The Chicago Exchanges
March 2019
Finance 594
Gib Bassett

The course features presentations by leaders of financial exchanges and trading firms discussing the history and future role of financial exchanges in the global economy. Presentations will also feature the authors of assigned books.

Readings: (1) Zero Sum Game, by Erika Olson, and (2) The Rise of the Speculator, by Emily Lambert.

The books are available at internet and regular bookstores.

A book that is not required, but provides information on many of the topics that will be discussed is: Against the Gods by Peter Bernstein.

Some of the speakers will provide copies of each week’s presentations that will be distributed. I will let you know if speakers are going to distribute reading material before class.

Assignment:
A 4 to 6 page report (hard copy) is due at the last class. The report should review the presentations and readings, and--if possible briefly discuss connections between the class presentations and the history of the exchanges as presented in the two books. It can include commentary about best/favorite presentation(s).

Presentations:

March 14: First Class—Gib Bassett: Introduction to the Chicago Exchanges

March 21: Erika Olson, author: Zero Sum Game.

March 28: Spring break

April 4: Brian Schell, Executive VP, Chicago Board Options Exchange

April 11: Julie Winkler, Chief Commercial Officer, Chicago Mercantile Exchange

April 18: Kelly Loeffler, CEO Bakkt.

April 25: Scott Gordon, Vice Chairman Rosenthal Collins; former Chairman, Chicago Mercantile Exchange

May 2: Last Class: Discussion: Assignment due.