

**CASE STUDIES AS A
TEACHING-LEARNING TOOL
IN ECONOMICS, FINANCE
AND QUANTITATIVE COURSES**
An Instructor's Perspective

Yusof Ismail



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An Instructor's Perspective

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Case Studies in Investment Analysis

Razali Haron

Introduction

Being an instructor of investment subject, I believe that students learning this subject need to be exposed to case studies as the nature of this subject demands a real life situation in applying the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course. During my years of teaching investment, case studies have been my assistance in delivering information, knowledge and exposures. Case studies can come very handy in my teaching plan and also permit evaluation of theoretical concepts when being put into application in analysing the case. I myself learned a lot from case studies during my days in college and I would want to replicate that to my students. I can see the benefit of using case studies to further enhance students' basic understanding of the subject matter as how they have helped me in beefing up my knowledge and expertise in this area.

Case studies offer real life situation and authentic experience in classroom environment to students when they are unable to acquire such experience outside just yet. Case studies also allow students to put theories into practice thus helps elevating students competencies in the subject matter. I always encourage my students to be familiar with case studies by attempting to answer to the questions posed in the case. I believe that case studies can sharpen students' skills and later on will be able to apply the skills in the real world after graduated.

Objectives of using cases

I would specify three main objectives of using case studies in my teaching method.

- *To expose students to the real situation on investment.* I can see that case studies offer real-to-life situations and authentic scenarios to students thus can give good and beneficial exposures to students to the real situation on investment. To me case studies provide tools and indirect experience to students in applying whatever learned throughout the course. Case studies are also seen as an epitome to the real world in this case, the world of investment thus can become a handy tool to the students later on. Apart from that I believe case studies can help students to contextualise theories learned from text books and this will ensure good grip on the theories as well as issues arose relating to investment.
- *To test students on investment decision making pertaining to investment products available on Malaysian market.* From my experience, investment products available normally refer to US market. Students need the closest to life material in order for them to fully comprehend the course. They need some localised scenarios for them to be able to apply the skills acquired throughout the course especially in investment decision making pertaining to investment products available on Malaysian market. With case studies in the contexts closest to home, students can become more confident