volatility modelling and risk management.* | | | | | | |
| **LEARNING/TEACHING METHODS** | | | | | | |
| The module will be taught using a combination of lectures and tutorial classes over 8 weeks. In order for everyone to derive the maximum benefit from the classes, it is vitally important to do the assigned reading before the class.  The lectures can only identify the main points to focus on and are not designed to provide a comprehensive, self-contained coverage of everything students need to know in order to fulfil course requirements. Partly, this reflects time constraints. More importantly, it is intended to underline that a substantial part of students’ learning will come through their own efforts:   * reading outside the class; applying ideas to contemporary issues, whether or not they have been identified within the formal syllabus, * careful, systematic and thorough note-taking; active discussion and participation with class members, * timely and assiduous completion of assessment requirements and any other (non-graded) exercises.   The classes will not be spoon-feeding you through the material but instead will be focusing on elaboration, making connections between the tools and real-world problems. Written work for the course will consist of a group assignment and a final exam. | | | | | | |
| **ASSIGNMENTS & ASSESSMENTS** | | | | | | |
| ***Weight*** | ***Form of Assessment*** | | | ***Duration*** | | ***Feedback method*** | | |
| **10%** | | **Attendance + quizzes** |  | |  | | |
| **30%** | | **Group assignment** |  | | Feedback | | |
| **60%** | | **Examination** | **60 minutes** | | Correct answers | | |
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| **SYLLABUS PLAN** | | | | | | |

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| **Lecture** | **Session** | **Topics covered** | **Readings and Activities** |
| 0 | 1 + 2 | Course Introduction  Crash Course: Introduction to Python | Group sign-up |
| 1 | 3 + 4 | Lecture 1: Returns and Risk | CFA2024 L2 V5 PM Module 3 |
| 2 | 5 + 6 | Lecture 2: Portfolio Optimisation |  |
| 3 | 7 + 8 | Lecture 3: Factor Investing | CFA2024 L2 V5 PM Module 2 |
| 4 | 9 +10 | Lecture 4: Robust Estimates of the VCV Matrix |  |
| 5 | 11 + 12 | Lecture 5: Robust Estimates of the Expected Returns |  |
| *Extra* |  | *Machine Learning in Asset Management* | *If time permits* |
|  | 13 + 14 | Group presentation |  |
|  | 15 | Revision |  |

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| **INDICATIVE LEARNING RESOURCES** |
| ***Indicative Basic Reading List:***   * Bodie, Z., A. Kane and A.J. Marcus, 2011. Investments and Portfolio Management, 9th (global) edition, McGraw-Hill * Reilly and Brown, 2012, Analysis of Investments and Portfolio Management, 10th Edition * E.J.Elton, Martin J. Grubber,S.J.Brown,W.N. Goetzmann, 2003, Modern Portfolio Theory and Investment Analysis, 6th edition, John Wileys and sons, Inc.   ***Optional reading(s)***   * CFA Program Curriculum, CFA Institute * Managing Investment Portfolios: A Dynamic Process, 3rd edition, CFA Institute * Wang, A. (2021). Comparing Portfolio Management Strategies in Factor Models. In Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Economic Management and Green Development (pp. 99-107). Springer, Singapore.   ***Other Materials:***  You are encouraged to read the finance – related articles, such as those on Wall Street Journals, Business Week, Economist... We will discuss articles from these sources throughout the semester. You are encouraged to bring to the attention of the class any information discovered from reading these publications. |

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| **CLASS POLICIES** | | |
| Copies of the material to be discussed in class will be posted on the Canvas web. The posted material is not a complete record of what goes on in class but should assist you in taking notes. The only way to get a complete record of what goes on in class is to be in class.  If you miss a class, make sure to learn the relevant material before the next class, since almost all the material builds on earlier classes.  Regular attendance and class participation will affect your grade at the margin.  You must have access to the class Canvas site. All announcements and class related documents (extra readings, class handouts, change of any due dates, answers to assignments etc.) will be posted here.  You cannot disrupt class by walking in late. You must settle in before class starts.  Please put all cell-phones in silent mode during the duration of the class. Telephone calls tend to be disruptive for everyone in the class.  Leaving class before I declare class is over is also disruptive. If once in a way you have to leave early please sit close to the door and leave quietly.  Talking in class once the lecture starts, even if it is seeking clarification on something you missed, distracts others around you. Please refrain from doing so. You are welcome to ask me to repeat or clarify anything you missed or wait until the end of class to consult another student. | | |
| **ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM** | | |
| Plagiarism is the presentation of the thoughts or work of another as one’s own (*definition proposed by the University of Newcastle*). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting, and the proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. The university regards plagiarism as a form of academic misconduct, and has very strict rules regarding plagiarism  Individual work must reflect an individual’s own effort. Do not copy from others. Cheating and plagiarism are totally unacceptable and will result in a course **grade of 0**. | | |
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| **DATE OF LAST REVISION** | **15 October 2024** |