

FRANKLIN UNIVERSAL TRUST  
Form N-Q  
July 28, 2011

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF  
REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-05569

**Franklin Universal Trust**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

**One Franklin Parkway, San Mateo, CA**  
**94403-1906**

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

**Craig S. Tyle, One Franklin Parkway, San  
Mateo, CA 94403-1906**

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(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 312-2000

Date of fiscal year end: 8/31

Date of reporting period: 05/31/11

Item 1. Schedule of Investments.

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Quarterly Statement of Investments

I See Notes to Statement of Investments

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## Franklin Universal Trust

Notes to Statement of Investments (unaudited)

### 1. ORGANIZATION

Franklin Universal Trust (Fund) is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a closed-end investment company.

### 2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT VALUATION

The Fund's investments in securities and other financial investments are carried at fair value daily. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. Senior Fixed Rate Notes are carried at cost. Under procedures approved by the Fund's Board of Trustees, the Fund may utilize independent pricing services, quotations from securities and financial instrument dealers, and other market sources to determine fair value.

Equity securities listed on an exchange or on the NASDAQ National Market System are valued at the last quoted sale price or the official closing price of the day, respectively. Over-the-counter securities are valued within the range of the most recent quoted bid and ask prices. Securities that trade in multiple markets or on multiple exchanges are valued according to the broadest and most representative market. Certain equity securities are valued based upon fundamental characteristics or relationships to similar securities. Investments in open-end mutual funds are valued at the closing net asset value.

Debt securities generally trade in the over-the-counter market rather than on a securities exchange. The Fund's pricing services use multiple valuation techniques to determine fair value. In instances where sufficient market activity exists, the pricing services may utilize a market-based approach through which quotes from market makers are used to determine fair value. In instances where sufficient market activity may not exist or is limited, the pricing services also utilize proprietary valuation models which may consider market characteristics such as benchmark yield curves, option-adjusted spreads, credit spreads, estimated default rates, coupon rates, anticipated timing of principal repayments, underlying collateral, and other unique security features in order to estimate the relevant cash flows, which are then discounted to calculate the fair value.

The Fund has procedures to determine the fair value of securities and other financial instruments for which market prices are readily available or which may not be reliably priced. Under these procedures, the Fund primarily employs a market-based approach which may use related or comparable assets or liabilities, recent transactions, market multiples, book values, and other relevant information for the investment to determine the fair value of the investment. The Fund may also use an income-based valuation approach in which the anticipated future cash flows of the investment are discounted to calculate fair value. Discounts may also be applied due to the nature or duration of any restrictions on the disposition of the investments. Due to the inherent uncertainty of valuations of such investments, the fair values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had an active market existed.

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## Franklin Universal Trust

### Statement of Investments, May 31, 2011 (unaudited) (continued)

interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The Fund is currently evaluating the impact, if any, of applying this provision.

#### 7. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Fund has evaluated subsequent events through the issuance of the Statement of Investments and determined that no events have occurred that require disclosure.

For additional information on the Fund's significant accounting policies, please refer to the Fund's most recent semiannual or annual shareholder report.

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Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. The Registrant maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Registrant's filings under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such information is accumulated and communicated to the Registrant's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. The Registrant's management, including the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer, recognizes that any set of controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives.

Within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Quarterly Schedule of Portfolio Holdings on Form N-Q, the Registrant had carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Registrant's management, including the Registrant's principal executive officer and the Registrant's principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures. Based on such evaluation, the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.

(b) Changes in Internal Controls. There have been no significant changes in the Registrant's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect the internal controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation in connection with the preparation of this Quarterly Schedule of Portfolio Holdings on Form N-Q.

**Item 3. Exhibits.**

(a) Certification pursuant to Section 30a-2 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 of Laura F. Ferguson, Chief Executive Officer - Finance and Administration, and Gaston Gardey, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer.



**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

**Franklin Universal Trust**



By /s/ LAURA F. FERGERSON

Laura F. Fergerson

Chief Executive Officer -

Finance and Administration

Date July 27, 2011

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By /s/ LAURA F. FERGERSON

Laura F. Fergerson

Chief Executive Officer -

Finance and Administration

Date July 27, 2011

By /s/ GASTON GARDEY

Gaston Gardey

Chief Financial Officer and

Chief Accounting Officer

Date July 27, 2011

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