

Option Pricing and Financial Risk Management FIN 4934

Course Overview and Investment Background

Lecture 1: Introduction



Course Outlines

- This course provides exposure to derivative instruments and markets, and the practical applications of these financial assets :
 - futures/forwards, swaps, options, exotics, and weather derivatives
 - speculation, hedging, and corporate risk management decisions
 - Monte-Carlo simulation, finite difference methodology and lattice frameworks
- Prerequisites
 - FIN 4504
 - Accounting; QMB 3200
 - If you haven't taken these, and plan to take them at the same time this semester, let me know.
 - If I say CAPM and you say huh? This is not a good sign

Lecture 1: Introduction

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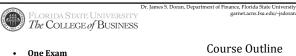
Course Outline

- Course materials
 - Textbook: Futures, Options, and other Derivatives, 6th Edition
 - Lecture notes available on BlackBoard
 - Calculator, Proficiency in Excel are critical
 - Recommend to read regularly the financial newspapers such as the
 - Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, fenews.com
- Grading
 - Individual Work:

- Take Home Exam 30%
- Class Participation/Attendance 10%
- Group Work:
- Homework 30%
- Team Project/Presentation 30%

Grading will be close to curves, but may vary depending on the outcome of exam scores.

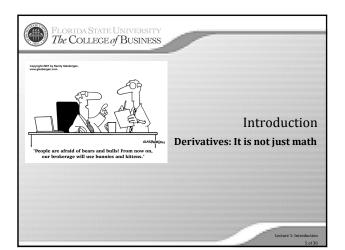
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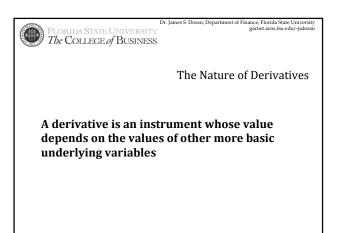


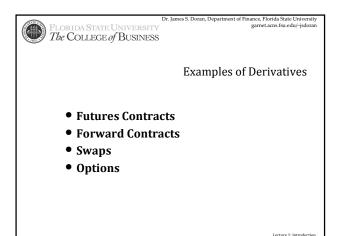
- - Will be given on 11/29/07; due in one week
 - TAKE HOME
 - No makeup exam except for serious cases.
- Homeworks
 - I want you to work in groups (four members per group is preferred)
 - However, I must stress that each person work diligently on the HW assignment as it is fantastic preparation for the exam.

Team Project

- Form a group of 4~5 students
 - You must notified me of the team members by the 3rd class..
- The assignment will include a report, and a Power Point presentation at the end of the semester. This is a crucial aspect of the evaluation process.
- This is a research assignment relating to a specific case of derivatives or risk management misuse







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Derivatives Markets

• Exchange traded

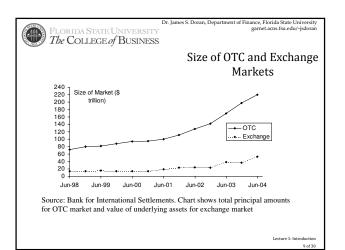
• Traditionally exchanges have used the open-outcry system, but increasingly they are switching to electronic trading

• Contracts are standard there is virtually no credit risk

• Over-the-counter (OTC)

• A computer- and telephone-linked network of dealers at financial institutions, corporations, and fund managers

• Contracts can be non-standard and there is some small amount of credit risk

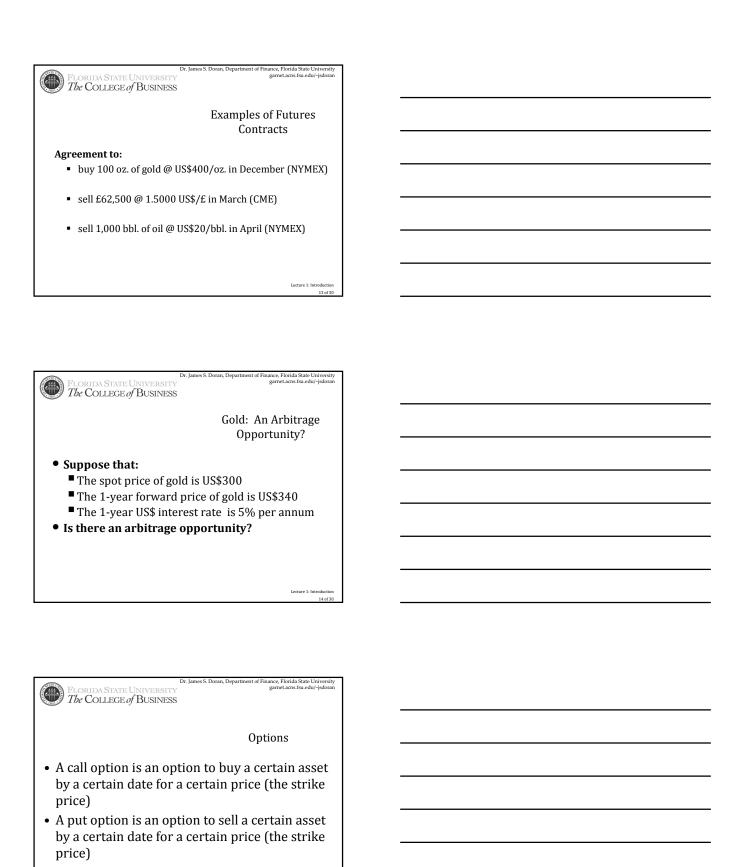


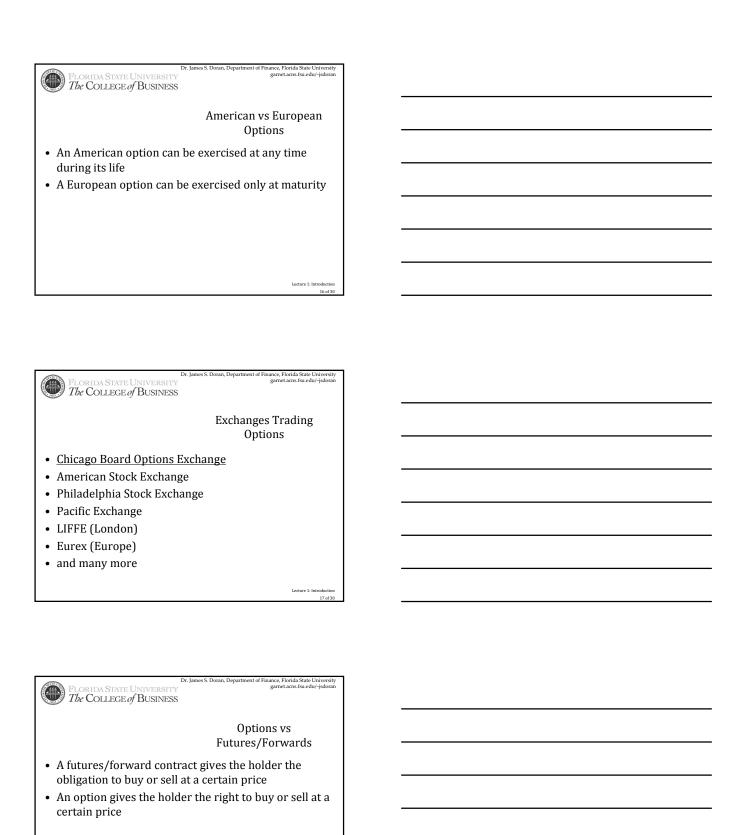
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Ways Derivatives are Used	
 To hedge risks To speculate (take a view on the future direction of the market) To lock in an arbitrage profit To change the nature of a liability To change the nature of an investment without incurring the costs of selling one portfolio and buying another 	
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Futures Contracts	
 Agreement to buy or sell an asset for a certain price at a certain time Similar to forward contract Whereas a forward contract is traded OTC, a futures 	
contract is traded on an exchange	-
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Exchanges Trading Futures	
Chicago Board of Trade	
<u>Chicago Mercantile Exchange</u>LIFFE (London)	

• Eurex (Europe)

TIFFE (Tokyo)and many more

• BM&F (Sao Paulo, Brazil)







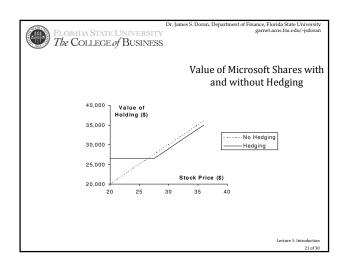
- Hedgers
- Speculators
- Arbitrageurs

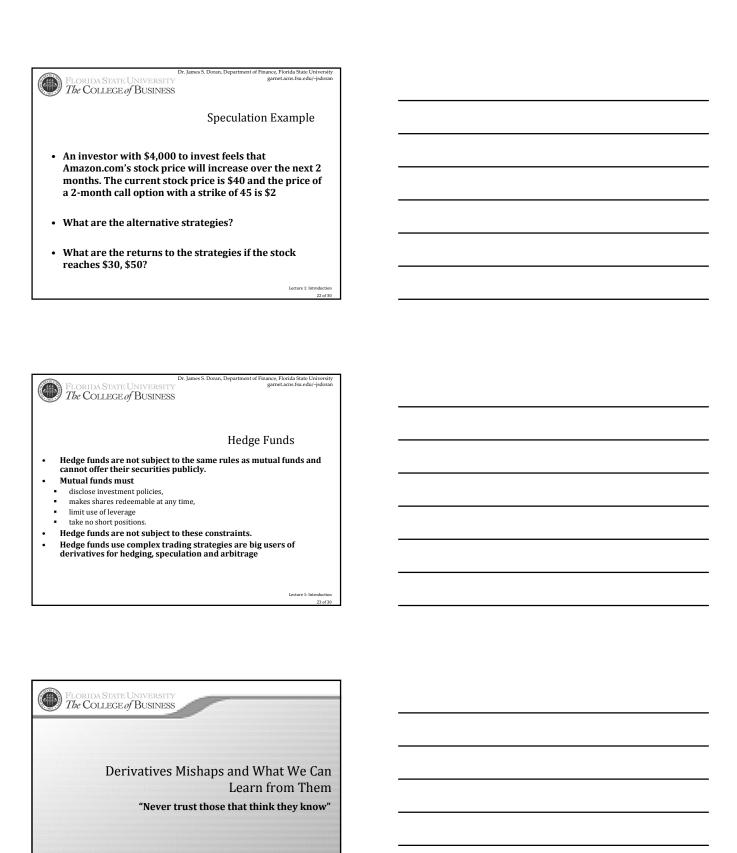
Some of the largest trading losses in derivatives have occurred because individuals who had a mandate to be hedgers or arbitrageurs switched to being speculators



Hedging Examples

- A US company will pay £10 million for imports from Britain in 3 months and decides to hedge using a long position in a forward contract
- An investor owns 1,000 Microsoft shares currently worth \$28 per share. A two-month put with a strike price of \$27.50 costs \$1. The investor decides to hedge by buying 10 contracts





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Big Losses by Financial Institutions	
• Allied Irish Bank (\$700 million)	
Barings (\$1 billion) Contains	
Daiwa (\$1 billion)Kidder Peabody (\$350 million)	-
• LTCM (\$4 billion)	
• Midland Bank (\$500 million)	
National Westminster Bank (\$130 million)	-
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Big Losses by Non-	
Financial Corporations	
Allied Lyons (\$150 million)Gibsons Greetings (\$20 million)	
Hammersmith and Fulham (\$600 million) Matellage allocked (\$1.0 killion)	
Metallgesellschaft (\$1.8 billion)Orange County (\$2 billion)	
Procter and Gamble (\$90 million) Chall (\$04 hillion)	
Shell (\$1 billion)Sumitomo (\$2 billion)	
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Lessons for All Users of Derivatives	
Risk must be quantified and risk limits set	
Exceeding risk limits not acceptable even when	
nrofits result	

• Do not assume assume that a trader with a good track record will always be right

• Scenario analysis and stress testing is important

• Be diversified

	•
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The College of Business Lessons for	
Financial	
Institutions	
 Do not give too much independence to star traders Separate the front middle and back office 	
Models can be wrong	
Be conservative in recognizing inception profits	
 Do not sell clients inappropriate products 	
Liquidity risk is important	
 There are dangers when many are following the same strategy 	
out accept	
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Lessons for Non-Financial	
Corporations	-
It is important to fully understand the products	
you trade	
Beware of hedgers becoming speculators	
It can be dangerous to make the Treasurer's	
department a profit center	
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Next Lecture	
• Interest Rates	
Chapter 2 in Hull	
Start of 80's Trivia	