

Week #16 – Investing *Speculating* with Options and Futures

Happy After-Exam #4 Day, Everyone! Here we are at the beginning of week #16 and the semester is quickly coming to a close. With bonds and exam #4 behind us, it is time to get serious about learning about options, chapter 15, and futures, chapter 14. (Notice that I did not say anything about actually investing in options and futures. They are not investments; they are speculations. And we all know that speculation is just a fancy term for gambling, right? Remember: Instruction *about* syphilis is not an instruction to *acquire* syphilis. The same is true for options and futures. Just because you need to know and understand these “weapons of mass financial destruction¹” does not mean you should ever throw any money at them. Okay, this is the end of my personal rant. My apologies.)

Please submit any late assignments that you have as soon as possible. Also, just in case you did not know, Blackboard allows the instructor to add feedback comments for your assignments. Please take a look at them. At the end of the semester, many students decide that they should actually submit the assignments for chapter 1 and 4 as well as a few of the other chapters. For this reason, don't be surprised if it takes me a bit longer to grade them. The end of a semester is always a hectic time!

We are almost at the end. Don't Give Up! ***Never*** Give Up!

Sincerely,

Frank Paiano

P.S. Get started on learning about options and futures. (But please don't ever speculate in options and futures, okay?) The next exam is the final during the last week of the semester.

¹ “Weapons of Mass Financial Destruction” was coined by Warren Buffet to describe his thoughts on derivatives. He coined this term, by the way, before the financial world was rocked by the mortgage meltdown in 2008.