The Efficient Learning System

Efficient Learning
The Efficient Learning System incorporates two principles that encourage focused and effective learning: short, complete learning sessions and “Data Matters.”

Short, Complete Learning Sessions
Too often courses follow the classroom model of long lectures covering a multitude of topics, limited student interaction and high stakes mid-term and final exams assessing broad areas of knowledge.

A more effective approach, one that can adapt to busy schedules and a variety of learning styles, is to organize learning and assessment around smaller more focused topics. For this reason, Wiley CFA arranges content into “Bite-Sized Lessons.”

A Bite-Sized Lesson includes everything a learner needs for a three-step process to topic mastery:

1. Study
The study step is the foundation of your preparation and consists of watching the comprehensive lecture and reading the study guide. Prior university studies or work experience may mean that a brief review will suffice, but no assumption of prior knowledge is made. Even for areas where a candidate has a strong background, there will be aspects that must be learned for the first time. Once you have learned the material, you should spend time applying what you have learned to the study questions located beneath the study guide. Working the study questions will ultimately save you time since identifying weaknesses and getting immediate feedback will help you avoid simple mistakes on the next step.

**TIP:** Do your best to make reading text and watching video an active part of the learning process. Be an active reader: highlight important text, take notes, and try to predict the multiple choice you will encounter in the next step. Engage with the lectures: print the lecture handouts or study guide and take your own notes. Pause the video and attempt to answer the problems being presented before your instructor walks you through.

**TIP:** In the software it will be tempting to click on the answer to a multiple-choice question without fully committing to an answer. Just to see if it’s correct. Avoid this shortcut and instead make a habit of solving problems before viewing the answer and its rationale. That way, you simulate taking the exam and develop your ability to apply the knowledge obtained in the learning phase.
2. Assess
We love assessments! There is no better way to affirm mastery or uncover weak spots in your knowledge than with frequent testing. We build a variety of them into your course:

- **Diagnostic Assessments** – feeling good about the level of knowledge you’re starting your review course with? Looking to save time? Diagnostics assessments pull random questions from upcoming lessons and the results can be used to rearrange your materials so that you tackle weaker or stronger areas first.
- **Lesson Assessments** - Every single lesson in the CFA Review course contains a short assessment that will indicate whether you are ready to move to the next lesson. Or not. If you’re struggling with a topic, we want you to know about it sooner rather than later…
- **Session Assessments** – … because later we want to measure whether you’re retaining everything you have learned. Testing multiple readings at once, the session assessments serve as a final check of whether you’re ready to move into the next major content area.
- **Mock Exam** - The Mock exams are a critical part of your preparation and a great way to build exam day stamina.
- **Custom Assessments** – want to drill on even more questions? The Quiz Builder tool provides access to questions you’ll only see here, and let you build your own assessments covering as little as a single lesson all the way up to the whole level

3. Connect
You’re not alone on this journey and connecting with experts and peers is an important way to get your questions answered, stay motivated and engage with a community of like-minded individuals. That’s why we build in tools that will allow students to interact with subject matter experts right into the content.

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**Figure 1 – Anatomy of a Bite-Sized Lesson**
**Course Syllabus**

The Wiley CFA Exam Review Course syllabus follows the CFAI curriculum structure of study sessions and readings. Bite-sized lessons reside beneath each reading. This structure ensures easy movement to and from the content of the curriculum, whilst maintaining the efficiency and modularity of the Efficient Learning System.

In addition to the study assignments candidates are required to complete by taking assessments, exam tasks are also built into in the syllabus. Tasks are important items that a candidate will need to be aware of during the exam preparation process, e.g. exam registration deadlines, final week checklists and final review instructions.

**Wiley CFA January 2015 Products Bundles**

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We provide “Until You Pass Guarantee” for all bundles.

**Product Descriptions**

In this section we describe in more detail each of the content components included in the Wiley CFA Exam Review Course.

**Questions Bank**

Candidates can reinforce understanding of the curriculum and identify strengths and weaknesses with MCQs in each level (1,500 questions in Level I and 750 questions in Level II). Our questions are primarily designed to test mastery of concepts and to evaluate the depth of understanding of the curriculum. They also contain a fair number of problems that aim to drive home material that must be memorized for success on the exam.
Our questions will drive home for candidates just how smart the questions on the exam actually are, and will teach them to structure their thinking and avoid careless mistakes come exam day.

**Mock Exams**
Our CFA mock exams have been carefully written by content experts with the aim of providing you tests that resemble the actual CFA exam in terms of style, structure and construction of questions. These mock exams will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses, and learn to manage your time on the exam. We also provide comprehensive solutions to all questions to help you learn from your mistakes.

The Level I Online Review Course includes two full-length mock exams. Level II Online Review Course includes one full-length mock exam.

**Virtual Classroom**
Offering the benefits of a live class and the convenience of distance learning, the Wiley CFA Review Virtual Classroom series is a sequence of 18 live, online events designed to

- Drive home the most important topics from each study session;
- Provide additional guidance on difficult topics by walking candidates through the process of solving some of the most difficult questions;
- Extend the scheduling benefits and social support of in-person classes and
- Offer access to subject matter experts who can help students with their unique content challenges with live Q&A.

**Online Mentoring**
Enjoy online mentoring from CFA experts to answer questions in 24 hours.

**Lecture Videos and Formula Sheets**
Since they form the foundation of the Wiley CFA Exam Review course, the lecture videos are the most thorough and in-depth instruction available anywhere. Our instructors use digital whiteboards and animations to effectively communicate the material and keep candidates on their toes with their challenge questions that tackle the trickiest of problems step-by-step.

Authors Peter Olinto and Darren Degraaf present directly from the Study Guide, and Basit Shajani lectures from a set of structured slides that are available for download on every lesson.

**Online Exam Planner**
Successful candidates reporting spending between 300 and 350 hours preparing for Level 1. The Wiley Exam Review Exam Planner can be customized to keep you on track all the way to the exam.
Study Guides

Our authors have used their years of personal teaching experience with students from a variety of backgrounds to develop study guide content that understands and meets the requirements of CFA Level I and Level II candidates. The Wiley CFA Study Guides have several unique features that make the learning process easier and more productive, including:

- A color-coding feature, which makes it easier to follow cases and examples that make references to graphs and sets of financial statements.
- An LOS Tracker, which states exactly where every single learning outcome statement is covered in the CFA Program Curriculum. Whenever a learner feels they require more background information they can easily flip to the exact page on which the relevant concept is discussed in the curriculum.

Study Guides Available in Various Formats

Online

Every lesson in the online course contains the relevant excerpt of the Study Guide and includes the same color-coding and tracking features as other versions. Electronic tools allow users to highlight and annotate the text inline. The software also collects all user notes and highlights into a single place for easy retrieval.

Figure 2 - Online notes and highlights are accessible from a central location
eBook
Each Level of the Wiley CFA Review course is available as a single printable eBook through our Vitalsource partner.

Print
For those who prefer hard copy, a five-volume set of soft-cover books that include the entire body of study text and embedded LOSs are available for purchase. The content of both the print and ebook is organized into session, reading and lesson following the same sequence as the online courseware.

The 11th Hour Review Course
Most CFA exam candidates will spend over 300 hours across 6 months working through the core content. Available in March 2015, our 11th Hour Review course caps all that hard work with additional material to refresh memory and reinforce the knowledge required on exam day.

The following components make up the 11th Hour Review course:

11th Hour guide
The popular 11th Hour Review Guide is our quick review text that will expedite revision and ensure familiarity with all-important concepts. It becomes very difficult to go over so many books in the last few weeks before the exam, so we have condensed the material and added instructors’ comments and tips to help optimize performance. The content of the 11th Hour guide is included in the software and you could also buy the print or eBook version as A-LA-CART product for quick study sessions away from the computer.
Final Review Seminar
With approximately 27 hours of lecture in for Level I and 30 hours for Level II, the Final Review Seminar provides a perfect balance of curriculum review and problem solving.

Mock Exam and Mock Exam Seminar
Each 11th Hour Review course contains a unique mock exam to further assess mastery of the broadest range of knowledge and hone exam-taking skills.

To ensure that candidates fully optimize performance on the actual exam, each Final Review course includes additional video of instructors walking through all the questions on our most challenging mock exams whilst providing useful strategies and tips to avoid common pitfalls. The Level I Mock Exam Seminar runs approximately 10 hours. Level II is approximately 12 hours.