Syllabus Fall 2021 GS 1181

Stock Market Investing: Buying Your First Share of Stock

Instructor: Dr. Herman Howard

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Required Reading: All required readings will be posted as PDFs to the course website (Angelo State Blackboard)

Course Description: This course will study how you can and will be a stock market investor by learning about the American stock market, understanding the 11 different sectors to be implied, learning the various platforms that you can use to buy stocks, selecting and buying stocks online for short term and long-term financial growth for passive income.

Signature Courses create a classroom environment where first-year students can interact with faculty regarding intellectual topics of mutual interest and can engage in shared inquiry and the practice of reasoning. Signature courses are structured around writing, oral communication and information literacy. The small size and interdisciplinary nature of signature courses foster exploration and scholarly exchange among students and with the instructor. Students enrolled in a signature course become active members of ASU’s intellectual community through the Faculty Lecture Series.

This course is part of ASU’s core curriculum. The objectives identified below are addressed in the course.

1. Demonstrate critical thinking skills (CT)
2. Demonstrate communication skills (CS)
3. Demonstrate personal responsibility (PR)

Specific learning outcomes:

- Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue (CT1);
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication (CS1);
- Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective oral communication (CS2);
- Evaluate choices, actions, and consequences as related to ethical decision-making (PR1).

Core Assignments/Activities and Assessment

Critical Thinking CT1: Use of library resources and other electronic databases to gather information. Activities include choosing and locating potentially useful information sources, identifying keywords & terminology, developing searches, retrieving results,
refining searches, citations, in-class worksheets, evaluating research logs, building a research portfolio, writing a bibliography, or a group search project. Assessment will occur via locally developed rubric.

Communication CS1: One written summary of an American or international public company that is on the New York Stock Exchange. Assessment will occur via signature course writing guide’s sample rubrics or holistic grading scale for instructors.

Communication CS2: One oral communication project to practice presentation skills. Assessment will occur via signature course oral communication guide rubrics and peer evaluation forms.

Personal Responsibility PR1: Reflective assignment on the Faculty Lecture Series. Assessment will occur via signature course writing rubric, communication rubric, or class discussion grade.

Course Evaluation

Students will be graded in the following measures: a) Group Company presentations, 50 % of grade, b) Company Stock Report, 50% of grade.

Grade Determination Criteria: 90-100 A; 80-89 B; 70-79 C; 60-69 D; 59 or below F

Other Standard Syllabus Information

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of GS 1181, a student will be able to

- Summarize and evaluate information;
- Use the library’s resources and other electronic databases to gather information;
- Reflect and articulate an understanding of course material through written, visual, or oral communication assignments;
- Engage with the academic community through the Faculty Lecture Series; and
- Use campus resources effectively.

Academic Integrity

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

American Disability Act

Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request and to implement academic accommodations. For more information, please contact Dallas Swafford at 325 942 2047, dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Attendance
Attendance is required and students are expected to take notes, complete assignments on time, and seek help when necessary.

Religious Holy Day
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. See the ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Academic Support Services

SMART Tutoring: SMART is Angelo State’s umbrella of academic support to help you achieve academic success (www.angelo.edu/dept/smart). It is in your best interest to make use of these services throughout the course and beyond. SMART tutoring services are free to all ASU students and consist of the following:

• ASU Tutor Center (www.angelo.edu/dept/tutoring)
• Writing Center (www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center)
• Math Lab (www.angelo.edu/dept/mathematics/lab_hours)
• Supplemental Instruction (www.angelo.edu/dept/si)
• SMART Workshops (http://www.angelo.edu/dept/smart/smart_workshops.php)

The ASU Tutor Center, Writing Center, Math Lab and SI also offer online tutoring. Students can access SMART Online via Blackboard: blackboard.angelo.edu. Look for the SMART Online tab.

Late Tests

If you miss a test due to an excused absence (i.e., hospitalization, funeral of close family member), you must make the test up within a reasonable length (no more than one week, desirably less.) All arrangements for making up work should be made prior to the absence, if possible, and is the student’s responsibility. A typed, signed and dated explanation must be given to the instructor upon returning to class.

Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism in your WRITINGS will result in a zero for the assignment, and the instructor may pursue additional measures. Speeches are to be the original composition of each student. Outside sources are required for each assignment with proper citing in a bibliography as required.
Class Etiquette

Please be a courteous student and peer. Use of cell phones in class will result in you being counted absent for the day, and will result in a 0 for any work completed on that day. Students may not use Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, or any other social media outlet to post pictures or videos of other students or their performance in the classroom. Failure to comply with this rule will result in you being reported to the Dean of Student Life.

Honor Code Policy

Violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student's own work and must be work completed for that particular class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Please see full Honor Code Policy at http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf

Disability Statement

The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford, Director of Student Development  
325-942-2047 office or 325-942-2211 Fax  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
University Center, Suite 112B

COVID-19 Class Procedures- Due to this pandemic, students may present their speeches while wearing their masks, (We will spray down the area after each speech), Power Point will be an option this semester. If it is used, we will assign one person to touch the clicker or keyboard. If you use the podium, it will be wiped down after each speech.
PROJECTS

STOCK MARKET COMPANY REPORT (DUE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021)

WORTH 500 POINTS

The company that you picked as your “lottery draw,” you will provide to the class about a 5-minute speech about your company. Discuss the strengths, weak points, and future outlook of your company, discuss the price per share, if it has a dividend and etc. Why should an investor buy into this company?

GROUP PROJECT ON STOCK MARKET COMPANY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021 WORTH 500 POINTS

You will be split into small groups where you will give a presentation on one new IPO company that has gone public in September or October (from a lottery draw in class). In your talk, you should explain in detail why should American stockholders should buy stock into this new company that is going public on the stock market. In your group speech, address the following:

1) What is the company?
2) What is the history of the company?
3) Why are they going public? Whom should be the target audience?
4) Discuss the initial cost per share? What is this company’s financial outlook?
5) Estimate what will be the cost of share for this company in 2025 and in 2030?
6) Do you think this company will or should give out dividends?
7) Show a power point or video to the class about your company!
8) Any other information your group should add
CLASS SCHEDULE (SUBJECT FOR REVISIONS)

WEEK ONE

Monday, August 23- Introduction to the course, syllabus

Wednesday, August 25- In class Stock market lottery (you will follow this company and monitor its daily growth or loss as if this is your own money) the winner with the highest growth will receive a class prize at the end of the semester-we will check your companies at the start of each class session)

WEEK TWO

Monday, August 30- Lecture on the History of the US Stock Market

Wednesday, September 1- Lecture on Cryptocurrency

WEEK THREE

Monday, September 6- Labor Day Holiday (markets are closed)

Wednesday, September 8- Lecture on the 11 sectors of the market

WEEK FOUR

Monday, September 13- Lecture on “How to buy shares using various platforms demonstration,”

Wednesday, September 15- Video (start buying stocks) using your online devices

WEEK FIVE

Monday, September 20- Stock Market Reports

Wednesday, September 22- Video Program

WEEK SIX

Monday, September 27- Discussion of Final Group Projects

Wednesday, September 29- Group Work

WEEK SEVEN

Monday, October 4- Group Presentations (first two groups)

Wednesday, October 6- Group Presentations (second two groups)
WEEK EIGHT

Monday, October 11 - Final Group Presentation

Wednesday, October 13 - Final winners of the stock market games will be announced with prizes, you will also announce what stocks you have bought during the 8 weeks with the format provided to you during class (ex. Robinhood, Charles Schwab, TD Ameritrade and etc.)