Description: Managed Investments

<table>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
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<td>2, 2004</td>
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Academic group: FOBUS
Academic org: FOB009
Student contribution band: 2
ASCED code: 081105

STAFFING
Examiner: John Teale
Moderator: David Troedson

RATIONALE
From its inception, the managed investments industry in Australia has experienced rapid growth, and managed funds form an increasingly important part of the investment portfolio. In 2003, Australian retail investors had almost $200 billion invested in managed funds, with an increasingly important share of this being housed within master trusts. Managed investments are unlike other investment vehicles in that they afford investors the benefits of ownership in an extremely diverse array of investments for a moderate cost. Given the size, importance and unique features of this industry, managed investments deserve separate attention within the wider field of investment analysis.

SYNOPSIS
This course introduces students to the managed investment industry in Australia. It outlines the rationale for managed investments, provides an overview of the industry and introduces students to the range of managed funds. In addition, the course provides students with a framework for evaluating portfolios in terms of their diversification, management and performance.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. define a managed investment and provide examples of the various types of managed investments in Australia;
2. explain the regulatory role of ASIC and outline the key aspects of legislation under which the managed investments industry operates;
3. explain the structure of unit trusts and related investment vehicles;
4. outline the range of fees born by investors in managed investments;
5. Discuss taxation and social security issues as they relate to managed investments;
6. understand the underlying risk and return characteristics of securities and portfolios;
7. explain the rationale for portfolio diversification;
8. understand the CAPM model and its application in portfolio management;
9. describe in some detail the different types of managed investments operating in Australia, with reference to their risk and return characteristics;
10. explain the difference between active and passive portfolio management;
11. discuss key concepts in portfolio construction and management;
12. understand the theoretical framework for risk adjusted performance measures;
13. compute risk adjusted performance measures and rank portfolio performance;
14. discuss the problems associated with performance measures;
15. understand the process of performance attribution;
16. explain the key criteria for unit trust selection; and
17. outline the main advantages and disadvantages of managed investments.

**TOPICS**

<table>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Managed Investments: An Overview</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2 Managing a Portfolio: Risk and Return Issues and Portfolio Construction</td>
<td>40.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3 Portfolio Evaluation: Evaluating Return in the Light of Risk and Assessing the Contribution of Management</td>
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**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:**

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).


There is no specific text assigned to this course. There are however a number of useful texts, magazines and websites that can be used for reference. All of the books listed are available at the University Library. We would encourage you to search the library for additional references at - http://www.library.usq.edu.au

Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) - http://www.asic.gov.au


(Kaustralian edition)

Kuhn, SE 1994, March 12, "Stocks are still your best buy", *Fortune*, p72.


Strong, RA 2003, *Portfolio construction, management and protection*, Thompson, Australia.

**REFERENCE MATERIALS:**
Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

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<tr>
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<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 HOUR EXAMINATION</td>
<td>70.00</td>
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**NOTES:**

1. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.

**IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

1. **Attendance requirements:**
   If you are an international student in Australia you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. Failure to attend may infringe the conditions of your student visa. For all other students, there are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2. **Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:**
   Students must submit an assignment that represents a reasonable attempt as determined by the Examiner and Moderator. Students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for the examination.

3. **Penalties for late submission of required work:**
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each working day late.

4. **Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:**
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must attempt all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% in the examination and achieve
an aggregated mark of at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
This is a restricted examination. Candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); calculators which cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination). Students are not permitted to take mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic means of communication into the examination room.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Guide to Policies and Procedures of the Faculty which can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/buspolproc.html.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner. (iii) If students submit assignments after the due date and wish to claim extenuating circumstances then they shall provide validated documentary evidence with the assignment, explaining the circumstances. The Examiner shall consider the statement accompanying a late assignment and decide on the outcome. (iv) Assignments are to be submitted in the appropriate assignment folders.

2 Course Weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.

3 Deferred Work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
4 Dishonest Actions: (i) Any student who is alleged to have performed a dishonest action relating to any assessment in the course will have a course of action taken against him/her as outlined in the Academic Regulations. (ii) Pieces of assessment should be the work of individual students. Joint pieces of assessment are not permitted unless written approval has been obtained from the Examiner. (iii) Dishonest action in relation to assessment includes: copying or attempting to copy the work of others; use of or attempting to use information prohibited from use in that form of assessment; submitting the work of another as your own; consciously committing acts of plagiarism, ie taking and using another’s thoughts or writings as one's own with intent to deceive, which occurs when paragraphs, sentences, a single sentence or significant parts of a sentence which are copied directly, are not enclosed in quotation marks and appropriately footnoted or referenced in the text; direct quotations are not used, but text is paraphrased or summarised, and the source of the material is not acknowledged by footnoting or other reference in the text.