FINA 3335
Current Issues in Asset Management and Private Banking

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HKU BUSINESS SCHOOL
University of Hong Kong

Semester 1, 2020-2021
1:30 – 4:20 p.m. Tuesday, MW T7

Tutor: Frankie Ho
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Summary

This course seeks to cover current development and current issues in the asset management and private banking industry. The issues identified may be related to new business opportunities, new risk areas, new development affecting the AMPB market/industry.

First Class, Last Class, Assessment Date

First class: September 1, 2020
Last class: November 24, 2020
Submission due date of the Final Report: December 12, 2020

1. Course Overview

Aims and Objectives

1. The course is to provide a practical understanding of the current opportunities and risks in the asset management and private banking business.
2. Students are expected to apply their research skills and critically analyze the background to the identified issue, its implications to the industry/market and how the industry should capture the opportunities or reduce the risk
3. Students’ interviewing skills, discussion, debating, presentation and teamwork skills should be developed
4. Students’ writing skills in a research paper should also be developed
5. Students who are interested in a career in the AMPB industry will gain insights to the current happenings in the industry and enhance their ability to understand the industry dynamics.
Teaching/Learning Methodology/Methods

The course is organised in both lecture format and student presentation sessions, with a focus on application of in real-life business situations relating to asset management and private banking industry. While there is no tutorial session, students are expected to participate actively in classroom discussions. Preparation for the class is expected.

Students are required to form small groups of 2-3. Each group will work on a selected topic reflecting a current issue of the asset management industry, private banking industry or a combination, either a business opportunity, a risk area or a business challenge. The student is to do a research plus professional interviews on their choice of topic highlight the issue, the implication, the opportunity/risk/challenge and the group’s recommendation to further build the industry/business under such opportunity/risk/challenge. Each group will do a presentation during the class. Peer-students are expected to raise questions to the presenting groups.

Each student, on an individual basis, will write a report on the presentation, with a maximum of 4,000 words. The written report is to be assessed individually.

2. Course Materials

Distributed materials will be made available via HKU Portal My eLearning each week. Note that hard copies will not be distributed.

3. Assessment

Course assessment is based on the group presentation of the report. Students are to pick a topic of current issue and research on the topic. Evaluation is based on the quality of the research and the relevancy of the identified opportunity/risk to the development of the AMPB industry.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Brief description</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposal Presentation</td>
<td>Group basis</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of the Project</td>
<td>Group basis. Each student will be graded according to the performance of his/her group. However the instructor has the discretion to adjust the individual student’s grade based on peer evaluation by each group member and/or each student’s presentation and Q&amp;A ability.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Report of the Project</td>
<td>On an individual basis, each student to submit a written report of not more than 4000 words inclusive of tables</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer discussions – in class</td>
<td>Individual basis</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>participation</td>
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The written report of the project will be due by [time, date] (absolute deadline – no further extension will be approved). The maximum length for the written report 4000 words (including footnotes but excluding any bibliography).

The written report will be graded based on appropriate identification of issue representing either risk, opportunities or challenges to the industry, quality of the analysis, relevancy of the research, appropriateness of the recommendation, flow of the discussion, written expression and demonstrated familiarity with the subject-matter.

The Faculty’s rules prohibiting cheating, plagiarism and taking unfair advantage apply strictly to both the presentation and the written assignments. Note that all written work will be run through plagiarism detection software as part of the submission process.

4. Other Information

Attendance

Regular class attendance and class participation is expected. Generally, one does not meet this standard through conspicuous and regular absence or through inadequate class preparation. In addition, the very structure of this class as a discussion forum will require active participation by all students.

Preparation

Each student should read all assigned materials and undertake (if requested) any additional reading or research specifically required for a particular pre-assigned topic.

Office Hours

By appointment via email at maaz728@hku.hk
Course Syllabus

September 1, 2020
Seminar No. 1 Course introduction and overview

Course outline, syllabus and assessment

The global financial crisis (GFC)
- financial and political issues arising from the global financial crisis
- the fall of the global financial system and its implications

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

September 8, 2020
Seminar No. 2 The global financial crisis (cont’d)
- financial and political issues arising from the global financial crisis
- the fall of the global financial system and its implications

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

September 15, 2020
Seminar No. 3 Hong Kong as an asset and wealth management centre
- The government’s initiatives
- The industry’s initiatives
- Opportunities and challenges

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

September 22, 2020
Seminar No. 4 Hong Kong as an asset and wealth management centre (cont’d)
- The government’s initiatives
- The industry’s initiatives
- Opportunities and challenges

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)
September 29, 2020
Seminar No. 5  Briefing on the project, presentation and report

“China” in the asset management and private banking business and its implications
- Wealth creation in the PRC
- Connectivity between HK and China
- Business implications for the Hong Kong and China

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

October 6, 2020
Seminar No. 6  “China” in the asset management and private banking business and its implications (cont’d)
- Wealth creation in the PRC
- Connectivity between HK and China
- Business implications for the Hong Kong and China

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

October 20, 2020
Seminar No. 7  Student presentation on the proposed topic
“Current issue in Asset Management Industry” or
“Current issue in Private Banking Industry” or
“Current issue in Asset Management and Private Banking Industry”

Guest speaker – Mr. Philip Niem, CIO Axiom Investment Management Limited & ex- Bank of Singapore / Barclays PB Head of Investment Advisory / CIO

Topic - AMPB Active Advisory Mandate in a highly volatile & uncertain debt / capital markets environment

October 27, 2020
Seminar No. 8  “One-belt-one-road” and “Guangzhou/HK/Macau Great Bay’
- What is it?
- Implications and opportunities

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)
November 3, 2020
Seminar No. 9  “One-belt-one-road” and “Guangzhou/HK/Macau Great Bay’ (cont’d)
- What is it?
- Implications and opportunities

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

November 10, 2020
Seminar No. 10  Fintech in asset management and private banking business
- Implications of global and universal block chain methodology
- Crypto currency, common and shared ledger, smart contract,
- Robo-advisory
- Risk and opportunities
- Preparing for the fintech

Readings: Distributed materials (pls refer to Moodle)

November 17, 2020
Seminar No. 11  Presentation

November 24, 2020
Seminar No. 12  Presentation

Feedback
Preparation for the Written Report

Written Report Due Date

11:59 p.m. December 12, 2020

No further extension will be given.