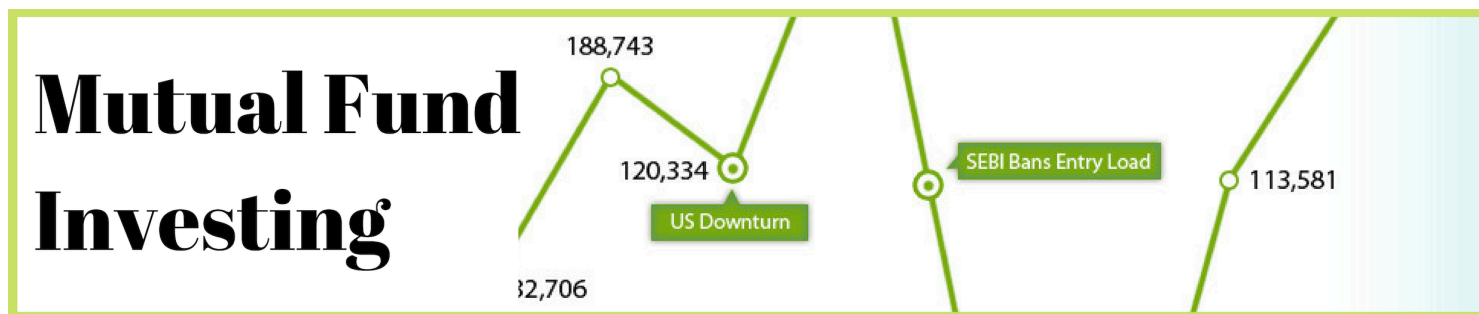


# Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

 Edit



## Course Information


**Course Title:** MBA 746 – Mutual Fund Investing

**Credit Hours:** 1.0

**Course Term:** Summer 2023

**Delivery Mode:** Online

**Course Dates:** July 10 - July 30, 2023

*If you are considering dropping this course, having a conversation with your academic advisor is a good place to start. You should also let the instructor know what your plans are. Click the following links, based on your home campus, to learn more about dropping this course:* [Consortium/UW-Eau Claire](#) 

[\(https://help.wisconsinonlinemba.org/article/60-adding-dropping-classes\)](https://help.wisconsinonlinemba.org/article/60-adding-dropping-classes) | [UW Oshkosh](#) 

[\(https://uwosh.edu/registrar/students/add-drop-calendar/\)](https://uwosh.edu/registrar/students/add-drop-calendar/) | [UW-Parkside](#) 

[\(https://www.uwp.edu/live/offices/registrarsoffice/adddrop.cfm\)](https://www.uwp.edu/live/offices/registrarsoffice/adddrop.cfm)

## Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Scott Beyer, Ph.D., CFA

**Home Campus:** UW-Oshkosh

**Phone:** (920) 202-1208

**Email:** [beyers@uwosh.edu](mailto:beyers@uwosh.edu) (<mailto:beyers@uwosh.edu>)

## Course Description

Students will learn the criteria for selecting mutual funds, how to develop investment portfolios composed of multiple mutual funds consistent with demographic characteristics of the investor, and how to assess mutual fund and portfolio performance. This course focuses on personal finance skills.

## Learning Outcomes

The course will provide the necessary information and skills to develop a portfolio of investment funds suitable to the goals and other criteria of a specific investment situation. The course will use saving for retirement as the benchmark goal. Specifically, the student will:

1. Use investment fund information to appropriately choose between different styles of funds with similar objectives within each style.
2. Use selection criteria to choose between different fund structures.
3. Explain how market efficiency influences the selection of mutual funds.
4. Develop an asset allocation model applying both investment and personal criteria.

## Required Course Materials

### Textbook

**Title:** Bogle On Mutual Funds: New Perspectives For The Intelligent Investor (1st edition, 2015)

**Authors:** Bogle.

**ISBN:** 978-1119088332

**\*\*Please note that this ISBN may differ from what appears on the UWEC bookstore website. If ordering from a source other than the UWEC bookstore, be sure to use the ISBN provided here to ensure you get the correct text.\*\***

[Click here to learn more about ordering textbooks](#) 

[https://www.wisconsinonlinemba.org/order\\_textbooks.phtml](https://www.wisconsinonlinemba.org/order_textbooks.phtml)). Contact [mba@uwec.edu](mailto:mba@uwec.edu)

<mailto:mba@uwec.edu> with any textbook-related concerns.

### Morningstar Premium Membership

The membership provides access to Morningstar's analysis on a variety of financial products, but we will focus on the mutual fund data. You will need access to this service for the three weeks of class, which would be covered with a 1-month membership. You might start with the free trial and if you think it will be useful then maybe buy the annual membership. Current rates as of February 2023: Premium memberships are available at the following term lengths and prices: \$34.95 for monthly, \$249 for annual (save 41% over a monthly plan), \$399 for two years, and \$499 for three years.

### Recommended Readings

- [Fund Spy: Morningstar's Inside Secrets to Selecting Mutual Funds that Outperform](https://www.amazon.com/Fund-Spy-Morningstars-Selecting-Outperform/dp/1119110068) (<https://www.amazon.com/Fund-Spy-Morningstars-Selecting-Outperform/dp/1119110068>) by Russel Kinnel. Kinnel was a research analyst for Morningstar and provides more depth on the models used by Morningstar and the Premium Data Service.
- [Common Sense on Mutual Funds: Fully Updated 10th Anniversary Edition](http://www.amazon.com/Common-Sense-Mutual-Funds-Anniversary/dp/0470138130/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1406126692&sr=1-1&keywords=mutual+funds+bogle) ([http://www.amazon.com/Common-Sense-Mutual-Funds-Anniversary/dp/0470138130/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1406126692&sr=1-1&keywords=mutual+funds+bogle](http://www.amazon.com/Common-Sense-Mutual-Funds-Anniversary/dp/0470138130/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1406126692&sr=1-1&keywords=mutual+funds+bogle)) by John C. Bogle and

David F. Swensen. John Bogle is the head of Vanguard Funds, a very well-regarded mutual fund family. He advocates for an investing style called indexing. Indexing is consistent with academic finance and an important concept for you to understand.

## Technology Requirements

Access to a computer and high-speed Internet connection that is capable of accessing Canvas is a requirement of this course.

Please review the minimum technology requirements and recommendations in the **Online Course Resources** link in the left-hand Course Navigation menu. To set yourself up for success, pay special attention to the sections on *Your Responsibilities*, *Strategies for Success*, *Tech Tips*, and *Tech Support*.

## Course Topical Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction to Investing & Mutual Funds
- Unit 2: Mutual Fund Investing
- Unit 3: Asset Allocation

## Assignments and Activities

This course is divided into three units that occur each week. The evaluation in the course occurs through three specific assignments and three discussions including the introduction.

The following points will be assigned to each item as described below:

| Item  | Points            |
|---|-------------------|
| Introductions   | 10 points         |
| Unit 1 Individual Assignment: Mutual Fund Basics            | 75 points         |
| Unit 2 Individual Assignment: Determining Return Objectives | 75 points         |
| Unit 2 Discussion: Specialty Bonds                          | 25 points         |
| Unit 3 Individual Assignment: Determining Asset Allocation  | 75 points         |
| Unit 3 Discussion: Achieving a Financial Goal               | 25 points         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>285 points</b> |

A comprehensive list of all course activities is listed on the calendar.

## Final Letter Grades Scale

Final grades are determined by the point totals for the course.

| Percentage | UWEC/Consortium/<br>UW-Parkside | UW-Oshkosh |
|------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| 93-100%    | A                               | A          |
| 90-92.9%   | A-                              | A-         |
| 87-89.9%   | B+                              | B+         |
| 83-86.9%   | B                               | B          |
| 80-82.9%   | B-                              | B-         |
| 77-79.9%   | C+                              | C+         |
| 73-76.9%   | C                               | C          |
| 70-72.9%   | C-                              | C          |
| 67-69.9%   | D+                              | F          |
| 63-66.9%   | D                               | F          |
| 60-62.9%   | D-                              | F          |
| 0-59.9%    | F                               | F          |

## Consortium's Excused Absence Policy

An absence will be considered excused or authorized according to the following institutional policies:

- The student's home campus policy on excused absences will apply.
  - [UW – Oshkosh](https://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/policies/attendance-policy/) ⇨ (https://www.uwosh.edu/registrar/policies/attendance-policy/)
  - [UW – Parkside](https://www.uwp.edu/learn/academiccatalog/2019-2021/policies.cfm) ⇨ (https://www.uwp.edu/learn/academiccatalog/2019-2021/policies.cfm)
- UW MBA Consortium students will follow the [UW – Eau Claire Authorized Absence Policy](https://www.uwec.edu/kb/article/class-attendance-and-authorized-absence-policies/). ⇨ (https://www.uwec.edu/kb/article/class-attendance-and-authorized-absence-policies/)

If your absence falls into the excused absence category, please contact me as soon as possible. I may request that you provide documentation, and I may need time to make alternative assessments available to you.

## Late Work Policy

In this online course, it is usually possible to work ahead of deadlines. All assignments are due at 11:59 PM CST on the date indicated on the calendar.

**Assignments up to eight hours late will receive a five percentage point penalty. Assignments 8-24 hours late will receive an additional five percentage point penalty.** After that, you may not receive any credit. Having said this, I recognize that most MBA students have work responsibilities and family obligations and that things happen. With this in mind, missed deadlines will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

## What You Can Expect From Me


I will do my utmost to respond to your questions within 24 hours. The same applies to questions you pose in the [Ask the Class/Raise Your Hand discussion area](https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion_topics/4330634) ([https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion\\_topics/4330634](https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion_topics/4330634)) (although a classmate may answer you before that). I will grade your assignments in a timely manner. If I can't, I'll let you know in an Announcement.

## What I Expect From You

I want you to log in at least once every day and check the Announcements for any updates. Be prepared and stay on top of your work so that you can contribute fully.

Please contact me if you are having difficulty understanding any of the material or if you are having difficulty accessing it. I want you to succeed in this course and I can help you do so. You are encouraged to check your grades frequently and resolve any errors prior to the end of the semester.

I enjoy the opportunity to communicate with you and an online course enhances this opportunity. This is an opportunity to practice written communication skills in a professional environment. Therefore, when you send me an email, please remember to keep your communication positive, constructive, and relevant to the course. Please also remember to be professional: use standard capitalization, punctuation, and appropriate language; and spell check your emails before sending them. At the end of your message, also include your full name, the course name, and your section.

Professionalism also includes respecting the opinions of others, though at times you may disagree with your classmates. I expect you to approach the class with an open mind as to the opinion of others while feeling free to express your own. Be sure to always follow [Netiquette guidelines](https://www.uwidocs.org/netiquette/)  (<https://www.uwidocs.org/netiquette/>).

## Questions

For questions related to the course, please post in the [Ask the Class/Raise Your Hand](https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion_topics/4330634) ([https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion\\_topics/4330634](https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/discussion_topics/4330634)) forum in the Community

Discussions module. For questions of a sensitive nature, please email or call me directly. You will find my email address and phone number at the top of this syllabus.

## Academic Conduct

To foster a productive learning environment, all students are required to accept and adhere to the [Student Code of Conduct \(https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/quizzes/1260790\)](https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/quizzes/1260790) agreement in order to participate in this course.

## Academic Integrity Policy

**"If you have integrity, nothing else matters. If you don't have integrity, nothing else matters."**

*Former Wyoming Senator Alan Simpson*

Integrity is an important component of students' academic experience. The academic evaluation a student receives for a course becomes a permanent University student record, and it is critical such records be accurate and consistent. In addition, the integrity students learn and exhibit at the University will be the model for the professional integrity they practice when they complete their academic work. The University believes unquestionable character and integrity are essential for successful careers. Whatever role you may play in an organization, be it publicly or privately owned, you will occupy a position of trust. High ethical standards, therefore, are not only necessary but are fundamentally part of all the University represents when it grants a degree.

There are too many recent examples of public greed on the part of corporate managers. Because of their actions, many lives were adversely affected. This being said, high integrity and honesty are expected in this course, and cheating of ANY kind will not be tolerated. The maximum penalties allowed will be sought for those caught cheating.

All class materials may not be shared outside of this course (e.g., to commercial "study sites") without my permission.

Unless I specify otherwise, all work that you turn in to me should be an individual effort. The sentence structure, wording, and content for your assignments and discussions must be your original work.

Academically dishonest behaviors include (but may not be limited to) the following:

- Intentionally or unintentionally presenting someone else's ideas or words as your own, either as a direct quote or paraphrased or summarized material, without the proper citation. All quotes and direct references must include citations. Remember to use APA format for citations. See the [OWL website from Purdue \(http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/\)](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/) for APA citation guidelines.
- Submitting work that is identical to or so similar to that of another in its wording, sentence structure, and content that it cannot be considered original.
- Plagiarizing yourself by submitting work for evaluation in this course that was previously graded or otherwise evaluated in another course. You can cite your previous work. If you want to use your

previous work, contact me first.



- Making up data or citations.
- Consulting resources to complete a graded course assessment other than those allowed in the assessment directions. If you are unsure what is considered as an authorized resource, consult with your instructor.
- Helping someone else engage in academically dishonest behavior, including posting course materials online.
- Violating copyright laws. In some cases, citing a source is not sufficient; you also have to obtain permission from the original source for the materials you use. Likewise, if you use any materials from this course outside this course, you may need permission to use them (e.g., in your company's training manuals, publications, or style guides).











Any investigation into any form of academic misconduct will result in a report to the dean of students and in student academic disciplinary sanctions as established by the UW System Board of Regents ([UWS Chapter 14](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/uws/14.pdf) [↗](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/uws/14.pdf) ([https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/uws/14.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/uws/14.pdf))). The disciplinary procedures from the student's home campus dictate the disciplinary action against students who engage in academic misconduct.

## Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

In order to ensure that all of our students have equitable access to our online course materials, we strive to meet the guidelines set by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, which requires the public to provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities when posting web-based materials. Canvas is [compliant with W3C's Web Accessibility Initiative](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061-accessibility-within-canvas) [↗](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061-accessibility-within-canvas) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061-accessibility-within-canvas>) and with [Section 508](https://www.section508.gov/) [↗](https://www.section508.gov/) (<https://www.section508.gov/>) guidelines. Additionally, Canvas was certified as a [substantially conformant LMS](https://webaim.org/services/certification/canvas) [↗](https://webaim.org/services/certification/canvas) (<https://webaim.org/services/certification/canvas>) by WebAIM, a third-party authority in web accessibility. If you find that course materials are not posted in a format that meets your needs, or you need testing accommodations, please contact Online Course Support at [BIZHelp@uwec.edu](mailto:bizhelp@uwec.edu) (<mailto:bizhelp@uwec.edu>) and we will work with you to find a reasonable accommodation.

## Course Summary:

| Date             | Details  | Due            |
|------------------|--|----------------|
| Mon Jul 10, 2023 |  <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1421222&amp;include_contexts=course_578500">Complete the Code of Conduct</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1421222&amp;include_contexts=course_578500">https://uws.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=1421222&amp;include_contexts=course_578500</a> ) | 12am           |
| Tue Jul 11, 2023 |  <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999883">Introductions</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999883">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999883</a> )  | due by 11:59pm |

| Date             | Details   | Due            |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| Fri Jul 14, 2023 |  <a href="#">Introduction Discussion Replies</a>   | to do: 11:59pm |
| Sat Jul 15, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 1 Individual Assignment: Mutual Fund Basics</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999885">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999885</a> )             | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Jul 19, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 2 Discussion: Specialty Bond</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999882">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999882</a> )                            | due by 11:59pm |
| Fri Jul 21, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 2 Discussion Replies</a>   | to do: 11:59pm |
| Sat Jul 22, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 2 Individual Assignment: Determining Return Objectives</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999886">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999886</a> )  | due by 11:59pm |
| Wed Jul 26, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 3 Discussion: Achieving a Financial Goal</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999881">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999881</a> )                | due by 11:59pm |
| Fri Jul 28, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 3 Discussion Replies</a>   | to do: 11:59pm |
| Sat Jul 29, 2023 |  <a href="#">Unit 3 Individual Assignment: Determining Asset Allocation</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999887">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999887</a> ) | due by 11:59pm |
|                  |  <a href="#">Final Course Evaluation</a>   | to do: 11:59pm |
|                  |  <a href="#">Final Grade</a><br>( <a href="https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999884">https://uws.instructure.com/courses/578500/assignments/5999884</a> )  |                |