

COURSE CODE: BUAD 251

COURSE TITLE: Personal Financial Planning

Calendar Description

This course introduces the tools and strategies of personal financial planning. Topics include goal setting, savings, investments, insurance, taxation, budgeting and financing (also offered by Distance Education).

Prerequisite(s): None

Co-requisite(s): None

Prerequisite For: BUAD 233, 234, 235, 356

Substitutable Courses: None

Graduation Requirement: Required - BBA & Diploma, Financial Services option

Transfer Credit: CFP Personal Financial Planning

Special Notes: None

Credits: 3

Hours per Week: 3

Originally Developed: November 2012

EDCO Approval: November 2013

CHAIR'S APPROVAL:



Learning Outcomes

Outcome	Upon completion of this course students will be able to:
1	Draft a financial plan and set financial goals.
2	Compile a budget, personal financial statements and keep records to monitor progress toward financial goals.
3	Evaluate different banking options and know how to manage credit including home and automobile financing.
4	Describe the use of whole life and term life insurance.
5	Evaluate the different insurance coverage available for disability, health, home, tenant and automobile insurance.
6	Describe the different investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds), and utilize different investment products to create a diversified portfolio.
7	Explain basic tax minimization strategies.
8	Discuss the options for retirement planning including government pensions, employer retirement plans and individual savings plans.
9	Analyze the need for wills, powers of attorney and representation letters in an estate plan.

Course Objectives

Objectives	This course will cover the following content:
1	The financial planning process including goal setting, record keeping, budgeting and the preparation of a personal balance sheet and cash flow statement
2	Credit management including banking, credit cards, home financing and automobile financing
3	Use of insurance to cover damage or loss of assets and provide protection against death, disability, or poor health
4	Investment strategies using cash equivalents, stocks, bonds, and mutual funds
5	Strategies for tax minimization, retirement planning and estate planning

Professors

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Elena Mitropolsky	n/a	C143 emitropolsky@okanagan.bc.ca

Evaluation Procedure

Term Work	20 %
Mid-Term Exam (online)	20 %
Final Exam (in person)	60 %
Total	100 %

Course Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence

Generative AI tools are not permitted unless explicitly stated otherwise.

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools is strictly prohibited in all course assignments unless explicitly stated otherwise by the instructor in this course. This includes ChatGPT and other artificial intelligence tools and programs. Whenever generative AI tools are permitted and used, they must be appropriately cited. (See How to cite ChatGPT (apa.org))

Required Materials

Personal Finance - Kapoor, Dlabay, Hughes, Ahmad – 9th Canadian Edition. Connect is not required.

Notes

Calculator - Students will require a financial calculator for this course. The Texas Instruments BA-II Plus is strongly recommended, but any brand or model of non-programmable financial calculator, which can perform time-value-of-money calculations, is acceptable.

Course Schedule

(Subject to change at the discretion of the professor)

Date		Topic	Textbook
2025 Week of:		Wed, Sep 3 - Classes begin Fri, Sep 12 - Add/drop date - Last day to register for a course and last day to receive a refund for course drop Tue, Sep 30 - Statutory Holiday (no classes) Mon, Oct 13 - Statutory Holiday (no classes) Fri, Oct 24 - Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty Mon, Nov 10 - No classes Tue, Nov 11 - Statutory Holiday (no classes) Fri, Dec 5 - Last day of regularly scheduled classes Tue, Dec 9 - Thu, Dec 18 - Final exam period – see policy .	Chapter:
Sep	3	Personal Financial Planning: An Introduction	1
	8	Financial Statements and Budgeting	2
	15	Planning your Tax Strategy The Banking Services of Financial Institutions	3 4
	22	Introduction to Consumer Credit	5
	29	The Costs of Credit Alternatives	6
Oct	6	The Finances of Housing	7
	13	No class on October 13 Midterm Exam – Friday October 17	1-7
	20	Home and Automobile Insurance	8
	27	Life, Health and Disability Insurance	9
Nov	3	Fundamentals of Investing Investing in Stocks	10 11
	10	No class on November 10 Investing in Bonds Investing in Mutual Funds	12 13
	17	Retirement Planning	14
	24	Estate Planning	15
Dec	1	Final Exam review	
	9-18	Final Exam Period – the final exam for this course will be in-person	

Skills Across the Business Curriculum

The School of Business promotes core skills across the curriculum. These skills include reading, written and oral communications, computers, small business, and academic standards of ethics, honesty and integrity.

Student Conduct

What is the Disruption of Instructional Activities?

At Okanagan College (OC), disruption of instructional activities includes student “conduct which interferes with examinations, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group meetings, other related activities, and with students using the study facilities of OC”, as well as conduct that leads to property damage, assault, discrimination, harassment and fraud. Penalties for disruption of instructional activities include a range of sanctions from a warning and/or a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course to suspension from OC.

Academic Honesty: Students have a responsibility to read the [OC Academic Integrity Policy](#).

What is Cheating?

“Cheating includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct during tests or examinations in which the use is made of books, notes, diagrams or other aids excluding those authorized by the examiner. It includes communicating with others for the purpose of obtaining information, copying from the work of others and purposely exposing or conveying information to other students who are taking the test or examination.”

Students must submit independently written work. Students may not write joint or collaborative assignments with other students unless the instructor approves it in advance as a group/team project. Students who share their work with other students are equally involved in cheating.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is defined as “the presentation of another person’s work or ideas without proper or complete acknowledgement.” It is the serious academic offence of reproducing someone else’s work, including words, ideas and media, without permission for course credit towards a certificate, diploma, degree and/or professional designation. The defining characteristic is that the work is not yours.

“Intentional plagiarism is the deliberate presentation of another’s work or ideas as one’s own.” Intentional plagiarism can be a copy of material from a journal article, a book chapter, data from the Internet, another student, work submitted for credit in another course or from other sources.” “Unintentional plagiarism is the inadvertent presentation of another’s work or ideas without proper acknowledgement because of poor or inadequate practices. Unintentional plagiarism is a failure of scholarship; intentional plagiarism is an act of deceit.”

What are the Students’ Responsibilities to Avoid Plagiarism?

Students must acknowledge the sources of information used on all their assignments. This usually involves putting the authors’ name and the year of publication in parentheses after the sentence in which you used the material, then at the end of your paper, writing out the complete references in a Reference section.

“Students are responsible for learning and applying the proper scholarly practices for acknowledging the work and ideas of others. Students who are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism should refer to the UBC publication *“Plagiarism Avoided; Taking Responsibility for your Work”*. This guide is available in OC bookstores and libraries.

Students are expected to understand research and writing techniques and documentation styles. The School of Business requires the use of the APA or MLA style but suggests that students cite references using the APA guidelines (see Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th edition (2009)). A copy of the APA manual is available in the reference section and available for circulation from OC libraries. The library website has access to these two major citing styles.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism and Cheating?

The Okanagan School of Business does not tolerate plagiarism or cheating. All professors actively check for plagiarism and cheating and the Okanagan School of Business subscribes to an electronic plagiarism detection service. All incidents of plagiarism or cheating are reported and result in a formal letter of reprimand outlining the nature of the infraction, the evidence and the penalty. The Dean of the School of Business and the Registrar record and monitor all instances of plagiarism and cheating. Penalties for plagiarism and cheating reflect the seriousness and circumstances of the offence and the range of penalties includes suspension from OC.

