

# **Personal Finance**

Spring 2016

Dorchester High School

Instructor: Mrs. Kyleigh Lewis

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## **Personal Finance Course Rationale/Overview**

Financial literacy is essential in meeting the financial challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The competencies, which form the basis for this semester course, enable students to analyze their personal financial decisions, evaluate the costs and benefits of their decisions, recognize their rights and responsibilities as consumers, and apply the knowledge learned in school to financial situations encountered later in life.

## **Personal Finance Course Description**

Understanding and managing personal finances are key to one's future financial success. This one-semester course is based on the National Business Education standards for Personal Finance, Nebraska's Career Education knowledge and skill statements, Nebraska Career Ready Standards, Nebraska Essential Learnings, National Standards for Economic Education and the National Standards in Personal Finance Education created by the Jump\$Start Coalition® for Personal Financial Literacy.

The course presents essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about real world financial issues. Students will learn how choices influence occupational options and future earning potential. Students will also learn to apply decision-making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal goals. The course content is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success.

## **Personal Finance Course Objectives**

At the completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- Explain financial literacy and how sound financial decisions can increase a person's standard of living and wealth.
- Use a rational decision-making process as it applies to the roles of citizens, workers, and consumers.
- Identify various forms of income and analyze factors that affect income as a part of the career decision-making process.
- Develop and evaluate a spending/savings plan.
- Evaluate savings and investment options to meet short- and long-term goals
- Apply a decision-making model to maximize consumer satisfaction when buying goods and services.

**Personal Finance Course Objectives (continued):**

- Evaluate services provided by financial deposit institutions to transfer funds.
- Analyze factors that affect the choice of credit, the cost of credit, and legal aspects of using credit.
- Analyze choices available to consumers for protection against risk and financial loss.

**Personal Finance Content Standards**

- National Business Education Standards (2013) Personal Finance I-VIII (p. 59-64)

- Nebraska Business Education Standards - Personal Finance

[http://cestandards.education.ne.gov/Courses/033000\\_PersonalFinance.doc](http://cestandards.education.ne.gov/Courses/033000_PersonalFinance.doc)

**Personal Finance Course Topics and Timeline:**

Week 1:	Introduction & Overview of Personal Finance	(Chapter 1)
Week 2:	Unit 1—Financial Responsibility & Decision Making	(Chapter 2 & 3)
Week 3:	Unit 1—Financial Responsibility & Decision Making	(Chapter 4)
	UNIT TEST	
Week 4:	INTERNATIONAL BUDGET PROJECT	
Week 5:	Unit 2—Income and Careers	(Chapter 5)
Week 6:	Unit 2—Income and Careers	(Chapter 6)
Week 7:	Unit 2—Income and Careers	(Chapter 7)
Week 8:	Unit 2—Income and Careers	(Chapter 8)
	UNIT TEST	
Week 9:	Unit 3—Spending and Credit	(Chapter 9)
Week 10:	Unit 3—Spending and Credit	(Chapter 10)
Week 11:	Unit 3—Spending and Credit	(Chapter 11)
	UNIT TEST	
Week 12:	Unit 4—Savings and Investing	(Chapter 12)
Week 13:	Checkbook Packets	
Week 14:	Unit 4—Savings and Investing	(Chapter 13)
Week 15:	Unit 4—Savings and Investing	(Chapter 14)
Week 16:	Unit 4—Savings and Investing	(Chapter 15)
	UNIT TEST	
Week 17:	Piggy Banks	
Week 18:	FINAL TEST and Wise Certification	

### **Personal Finance Course Projects and Activities:**

- Piggy Banks
- International Travel Budget Plan
- Checkbook Packet
- EverFi
- Wise Certification

## **Course Guidelines and Expectations**

### **Textbook(s) and Resources**

- Personal Financial Literacy, Pearson Education, Inc./Prentice-Hall Publishing, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2014 ©. Jeff Madura, Mike Casey, Sherry J. Roberts, authors.
- Introduction to Business, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill School Publishing, 5th edition, 2005 ©. Betty J. Brown, Jeff Clow, authors.
- YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT - Financial Literacy Project
- Wise Certification

### **Required Materials**

- Textbook
- Writing utensil/Paper
- 3-ring binder

### **Classroom Behavior/Course Expectations**

- All assignments are due on the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted after two school days.
- Treat your peers with respect.
- Tardiness is not acceptable. Be on time!
- Be prepared for class.
- Have fun and ask questions!

### **Academic Dishonesty Policy**

- Academic integrity is valued at Dorchester High School. Dorchester encourages and expects the highest standards of academic honesty from all students. Please note that cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty are monitored and subject to disciplinary action.

### **Grading Scale**

**A = 93-100%**  
**B = 83-92%**  
**C = 76-82%**  
**D = 70-75%**  
**F = 69 and Below.**

### **Course Assessment**

Methods of evaluation typically include a combination of:  
Quizzes, Unit tests, Comprehensive exams  
Homework/Group Work and In-Class Assignments  
Projects  
All students will take the WISE Certification test

## Student Contract - Personal Finance

I have read and had explained in detail the guidelines and expectations set forth for Personal Finance. I understand that successful completion of this course will be based largely upon my following these guidelines and expectations. As it is my intention to successfully complete this course with a passing grade and credit granted, I agree to follow all of the guidelines given.



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Name

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Parent's Signature

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Date

Grade I will work to earn in Personal Finance: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names & Contact Number:

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What I hope to gain in this class?

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