California Polytechnic State University
Orfalea College of Business
Business 464 – 08
Fridays 4:10-8:00 PM
Senior Project (SP)

Spring 2008 Course Outline

Instructor: Dr. Cyrus Ramezani  (http://cyrus.cob.calpoly.edu)
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides the opportunity for finance students to complete their Senior Project (SP) requirement. Business students can pursue their SP with any faculty at the college and are not restricted to finance faculty. Senior project courses appear either as Bus-461 and Bus-462 (a two unit sequence taken over two terms) or Bus-464 (4 unit completed in a single term). Students should look at the PASS listings to see who is offering SP courses, contact the professor directly and obtain their syllabus to find out what type of projects are being offered.

Although as a finance student you can pursue your SP with any faculty in the college, we encourage our students to pursue finance related projects under the direction of finance faculty. This is important as your SP will become part of your "package" when you begin to pursue a career. Indeed, a well done finance SP can serve as your ticket to securing interesting finance internships and a high paying job in finance industry.

Finance students may pursue one of the following SP alternatives:

A. The Student Managed Portfolio Project (SMPP): (minimum two quarters, a year long commitment is preferred). This course is taught by Dr. Ramezani.

B. The Cal Poly CFA Challenge: (minimum one year long commitment is preferred). Dr. Ramezani will offer a SP course with the aim of preparing students to take the CFA level I exam either in June or December. To pass this course students must take the CFA exam and at least one practice exam administered by Dr. Ramezani.

C. Bloomberg or Other Certification Projects: Students may pursue Bloomberg or other Certifications for their SP. To pass this course students must obtain at least one certification and take a Final exam administered by Dr. Ramezani.

D. The Traditional Research Projects and Business Plan Competition: Students may pursue, individually or in teams, a research project or analyze a problem of interest, under Dr. Ramezani’s supervision. To pass this course students must obtain complete a written research report and take a Final exam administered by Dr. Ramezani.
Name ___________________________ Age _______ Year in school _______
((Optional) Telephone __________________ Email _________________________

Your Concentration(s) ________________________________________ What is your GPA: ______

Do you currently have (or have you had in the past) any internships or jobs related to finance and investment management? ______ If so, please describe your experiences:

________________________________________________________________________________

What are your career plans? Which part of finance industry and where would you like to work?

________________________________________________________________________________

What is your target graduation date? ______________________________________

Why are you taking the Senior Project this term? ________________________________

Which Senior Project option do you plan to pursue? ________________________________

What other courses are you taking this term?

How many hours per week are you working this term?
What is your target date for finishing your Senior Project?

________________________________________________________________________________

Can you commit the time to finish your Senior Project this term? ________________

Which of the following courses have you taken and how long ago:

___ Finance Courses:

Course   Term
431 ______
438 ______
439 ______
443 ______
others ______

___ Statistics

___ Economics

___ Accounting

___ Others

I hope you will enjoy your Senior Project experience. Please let me know if you have any particular concerns, constraints or obligations that you want me to be aware of during this class.