

FIM 500: Course Syllabus

Career Development for Quants FALL 2021 3 Credit Hours

Lecture Day: Friday **Time:** 1:30-4:15pm **Building/Room:** Park Shops 200

Instructors

John Collison ♦ jrcollis@ncsu.edu ♦ 919-515-4358 ♦ Office Hours: By appt.

Tao Pang ♦ tpang@ncsu.edu ♦ 919-513-2110 ♦ Office Hours: By appt.

Instructor Assistant

Matthew Dempsey ♦ mjdempse@ncsu.edu ♦ Office Hours: By appt.

Course Description

This is a seminar class for students in the Financial Mathematics Program. Professionals from industry and experts from academia may be invited to give presentations encompassing business knowledge, technical skills, professional skills, and career skills. Dr. John Collison will lead lectures on professional skills while the Program Ambassadors will teach technical topics.

Learning Outcomes

Goal A: Develop professional and career skills

Associated outcomes

- Create a professional presence on social media (e.g. LinkedIn)
- Create a resume that articulates job skills and relevant projects
- Create cover letters customized to target jobs and companies
- Network with peers and professionals
- Practice interview skills and etiquette

Goal B: Develop technical skills and business knowledge

Associated outcomes

- Extract data from industry standard sources, such as a Bloomberg Terminal
- Vertically and horizontally merge multiple datasets
- Perform statistical analysis on datasets
- Impute missing values
- Create a decision model from data
- Apply knowledge and skills to an analytic project and present results
- Learn about trends in analytics and business topics that will impact your work

Course Structure

There will be a combination of industry and skill focused lectures, project discussions, practical workshops, and self-study. Class will feature extensive opportunities to participate and receive real time feedback.

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Course Policies

This will be a professional seminar with the following expectations

- Business casual attire (at a minimum); no shorts, flip-flops, sneakers, caps/hats, jeans, miniskirts, or short dresses
- Food and beverages (except water) are NOT allowed
- Use of computers and personal devices are NOT allowed, except when required by speaker/instructor

Course Materials

Knock Em Dead (Yate) *This textbook is provided to all students*

Heard on the Street (Crack) *This textbook is recommended for all students*

Additional course materials will be posted on Moodle or distributed in class

Requisites and Restrictions

Restrictions: Must be in the Financial Mathematics program

General Education Program (GEP) Information

GEP Category: This course does not fulfill a GEP category

GEP Co-requisites: This course does not fulfill a GEP co-requisite

Transportation

This course will not require students to provide their own transportation. Non-scheduled class time for field trips or off campus activities is NOT required.

Safety & Risk Assumptions

None

Grading

Component	Weight	Details
Technical Skills	20%	Complete the assignments in Data Camp by the assigned dates.
Professional Development Assignments	20%	There will be readings, lectures, and assignments relating to general business skills. Completion of the work and participation in related discussions and activities are both factored in to this grade. Work includes creating a resume, cover letter, LinkedIn profile, and speaker reflection journal
Weekly Job Search/Networking	20%	5 career related activities per week related to internship search and/or longer term career aspirations; may be job applications or network building efforts; 9/3-11/19
Group Project	20%	Each student will complete a group project and contribute to a group project report; dates and subjects TBA

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Mock Interviews	10%	Two successful mock interviews (one with a Program Ambassador and another with Dr. Collison); dates TBA
Quant Quarterly Submission	10%	Each student will complete an article for inclusion in the Quant Quarterly; details TBA

Letter Grades

This course uses standard NCSU letter grading:

97 ≤ A+ ≤ 100

93 ≤ A < 97

90 ≤ A- < 93

87 ≤ B+ < 90

83 ≤ B < 87

80 ≤ B- < 83

77 ≤ C+ < 80

73 ≤ C < 77

70 ≤ C- < 73

67 ≤ D+ < 70

63 ≤ D < 67

60 ≤ D- < 63

0 ≤ F < 60

Requirements for Credit-Only (S/U) Grading

This course cannot be taken for S/U grading; it must be taken for a letter grade.

Requirements for Auditors (AU)

This course cannot be taken as an Audit

Policies on Incomplete Grades

If an extended deadline is not authorized by the Graduate School, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) by the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-50-03>. Additional information relative to incomplete grades for graduate students can be found in the Graduate Administrative Handbook in Section 3.18.F at http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/grad_publicns/handbook/

Late Assignments

Projects: No late assignments are accepted. If a graded assignment is missed due to an excused absence, the average of the remaining grades will be used in place of the missing grade

Attendance Policy

For complete attendance and excused absence policies, please see <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03>. Attendance is required.

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Absences Policy

1. One unexcused absence is allowed.
2. Each additional absence will result in a penalty of 25% of a letter grade. This means 4 unexcused absences beyond the one permitted will result in a full letter grade penalty.
3. Arriving at class late will be counted as an absence.

Makeup Work Policy

Projects: no makeup work is permitted.

Additional Excuses Policy

None.

Academic Integrity

Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct found at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01>

Some assignments will prohibit sharing information and/or prohibit group work. The first violation will result in a zero for the assignment. The second violation will result in suspension from NCSU and an F in the class. All violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Academic Honesty

See <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01> for a detailed explanation of academic honesty.

Honor Pledge

Turning in any test or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

Electronically-Hosted Course Components

Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.

Electronically-hosted Components: Grades, reading materials, and other items will be shared via Moodle.

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Accommodations for Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, student must register with the Disability Services Office (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dso>), 919-515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-01>.

Non-Discrimination Policy

NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation also is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is also prohibited. NC State's policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-04-25-05> or http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op/. Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 919-515-3148.