

Week #2 – Continuing Introduction to Investments – Risk versus Return – Short-term Investments

Hello, Everyone! Welcome to week #2 of BUS-123, *Introduction to Investments*. Almost everyone has posted their introductory thread on the *Please Introduce Yourself* discussion board. Thank you very much. Have you visited the class web page yet (<http://wonderprofessor.com/123s14/123.html>) and gotten started on the first section material? Yes? Great! If not, what are you waiting for!? This is an *online* class. **YOU** have to be self-disciplined! **YOU** have to spend an hour each day (okay, okay, how about at least ½ hour?) on BUS-123, *Introduction to Investments*. **YOU Need To Get To Work! NOW!** Okay, so what happens when you have a question?

Some of the best resources are the discussion boards. There is a discussion board for every major investment class. Currently, we have available the *Short-term Snack Shack* and the *Maison de Mutual Funds*. Post questions and comments regarding these two types of investments in these two boards. There is also an all-purpose discussion board entitled *The Strength-to-Go-On Bar & Grille*. Use this discussion board when you are ready to tear your hair out, go screaming into the night, drop the class, smack your children or spouse, fall on your sword and commit suicide, etc. The discussion boards are great resources because your fellow students often are able to help you faster than I can. I check the boards at least once a day. Also, here is a tip: Explaining the material to other students in need is often the best way to learn. Studies have shown again and again that students who work together and study together do better than students who work and study alone. Lastly, you can always send me an e-mail message (fpaiano@swccd.edu) or call me at the office (619-421-6700x5692) or even call me at home (619-223-5264). All of us at Southwestern want you to succeed!

By now, you should at least be in the middle of the section #1 material. You hopefully have viewed, listened, read, etc. at least the first two lectures of section #1. These include the *Introduction to Investing* and the *Overview of Investment Types*. By the end of this week, you need to finish the second two lectures of section #1. They are *Risk versus Return* and *Short-term Investments*. (If you are having any problems with the mp3 or Flash or presentation files, please get help as soon as possible! Your best bet is to ask a teenager for help. Bring plenty of pizza! Apple mobile users can view the presentations at iTunes. Search for “BUS123”.) Next week we start the very important topic of mutual funds so please do not get behind.

Yes, you need to view **all** the chapter presentations, listen to **all** the audio lectures or view the audio/visual lectures, listen to **all** the commentaries, download **all** the handouts, assignments, answer keys, etc. **Do Not Try To Learn The Material While You Are Taking The Exam!** That is not learning! It just makes a mockery of the whole online learning experience. Obviously, no one but you will know but still, there is a growing backlash from many educators and members of the society about online learning. If we want online education to continue to thrive, we must all take the experience seriously. (Okay, end of rant. My apologies to all the students who already take online learning seriously.)

Reminder to the students who have not done so already: You need to either contact me as soon as possible or post your own thread that introduces yourself as discussed in the Week #1 announcement. This serves as your confirmation that you want to continue in the class. State law requires that we professors drop students who are not actively participating in the class. (This is reasonable because the State of California pays us for each student in our class. The state should not have to pay us for students that are not taking the class, right? That makes sense, right? I know, I know. Some professors never take attendance, whether online or face-to-face. But that does not make it right. In this class, we take attendance. Those tax dollars are paid by everyone, including me!)

Thank you all again for being in our class. *Now Get To Work, Dear Students! Time’s a wastin’!*

Sincerely,

Frank Paiano