Alternative Investing

*An Introduction to Venture Capital, Private Equity and Hedge Funds*

UGBA 195T, 2 units

**Course Overview:**
This course will provide a very high level introduction to venture capital, private equity, and hedge funds. In the course, students will learn:

- What are venture capital, private equity, and hedge funds?
- What types of investments do they make?
- How do they generate superior investment returns?
- What do the professionals in these firms do?
- How these firms are organized, structured and managed?
- What are the career paths in these firms?
- What are the risks and rewards experienced by these firms?

**Teaching Method:**
The course will extensively use Harvard Business School case studies. There will be some lectures to introduce core concepts. The course materials will focus approximately 50% on venture capital, 25% on private equity and 25% on hedge funds.

**Prerequisites / Grading / Homework /:**

- Open to upper division students only. First preference to Haas seniors.
- Some interest in start-ups and investing will be helpful.
- Homework will include reading and analyzing one business case per week of approximately 10-15 pages in length.
- Grading will be based on class room participation (25%), quizzes (25%) and a final exam (50%).

**Instructor:**
Rob Chandra is the President & CEO of Avid Park Capital, a hedge fund based in Palo Alto. Previously, he was a managing partner at Bessemer Venture Partners, one of the largest and most successful venture capital firms in the US. During his 17 years in venture capital, he was an investor in 25 start-ups which went public or were acquired by other public companies. In his last year as a full-time venture capitalist, he was ranked #28 in the Forbes annual ranking of the top 100 venture capitalists. Prior to entering the investment profession, he worked for McKinsey & Company. He has a BA from University of California at Berkeley and a MBA from Harvard Business School. For questions, contact him at Rob_Chandra@haas.berkeley.edu.