

Course Overview

# Global Asset Allocation

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## Overview

Academic research finds that markets are, to use Paul Samuelson's phrase, "micro efficient but macro inefficient."

But CIOs, asset allocators, and investment professionals often struggle to find a practical way to construct optimal multi-asset portfolios. Methods and strategies to harvest alpha from these macro inefficiencies is what the BCA Academy Global Asset Allocation course teaches delegates. Identifying portfolio objectives is an important starting point for successful asset allocation strategies. Yet properly matching the macro environment with the appropriate asset allocation strategies is often the most challenging part of the investment process. This course will help delegates become more effective at interpreting how our Global Asset Allocation team sees the world; an important input given the increasingly complex macro environment. Delegates will also get a better understanding of how to develop and execute asset allocation strategies, as well as a firmer grasp on how investors should be positioned given prevailing market conditions.

## Description

As the Chief Strategist of BCA Research's Global Asset Allocation team, Garry Evans brings a wealth of experience, insight, and time-tested methods on how investors should navigate markets from an allocation perspective. Important questions that will be examined during the Global Asset Allocation course include: assessing indicators that shed light on where we are in the cycle, discussing the behavior of different assets and factor tilts during various phases of the cycle, and learning how to incorporate quant models into the investment process, among many others.

Case studies and an exercise will put the concepts discussed during the course to work. Looking at the behavior of the major asset classes around recessions will also help investors navigate the late innings of the current cycle. Our objective is for delegates to leave the course with a better understanding of asset allocation and actionable investment strategies for the current and future environments.

**"Garry broke down a complex approach to investing and made it very digestible and easy to understand."**

Past Global Asset Allocation Attendee

**"Garry was able to present complex ideas into simple delivery yet with a concise presentation. Would love to have him back for future sessions."**

Past Global Asset Allocation Attendee

*This online course is eligible for 8 hours of Continuous Learning Hours. CFA Institute members are encouraged to self-document their continuing professional development activities in their online CE tracker.*

## Course Highlights

### Learning Objectives:

- Long-term investment returns
- Tactical tilts and asset allocation

### Case Studies:

- Great Financial Crisis
- TMT Bubble
- Stagflation
- Investment Committee Exercise

### Here's what we'll cover:

- Factor tilts and currency hedging
- Alternative assets
- Regime investing
- Long-term themes
- Safe haven assets and inflation hedge

## Who Should Attend?

### This course is ideal for:

- Senior investment professionals that are involved in asset allocation discussions and decisions
- Family office investors, private-banking relationship managers, and investment advisors
- Mid-level buy-side research, portfolio management, and quantitative investment professionals

## Instructor

### Garry Evans

Chief Strategist, *Global Asset Allocation*

Garry Evans joined BCA Research in August 2015 and is currently BCA Research's Chief Strategist, Global Asset Allocation. Besides heading the GAA team, he is also a member of the Research Executive Committee, where he is responsible for the talent portfolio. Prior to joining BCA, he was Managing Director and Global Head of Equity Strategy at HSBC, based in Hong Kong. During 16 years at HSBC, Garry also worked as Japan Strategist, Asia-Pacific Strategist, and Head of Research in both Tokyo and Hong Kong. Garry started his career at Euromoney Institutional Investor and was Chief Editor of Euromoney Magazine from 1990 to 1998. He has an MA in Asian Studies from Cambridge University, and undertook postgraduate studies in economics at Kyoto University in Japan.



## 2018-2019 Class Survey Results

Level of understanding before the course.

7.15 / 10

Level of understanding after the course.

8.51 / 10

Delegates' understanding of macro increased by 20% after attending this course.

↑20%

Overall course rating.

8.84 / 10

Instructors overall rating.

9.30 / 10

Professional credibility of trainers.

9.42 / 10

Likely to recommend this course to a colleague.

8.92 / 10

## | Course Agenda:

### Week 1

#### Session 1:

##### Introduction

- Strategic versus Tactical
- The BCA Global Asset Allocation Service approach

#### Session 2:

##### The Basics

*Case Study 1: Global Financial Crisis*

- What is asset allocation?
- Where are we in the cycle?

*Case Study 2: TMT Bubble*

- Do valuations matter?
- Safe havens
- Inflation hedges

*Case Study 3: Stagflation*

### Week 2

#### Session 3:

##### Mean Variance Optimizers

- The uses and abuses of MVOs
- Capital market assumptions
- Volatility and correlation

#### Session 4:

##### Alternatives

- Return characteristics of alts
- Problems
- Hedge funds
- Real Estate
- Commodities
- Cat Bonds

### Week 3

#### Session 5:

##### Long-Term Themes

- Debt supercycle
- Technology cycles
- Geopolitical multipolarity
- Mal-distribution of income

#### Session 6:

##### Factors/Exotic Beta

- Factor investing
- Small cap "outperformance"
- Incorporating factors into the investment process
- The role of quants models

### Week 4

#### Session 7:

##### Currency Hedging

- Should you hedge the FX exposure of your overseas equity holdings?
- Simple versus dynamic hedging models
- What about foreign bonds?

#### Session 8:

##### Implementation

- Rebalancing
- Organizational alpha

#### Additional Course Highlights

- Each session will be presented in a live video class webinar format. The recordings of each session will be made available to all delegates.
- During each session delegates will have the opportunity to ask questions live or submit offline.
- Weekly multiple choice quizzes to ensure understanding
- Additional readings will be provided to support learning objectives
- Live question and answers

*Additional Material:*

*Participants will receive reading materials that will supplement the in-class learning experience.*

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