The purpose of this assignment is to help you build the learning skills necessary in the work place. You are to pick two of the three following topics to research: Interest Rate Swaps, Forward Contracts/Options, or Determinants of Interest Rates. You are expected to research the topic using credible sources (a bibliography is required, but does not have to be extensive). Then you must address the following:

1. identify at least four specific deadlines for when work must be done in order to complete the entire task on time and hold yourself accountable to meeting those deadlines
2. define each term in your own words
3. identify key relationships between the term and other ideas in financial mathematics and your other core courses
4. identify the type of problems that are addressed by the topic
5. present at least one problem associated with this topic, describe in "English" a step-by-step solution process, and present a complete solution showing how your process works to generate correct solutions

General guidelines:

- Submit an itemized schedule with due dates that will allow you to complete the entire project well and on-time to your professor the next class period (9/22/26, paper copy in class). Submit a copy of the due dates that includes the dates tasks were actually completed as a cover page for your final submission (collected in class).
- You may talk with each other generally about ideas, but you must create your own definitions, processes, etc. You may use problems found in other texts/online, but you must cite them. Papers who present original problems will likely earn higher grades. Any assistance received from your professor is acceptable.
- You are to present your work as a study guide. The easier it will be to study from, the more likely it will be to earn a higher grade. Consider ideas like neatness, very limited use of white space, color coding, organization of content, etc.

Grading Guidelines: Each topic will be graded independently. The following outlines how each section will be evaluated.

- A "C" paper will have addressed each of the above criteria with adequate presentation/organization for study purposes, have correct content, with adequate start on the discussion of ideas/relationships, and a good start on the solution process(s) for at least one problem type (which might need some refinement).
- A "B" paper will have addressed each of the above criteria with more than adequate presentation/organization for study purposes, have correct content, with thorough/clear discussions of ideas and relationships, and clear solution process(s) for at least one problem type.
- An "A" paper will have addressed each of the above criteria with efficient and effective presentation/organization for study purposes, have correct content, with thorough/clear discussions of ideas and relationships (while still remaining succinct), clear solution process(s) for at least one problem type, and have demonstrated that they met their self-imposed deadlines.

Interest Rate Swaps, Forward Contracts/Options, Determinants of Interest Rates

1. ($\sim$ 10%) Strategic Presentation: neatness, limited use of white space, color coding, organization of content, etc.

   F —— D^- —— D —— D^+ —— C^- —— C —— C^+ —— B^- —— B —— B^+ —— A^- —— A —— A^+

2. ($\sim$ 35%) Effective Communication: correct and complete content
   (definitions, relationships between concepts, problem characteristics, example/solution processes)

   F —— D^- —— D —— D^+ —— C^- —— C —— C^+ —— B^- —— B —— B^+ —— A^- —— A —— A^+

Interest Rate Swaps, Forward Contracts/Options, Determinants of Interest Rates

1. ($\sim$ 10%) Strategic Presentation: neatness, limited use of white space, color coding, organization of content, etc.

   F —— D^- —— D —— D^+ —— C^- —— C —— C^+ —— B^- —— B —— B^+ —— A^- —— A —— A^+

2. ($\sim$ 35%) Effective Communication: correct and complete content
   (definitions, relationships between concepts, problem characteristics, example/solution processes)

   F —— D^- —— D —— D^+ —— C^- —— C —— C^+ —— B^- —— B —— B^+ —— A^- —— A —— A^+

($\sim$ 10%) Appropriate project management

F —— D^- —— D —— D^+ —— C^- —— C —— C^+ —— B^- —— B —— B^+ —— A^- —— A —— A^+

Penalty: poor presentation, failure to follow directions, inappropriate bibliography, etc.

______________ / 50 points