

This subject is specifically designed for students who wish to specialise in investment management and develop skills in order to undertake high-level management of an investment portfolio.

## Learning outcomes

At the completion of this subject students should be able to:

- Create, analyse and evaluate a portfolio and predict its returns
- Compose and structure a portfolio based on the application of knowledge of different asset classes
- Apply quantitative and qualitative analysis to assess the different means of constructing a portfolio
- Compare and assess the effectiveness of various measures of return and different approaches to identify trends in security prices
- Assess the impact of different currency management strategies for a portfolio
- Assess the impact of taxes and transaction costs on portfolio returns, trading and rebalancing decisions and portfolio performance
- Discuss and analyse the role of risk management in portfolio construction and management
- Critically analyse the ways of managing an alternative investments portfolio
- Construct a portfolio to achieve its objectives using complementary managers

## Subject content

- Optimisation
- Security Returns
- Tax and Portfolio Management
- Currency Management
- Risk and Portfolio Management
- Alternative Investment Strategies
- Portfolio Construction

## Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessed	Weighting
Assignment 1	Week 6	50%
Assignment 2 (available from your Subject Room in week 6)	Week 12	50%

## Delivery method

Kaplan's delivery is primarily through distance education, supported by comprehensive print and online resources. Students will have access to subject notes, pre-recorded lectures, an online subject room, practitioner led Discussion Forums, online exercises, library and further resources.

## Pre-requisites

Students enrolling in a Masters level elective subject are assumed to have the pre-requisite knowledge in the four core subjects ([FIN111](#), [FIN112](#), [FIN113](#) and [FIN114](#)). This requirement can be waived where students are studying one or more core subjects concurrently with an elective, or they are studying single subjects and are not enrolled for the Masters, Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate courses. Students enrolling into an elective subject without having completed all core subjects should ensure that they have, or have access to, the pre-requisite or assumed knowledge required for successful completion of the elective subject. For further information on pre-requisite study contact a student adviser.

Kaplan recommends that you complete the following Kaplan Education subjects (or have a thorough working knowledge of the content) prior to enrolling in this unit:

- Investment Management ([FIN226](#))
- Quantitative Applications in Finance ([FIN236](#))

## Workload

This subject requires approximately 120 hours of student effort (11-12 hours per week). This includes time spent on activities such as: Reading and review of course notes and other reading material, attending to or listening to live or pre-recorded lectures, participating in e-learning activities, and assessment preparation and review.

## Reading list

The following list of references provides the student with key and additional reading material.

### Prescribed text

There are no prescribed texts for this subject.

### Additional readings:

Cuthbertson, K, & Nitzsche, D 2001, *Financial Engineering; Derivatives and Risk Management*, John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Litterman, B 2003, *Modern Investment Management: An Equilibrium Approach*, John Wiley & Sons, Australia.

Kritzman, M 2003, *The Portable Financial Analyst: What Practitioners Need to Know*, 2nd edn., John Wiley & Sons, Australia.

Reilly, F, & Brown, K 2009, *Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management*, 9th edn., Thomson, Australia.

Sharpe, WF, Alexander, GJ, Bailey, JV. 1999, *Investments*, 6th edn., Prentice-Hall.