Instructor: Hao-Chen Liu, Ph.D., CMT, CGBP, Global Scholar
Class time and date: Online (Asynchronized)
Classroom: Online
Office hours: (see the communication section)
E-mail: liuh@cofc.edu

Course Description
This course introduces the basic knowledge of terminology and analytical tools used in technical analysis. The following topics are included in this course.

- Theory and history of technical analysis
- Charts, trends, and patterns
- Markets and volatility
- Behavioral finance and other theories of market dynamics
- Basic statistics for the technical analyst
- Perspectives on technical trading systems

Required Textbook
(https://www.efficientlearning.com/partner/kubishta/kubishta-cmt)

Recommended Readings/Podcasts
- Financial Newspapers: Wall Street Journal, Financial Times
- “Technical Analysis of Stocks and Commodities Magazine” (Traders.com)
- “Fill The Gap”, CMT Association Podcast (https://cmtassociation.org/development/podcasts/)
- Financial data:
  - Finance.yahoo.com
  - Stockcharts.com
Required Technology

The entire course will be delivered online through OAKS (lms.cofc.edu). Therefore, you need to have a computer to access internet and be able to play both audio and video files. Using mobile device to access the course materials is not recommended. If you experience any technology issues, please contact Student Computer Support at 843-953-8000 or studentcomputingsupport@cofc.edu. (https://it.cofc.edu/help/studentcomputing.php)

IMPORTANT: Computer failure/unavailability does not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments by the due date.

Prerequisites

Junior rank or higher, or permission of the instructor

The SB Learning Goals

- COMMUNICATION SKILLS: Students demonstrate the ability, via both written and spoken word, to effectively present, critique, and defend ideas in a cogent, persuasive manner.
- QUANTITATIVE FLUENCY: Students demonstrate competency in logical reasoning and data analysis skills.
- GLOBAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY: Students identify and define social, ethical, environmental, and economic challenges at local, national and international levels. Students integrate knowledge and skills in addressing these issues.
- INTELLECTUAL INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY: Students demonstrate their resourcefulness and originality in addressing extemporaneous problems.
- SYNTHESIS: Students demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple disciplines incorporating learning from both classroom and non-classroom settings in the completion of complex and comprehensive tasks.

Course Delivery and Learning Expectations

This course is an online and asynchronous course. It will be delivered completely online. Even though we do not meet in person, our goal is to have a bonded learning community. In this community, we help each other by having online interactions through different communication tools (see “Communication” in the “Other issues” section). In the following few weeks, we all live in this community. To achieve the highest level of learning for everyone, we should be good citizens in this community.
• Good citizens help each other.
• Good citizens communicate in good and acceptable manners.
• Good citizens contribute to the community.
• Good citizens care and listen to each other.
• Good citizens can be trusted by each other.

Because we do not meet in person, it is very important that you participate regularly in our virtual community to stay on the top of the course. In each module, there will be lecture videos, reading assignments, practice problems, discussion questions and a module test. Other than the module test, which you are required to complete independently, all other components can be worked together in this virtual community. There will be different forums on the discussion board on OAKS for you to ask and answer questions. Please feel free to post any course related questions on OAKS.

REMEMBER, ALL QUESTIONS ARE GOOD QUESTIONS.

Please do not feel frustrated or uneasy to ask questions. Some other students might have the same questions but are afraid to ask. However, if you still feel uncomfortable to post questions in public, feel free to email me or use other communication tools.

Last but not the least, even though this is an online course, you should expect to have the same level of rigorousness as a face-to-face course. This course is not self-paced. Instead, it is very fast paced. New module will be posted on OAKS on regular basis and tests will be given regularly. If this is your first time taking an online course, I understand your anxiety of possibly missing anything because there is not an assigned meeting time like in a regular semester class. Please do not worry. As long as you log in OAKS regularly, you should not miss any new posts.

**Grade Determination**

Final grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 assessment tests</td>
<td>45% (i.e., 15% each test)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trading project</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildcard for best all-around performance</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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The Overall Performance Score computes with this letter grade distribution:

\[
\begin{align*}
92.0 \leq \text{average} & \Rightarrow A & 72.0 \leq \text{average} < 77.0 & \Rightarrow C \\
89.5 \leq \text{average} < 92.0 & \Rightarrow A- & 69.5 \leq \text{average} < 72.0 & \Rightarrow C- \\
87.0 \leq \text{average} < 89.5 & \Rightarrow B+ & 67.0 \leq \text{average} < 69.5 & \Rightarrow D+ \\
82.0 \leq \text{average} < 87.0 & \Rightarrow B & 62.0 \leq \text{average} < 67.0 & \Rightarrow D \\
79.5 \leq \text{average} < 82.0 & \Rightarrow B- & 59.5 \leq \text{average} < 62.0 & \Rightarrow D- \\
77.0 \leq \text{average} < 79.5 & \Rightarrow C+ & \text{average} < 59.5 & \Rightarrow F
\end{align*}
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**Homework Assignments**

Homework assignments will be posted on OAKS. Here are the rules for submitting your assignments.

- Each assignment needs to show complete work to receive full credit.
- Each assignment is required to be typed.
- Each assignment is submitted in MS Word file.
- Each assignment needs to be submitted to the Assignment Dropbox on OAKS. Only the files submitted to Dropbox will be graded. No email submission is accepted.
- Each assignment will be due by 11:30 p.m. (U.S. Eastern Time) on the due date. Please plan to submit your assignment early. Your computer might have a different time from Oaks. The due time, 11:30 p.m. (U.S. Eastern Time), is based on Oaks, not your computer’s time. No late homework will be accepted.

**Modules, Assessment Tests, and Final Exam Policies**

1. **Modules**
   - Modules will be posted on OAKS at 8 a.m. on the posting day.

2. **Assessment Tests**
   - There will be total 3 assessment tests before the comprehensive final exam.
   - Each test will be posted on OAKS at 8 a.m. on the test date and will be available on OAKS until 11:30 p.m. on the next day.
   - It is a timed test.
• Students missing an assessment test for any reason whatsoever receive a zero on that test. There are no excused absences because we employ a no-fault attendance policy. No make-up tests will be given.

(3) Final Exam

• At the end of the term, a final exam will be posted on OAKS. The date of the final will be scheduled according to the Registrar office’s calendar.

• Final exam is comprehensive. It will be served for 2 purposes. First, it accounts for 20% of your grade. Second, it will be used to replace 1 of your lowest scored assessment tests if it is higher than any one of the assessment tests. Therefore, in case that you missed an assessment test (which will be counted as a zero), you can use the final exam to replace the missed assessment test. You can use your final exam to replace at most 1 assessment test. For example, if you missed assessment test 1 (i.e., 15% of your grade), the weight of the final exam will be 35% (i.e., 15% + 20%). If you miss more than 1 assessment test, you will receive a zero for the other missed tests.

Other Issues

(1) Communication: There are at least 2 different ways to communicate in this course.

   a. Email: If it is a student specific question, please email me and it will be replied within 24 hours during workdays (i.e., Monday to Friday). Only emails sent through CofC student email accounts will be replied (i.e., @g.cofc.edu). On the email subject line, put “FINC-360”. If you do not receive my reply in 24 hours during workdays, send it again.

   b. Discussion Boards:

      (i) General Discussion Board (GDB): This board is for general questions, such as course requirements, homework due date, where to turn in homework, etc. You are encouraged to answer questions if you know the answers.

      (ii) Topic Discussion Board (TDB): This board is for topic specific questions.

(2) Announcements: It is your responsibility to check any announcements posted on OAKS.

(3) CDS: This College abides by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please contact an administrator at the Center of Disability Services/SNAP, 843.953.1431 or me so that such accommodation may be arranged. http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/
List of topics

- **Module 1**: Theory and history of technical analysis
- **Module 2**: Charts, trends, and patterns
- **Module 3**: Markets and volatility
- **Module 4**: Behavioral finance and other theories of market dynamics
- **Module 5**: Basic statistics for the technical analyst; Perspectives on technical trading systems

Important dates:

- Assessment Tests & Final Exam
  - Test 1: June 13-14
  - Test 2: June 17-20
  - Test 3: June 27-28
  - Final Exam: July 6-7
- Last day to drop/add: Tuesday, June 7
- Last day to withdraw with a grade of “W”: Monday, June 27
- Independence Day Holiday (no classes): Monday, July 4
- Last day of class: Tuesday, July 5
- Final Exam: Wednesday to Thursday, July 6 to 7
### Course Schedule

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>Course policy</td>
<td>Theory and History of Technical Analysis</td>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>June 10</td>
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<td>CMT Association</td>
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<td>Introduction to Charts – 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Trends – The Basics</td>
<td>June 16</td>
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<td>Breakouts, Stops, and Retracements</td>
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<td>June 20</td>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>Moving Average</td>
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<td>Volume</td>
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<td>Bar Chart Patterns</td>
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<td>Short-Term Patterns</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>Confirmation</td>
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<td>Markets and Volatility</td>
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<td>Measuring Market Strength</td>
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<td>Behavioral Finance</td>
<td>Perspectives on Technical Trading Systems</td>
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<td>Ethics</td>
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<td>July 4</td>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>Independence Day Holiday (no classes)</td>
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<td>Study Day</td>
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<td>Study Day</td>
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<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong></td>
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<td>(UNTIL 11:30 p.m., July 7)</td>
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### College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity

“Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to misunderstanding and confusion will be handled by the instructor. The instructor designs an intervention or assigns a grade reduction to help prevent the student from repeating the error. The response is recorded on a form and signed both by the instructor and the student. It is forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.”
Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This status indicator will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at: http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/