

Personal Finance

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: EL3403

Grade level: 9–12

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 0.5

Course Description

This one-semester elective prepares students to navigate personal finance with confidence. The course opens with a study of what it means to be financially responsible, engaging students in budgeting, planning, and being a smart consumer. Students learn about the relationship between education, employment, income, and net worth, and they plan for the cost of college. Students then broaden their study to include banking, spending, investing, and other money management concepts before exploring credit and debt. In the final unit of the course, students study microeconomics and entrepreneurship, with an overview of economic systems, supply and demand, consumer behavior and incentives, and profit principles. The course concludes with an in-depth case study about starting a business.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Understand what it means to be financially literate
- Plan for daily and long-term expenditures
- Understand the cost of credit and the differences between consumer credit and other debt
- Relate incomes and career choices, understanding the implications of choices you make today on your long-term financial health
- Learn how to manage your money, including the benefits and risks of investing
- Gain a basic familiarity with the principles of economics and entrepreneurship

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Quiz	20%
Test	30%
Exam	20%
Assignment	10%
Additional	0%
Project	20%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

- Unit 1:** Financial Responsibility and Budgeting
- Unit 2:** Relating Income and Careers
- Unit 3:** Managing Money
- Unit 4:** Credit and Debt
- Unit 5:** Microeconomics & Entrepreneurship

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
Financial Responsibility and Budgeting		
Principles of Financial Planning		
Describe the study of personal finance.		
Identify basic tools that can be used to carry out financial plans.		
Identify problem-solving strategies that can be used to make decisions.		
Financial Responsibility		
Analyze situations to determine if they represent financially responsible decisions.		
Describe the advantages and disadvantages of different payment options.		
Identify factors that determine if one is creditworthy.		
Budgeting and Being a Smart Consumer		
Calculate income tax for earned wages.		
Compare savings from sales, rebates, and coupons.		
Identify the components of a personal budget, and determine what percentage each category is of the total budget.		
Performance Task: Financial Literacy		
Insurance		
Explain the costs and benefits involved with insurance.		
Identify various types of insurance and their purposes.		
Relating Income and Careers		
Understanding Net Worth		
Calculate net income and net worth.		
Create and interpret a balance sheet.		
Differentiate between assets and liabilities.		
Careers, Salaries, and Lifetime Income		
Calculate the effects of different annual salaries on lifetime income.		
Compare annual salaries of different occupations.		
Describe factors that influence career decisions.		
Employment and Education		
Analyze factors to consider when choosing a job.		
Describe different ways to pay for post-secondary education.		
Explain the factors that must be considered when choosing a career.		
Identify the costs involved with post-secondary education.		
Planning for the Cost of College		
Determine a savings plan to meet the estimated cost for one year of college.		
Estimate the total cost and family contribution needed to attend two and four year colleges.		

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Taxes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze important tax documents that are required to pay taxes. Describe the types of income taxes that citizens pay. Explain how taxes on purchases can be calculated.
		<p>Managing Money</p> <p>Banking: How to Manage Your Money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply record keeping strategies to manage a bank account. Compare checking and savings accounts and the benefits of each. Define the purpose of a bank and the various types of banking institutions. <p>Case Study: Personal Financial Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze living expense options when creating a budget. Evaluate a revised budget that has been created in response to financial changes. Identify considerations to take into account when purchasing a vehicle. <p>Spending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare the advantages of leasing and buying homes and automobiles. Explain strategies consumers can use to make good spending choices. <p>Investing and Financial Markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe common types of investments. Explain the risks and returns involved in making investments. Understand how financial markets reflect economic growth. <p>Investing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of risk, return, and liquidity when choosing investments. Identify types of investments available to consumers. <p>Investing (continued)</p>
		<p>Credit and Debt</p> <p>Understanding Checking and Debit Accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare checking accounts and debit cards offered by different financial institutions. Perform calculations for deposits, withdrawals, and transfers to balance a check register. <p>Understanding Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate between debit cards and credit cards. Explain the importance of establishing a positive credit history. Identify the information in a credit report and its value to borrowers and lenders.

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>The Cost of Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the impact of interest rate and loan length on the cost of credit. Calculate the total cost of repaying a loan. Identify and compare types of credit. <p>Credit and Loans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the importance of using credit wisely. Describe the types of credit that are available to borrowers. Explain how simple and compound interest accumulate over time. <p>Mortgages and Home Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the pros and cons of different types of mortgages. Calculate payment possibilities for different types of mortgages. Describe common components of mortgages.
Microeconomics and Entrepreneurship		
		<p>Introduction to Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the impact of economics on daily life. Describe the goals of studying economics. Identify the fundamental concepts involved in the general study of economics. <p>Economic Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare types of governments and the economic markets that thrive within them. Describe major types of economic markets. Explain the role that economic markets play in citizens' daily lives. <p>Economic Systems and Daily Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define ownership, property rights, income, wealth, and employment in the lives of citizens. Explain the challenges that various markets face, including unemployment and the wealth gap. <p>Entrepreneurship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the role of entrepreneurs in various markets. Examine the benefits and risks of entrepreneurship. Identify the characteristics of an entrepreneur. <p>The Law of Supply and Demand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the factors within markets that impact supply and demand curves. Describe how supply and demand influence price and the quantity of products supplied. Explain the Law of Supply and Demand.

Unit	Lesson	Lesson Objectives
		<p>Elasticity and Incentives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze how price floors and price ceilings are determined.Define elasticity and its influence on consumer behavior.Identify incentives for consumers and producers within the market. <p>Profit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze how profits can be maximized.Compare marginal cost and marginal revenue.Explain the difference between profit and revenue. <p>Case Study: Starting a Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Analyze supply and demand for a product.Examine profit and marginal benefit when starting a business.Explain how to make choices about what to produce.