

Extra Credit Reading and Writing Assignment in Corporate Finance – Spring 2013

Assignment No. 3 [worth a maximum of 15 points, for the 15 page project with full biographical references from the book and play, due March 25, 2013]

This project assignment involves reading the book, FIASCO by Frank Partnoy [available on Amazon for \$.01 to \$5.11], and then either read Shakespeare's play, "Much ADO About Nothing" or seeing the DVD of this play starring Denzel Washington, Emma Thompson, Michael Keaton, and Keanu Reeves [available through Netflix, Redbox or Amazon for rental at \$.99 or for purchase of \$3.40 to \$7.99]. Having read FIASCO, and either seen or read the Shakespearean play, you need to write three essays [with full referencing] addressing the following issues:

1. [3 points] Who are the main characters from FIASCO and the play? If one were to map the character types from FIASCO onto the play, who out of Partnoy's book would represent Don John? Who would represent Beatrice? Who would represent Hero? Is there a character that might represent Don Pedro? How about Benedict? Is there a character from FIASCO that might imitate Don Pedro or Claudio in real life? Please provide a reasoned argument with each of these associations, that justifies your identification of the one character from FIASCO to the other from "Much ADO About Nothing." You may need to be creative in terms of this mapping. For example, you may have to consider financial institutions, regulatory bodies, as well as individuals as characters in the book FIASCO.

2. [2 points] What are the main themes expressed in FIASCO and "Much ADO About Nothing". What are the major motivations that give rise to the decisions of the main characters in both the play and the book? Who would be considered the tragic character in Shakespeare's play? Who would be considered the tragic character in Partnoy's book FIASCO? Why are these considered to be tragic characters? Please provide a cogent argument justifying your position in each case.

3. [10 points] According to "Much ADO About Nothing" why is one's reputation so important? With respect to FIASCO why would one's reputation be important? In the Shakespearean play what was done to address the loss of reputation? Was that remedy sufficient? Why or Why not? In the book FIASCO was there much concern about any of the character's reputation? Were the individuals in FIASCO highly educated, raised in a highly cultured home and school environment prior to being employed? Did their education help them in understanding how decisions on the job might impact others? In the book FIASCO what were the trader's views of women and their worth to an investment banking organization? What does the book FIASCO and the play "Much ADO About Nothing" have to say about decision making at a public university? Can you identify a tragic character from the events that happened last Spring on the campus of UNI? Please provide a rationale for each of your positions.