

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Economics and Finance  
with effect from Semester A 2021/22**

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**Part I Course Overview**

<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Honor Thesis</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>CB4001</b>
<b>Course Duration:</b>	<b>1 semester(s)</b>
<b>Credit Units:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Level:</b>	<b>B4</b>
<b>Medium of Instruction:</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Medium of Assessment:</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>EF4820 Derivatives Pricing I: Stock and FX and EF4822 Financial Econometrics</b>
<b>Precursors:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Equivalent Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Exclusive Courses:</b> <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	<b>Nil</b>

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

Students who wish to take this course should discuss with a prospective supervisor as to whether the prospective supervisor would be able to supervise the project. During the discussion, the student will elaborate on the objectives of the project, methodology, data, etc. Once the prospective supervisor agrees to be a supervisor, the student is then allowed to register for the course. The student must obtain the consent of the prospective supervisor before he/she registers for the course.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs <sup>#</sup>	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Work independently and on their own initiatives.		√		
2.	Evaluate their own work critically.		√		
3.	Ask the relevant questions, gather and analyse data, and then draw conclusions or produce answers that are relevant to decision making in the business world.		√	√	√
4.	Apply their knowledge of economics and finance to particular situations in the business/financial environment of the Asia Pacific economies or in other parts of the world to make discoveries or findings related to a certain issue (s) in business, economics or the financial markets.		√	√	√
		100%			

\* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

# Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

**A1: Attitude**

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

**A2: Ability**

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

**A3: Accomplishments**

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Supervised independent research work	Students are expected to collect and analyse data, and reach conclusions independently. Students may explore certain business/economics/finance issues, explain a phenomenon or produce solutions to real-world issues.	√	√	√	√	
Weekly meetings with project supervisor	Students are expected to present their work to the supervisor on a weekly basis. Weekly reports should be made about the problems encountered, and objectives achieved. The project supervisor will give guidance and feedback to the student to keep the project on the right track.	√	√	√	√	

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
Final thesis (usually between 5,000 to 10,000 words)	√	√	√	√	70%	
Presentation of findings and/or weekly reports (including project proposal, outline, literature review, description of methods, draft of final report)	√	√	√	√	30%	
					100%	

\* The weightings should add up to 100%.

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Final Thesis, presentation of findings, and weekly report		Students have demonstrated strong and confident independent work skills, consistent work in answering the questions, excellent and informative thesis, and satisfactorily answering all relevant questions.	Students have demonstrated good independent work skills, reasonably consistent work towards answering the questions. Thesis is complete and without major issues, but may not be enough to satisfy a serious researcher.	Students have demonstrated satisfactory independent work skills, and somewhat consistent work towards answering the questions. Thesis is useful to a casual reader, but does not provide a complete picture or answer all the relevant questions.	Students have demonstrated some evidence of independent work skills but inconsistent work towards answering the questions. Thesis answers some of the relevant questions, but leaves many important issues unanswered.	There is little evidence of independent work skills and little progress made in analysing the relevant issues. Thesis does not address the relevant questions.

**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Keyword Syllabus**

- Problem Development
- Literature Review
- Formulation of Hypothesis/Question to be addressed
- Research Methodology & Data Collection
- Analyzing/Summarizing Data
- Research Findings
- Presentation
- Recommendations/Applications in Business Practice

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

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**2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

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