





Chapter 1 - Introduction to Financial Markets and Institutions

• Overview of Financial Markets

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- Types of Financial Markets
 - Capital Markets
 - Money Markets
 - Derivatives Markets
 - Foreign Exchange Markets
- Functions of Financial Markets
 - Allocation of capital
 - Price Discovery
 - Liquidity Provision
 - Risk Management
- Market Participants
 - Investors
 - Financial Institutions
 - Regulators

• Financial Instruments

- Stocks
 - Common vs. preferred stocks
 - Stock valuation methods (e.g., dividend discount model)
- Bonds
 - Types of bonds (government, corporate, municipal)
 - Bond pricing and yield
- o Derivatives
 - Futures contracts
 - Options contracts
 - Swaps (interest rate, currency)
- Commodities
 - Types of commodities (energy, metals, agriculture)
 - Commodity trading and valuation

• Financial Institutions

- Role of Banks
 - Commercial banks: deposit-taking, lending, payment services
 - Investment banks: underwriting, advisory services
- Non-Bank Financial Institutions
 - Insurance companies: risk pooling and underwriting
 - Pension funds: retirement savings and investment
- Central Banks and Monetary Policy
 - Functions of central banks (e.g., Federal Reserve, ECB)





Tools of monetary policy (interest rates, open market operations)

• Regulatory Environment

- Key Financial Regulations and Bodies
 - Securities laws (e.g., Sarbanes-Oxley Act, Dodd-Frank Act)
 - Regulatory agencies (e.g., SEC, CFTC)
- Understanding Compliance and Ethics
 - Regulatory compliance requirements
 - Ethical issues and standards in finance

Chapter 2 - Financial Statements and Analysis

• Understanding Financial Statements

- Income Statement
 - Revenues and expenses
 - Gross profit, operating income, net income
 - Earnings per share (EPS)
- o Balance Sheet
 - Assets
 - Liabilities
 - Equity
- Cash Flow Statement
 - Operating activities
 - Investing activities
 - Financing activities
- Key Components and Terminology
 - Key financial metrics (e.g., revenue, operating income, net assets)
 - Accounting principles (e.g., GAAP, IFRS)

• Financial Ratio Analysis

Liquidity Ratios

- Current ratio
- Quick ratio (acid-test ratio)
- Profitability Ratios
 - Gross profit margin
 - Net profit margin
 - Return on assets (ROA), return on equity (ROE)
- Solvency Ratios
 - Debt-to-equity ratio
 - Interest coverage ratio
- Efficiency Ratios
 - Inventory turnover ratio
 - Receivables turnover ratio
 - Asset turnover ratio
- Financial Statement Interpretation
 - Analyzing Financial Health and Performance





- Assessing overall financial stability
- Evaluating profitability, liquidity, and solvency
- Comparative Analysis
 - Horizontal analysis (comparison over time)
 - Vertical analysis (comparison within a single period)
- Trend Analysis
 - Identifying patterns and trends in financial performance
 - Forecasting future financial performance based on historical data

• Valuation Techniques

- Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Analysis
 - Calculating free cash flow
 - Determining the discount rate (e.g., WACC)
 - Estimating the present value of future cash flows
- Price-to-Earnings (P/E) Ratio
 - Calculating P/E ratio
 - Interpreting P/E ratio in comparison to industry and market averages
- Other Valuation Methods
 - Price-to-Book (P/B) ratio
 - Dividend Discount Model (DDM)
 - Comparable company analysis

Chapter 3 - Corporate Finance

• Capital Budgeting

- Techniques for Evaluating Investment Projects
 - Net Present Value (NPV)
 - Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
 - Payback Period
 - Profitability Index

Capital Structure

- Debt vs. Equity Financing
 - Types of Debt Financing
 - Types of Equity Financing
 - Optimal Capital Structure
- Impact on Company Valuation and Risk
 - Effects of debt on financial leverage
 - Impact of equity financing on ownership and control
 - Trade-off theory and pecking order theory

Dividend Policy

- Dividend Payout Decisions
 - Types of dividends (cash, stock, special dividends)
 - Factors influencing dividend decisions (e.g., profitability, cash flow)
- Theories and Practices
 - Dividend Irrelevance Theory (Modigliani-Miller)





- Dividend Signaling Theory
- Dividend Policy Models (e.g., stable dividend policy, residual dividend policy)

• Financial Planning and Forecasting

- Budgeting Processes
 - Types of budgets (operating, capital, cash)
 - Budget preparation and approval process
 - Variance analysis and budget control
- Financial Modeling and Forecasting
 - Building financial models (assumptions, projections)
 - Forecasting methods (trend analysis, regression analysis)
 - Scenario analysis and sensitivity analysis

Chapter 4 - Investment Analysis and Portfolio Management

• Investment Basics

- Types of Investments
 - Stocks
 - Bonds
 - Mutual Funds
- Risk and Return Concepts
 - Risk Types
 - Return Measurement

Portfolio Theory

- Diversification and Asset Allocation
 - Benefits of Diversification
 - Asset Allocation Strategies
- Modern Portfolio Theory (MPT)
 - Efficient Frontier
 - Capital Market Line (CML)
 - Sharpe Ratio

• Investment Strategies

- Active vs. Passive Management
 - Active Management
 - Passive Management
- Fundamental and Technical Analysis
 - Fundamental Analysis
 - Technical Analysis

• Performance Evaluation

- Measuring Investment Performance
 - Total return calculation
 - Performance metrics (e.g., alpha, beta)
- Risk-Adjusted Returns and Benchmarks
 - Risk-Adjusted Performance Measures





Benchmarking

Chapter 5 - Economic Principles and Applications

- Microeconomics
 - Supply and Demand

- Law of Supply and Demand
- Shifts in Supply and Demand
- Elasticity
- Market Structures and Competition
 - Perfect Competition
 - Monopoly
 - Oligopoly
 - Monopolistic Competition

Macroeconomics

- Economic Indicators
 - Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
 - Inflation
 - Unemployment
- Fiscal and Monetary Policy
 - Fiscal Policy
 - Monetary Policy
 - Policy Effects

• International Economics

- Trade Theories and Policies
 - Comparative Advantage
 - Trade Policies
 - Globalization and Trade
- Exchange Rates and International Finance
 - Exchange Rate Mechanisms
 - Exchange Rate Determination
 - International Financial Markets

• Economic Development

- Growth Theories
 - Classical Growth Theory
 - Endogenous Growth Theory
 - Development Economics
- Sustainable Development and Emerging Markets
 - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - Emerging Markets

Chapter 6 - Financial Risk Management

• Types of Financial Risks





- o Market Risk
- o Credit Risk
- Operational Risk
- Liquidity Risk
- Risk Measurement and Management
 - Risk Assessment Techniques
 - Quantitative Techniques
 - Qualitative Techniques
 - Hedging Strategies and Instruments
 - Hedging Techniques
 - Risk Management Instruments
- Regulatory and Compliance Issues
 - Risk Management Frameworks
 - International Standards
 - Internal Risk Management Policies
 - Impact of Regulations on Financial Risk
 - Regulatory Requirements
 - Effects on Risk Management Practices

Chapter 7 - Behavioral Finance and Ethics

- Behavioral Finance
 - Psychological Factors Influencing Financial Decisions
 - Cognitive Biases
 - Emotional Influences
 - Decision-Making Heuristics
 - Common Biases and Anomalies
 - Market Anomalies
 - Investor Behavior
- Financial Decision-Making
 - Impact of Behavior on Investment Choices
 - Risk Perception
 - Investment Strategies
 - Strategies to Mitigate Behavioral Biases
 - Behavioral Interventions
 - Education and Awareness

• Ethics in Finance

- Ethical Considerations and Dilemmas
 - Conflicts of Interest
 - Ethical Decision-Making
- Importance of Integrity and Professionalism in Finance
 - Professional Standards
 - Building Trust

