**The Basics of Financial markets**

* Companies: Private vs. Public
* Major US Markets: (www.yahoo.com)
	+ NYSE (Broad coverage, Symbol 3 or less characters: e.g. IBM, BA, PFE)
	+ NASDAQ (Tech dominated; Symbol 4 or more characters: e.g. MSFT, INTC, AAPL)
	+ S&P 500 (500 largest US companies)
	+ DOW 30 (30 stocks as barometer of US companies from NYSE and NASDAQ; e.g. **money.cnn.com**/data/dow30: e.g. PFE, MRK, PG, BA, IBM, INTC, MSFT, JPM, CAT)
* Major International Markets: (www.advfn.com/world)
	+ France: CAC 40 INDEX (e.g. Sanafi, Total, Loreal)
	+ Germany: DAX Index (e.g. Siemens, SAP, BASF, BMW)
	+ Japan: Nikkei 225 (e.g. Mitsubishi, Nissan, Kirin)
	+ Canada: TSX (e.g. TD Bank, Potash, Imperial Oil)
	+ And many more… (all developed countries have their own stock market)
* Stocks:
	+ Buy, Sell
	+ Long, Short
* Mutual Funds
	+ Broad (e.g. Fidelity Magellan, Contra Fund)
	+ Select or Index (e.g. Fidelity Select Technology, Select Financials, S&P 500 Index)
* Derivatives (i.e. Options)
	+ Calls
	+ Puts
* Bonds
	+ Treasury Bonds (i.e. Federal Government)
	+ Municipal Bonds (i.e. State and local governments)
	+ Industrial Bonds (i.e. Specific company bonds)
* Currencies (www.forex.com)
	+ Euro/US Dollar
	+ US Dollar/Japan Yen
	+ US Dollar/ Canadian Dollar
	+ And many more
* Commodities/Futures (www.gforcetrading.com)
	+ Metals: Platinum, Gold, Silver, Copper
	+ Grains: Wheat, Sugar, Corn, Soy beans,
	+ Energy: Oil, Gas