

**Jefferson County High School
Course Syllabus**

A. Course *Personal Finance*

B. Department *Business*

C. Course Description Personal Finance is a foundational course designed to inform students how individual choices directly influence occupational goals, future earning potential, and long term financial well-being. The standards in this course cover decision-making skills related to goal setting, earning potential, budgeting, saving, borrowing, managing risk, and investing. The course helps students meet the growing complexities of personal financial management and consumer decision making. Standards in this course are aligned with Tennessee Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in Technical Subjects, Tennessee Common Core State Standards for Mathematics, as well as Tennessee Economics standards.*

D. Grade Term *9 Weeks*

E. Grading Scale

<u>Range</u>		<u>Regular</u>
93-100	A	4.0
85-92	B	3.0
75-84	C	2.0
70-74	D	1.0

F. Term Dates

- a. 1st 9 Weeks August 5, 2016 – October 7, 2016
- b. 2nd 9 Weeks October 8, 2016 – December 16, 2016
- c. 3rd 9 Weeks January 5, 2017 – March 15, 2017
- d. 4th 9 Weeks March 16, 2017 – May 25, 2017

G. Textbook(s) *Not Required*

H. Other Required Reading

- a. *Assigned, as needed*

I. Other Resources

- a. *Odysseyware*
- b. *EverFi*
- c. *FoolProof*
- d. *Edmodo*
- e. *Money Skill*

J. Major Assignments

- a. *Goal Essay with Reading Assignment*
- b. *College/Career/ Project*
- c. *Banking Project*
- d. *Insurance Project*
- e. *Investment Project*
- f. *Consumer Protection InfoGraphic*
- g. *Weekly Reflections*
 - *Major Assignments are based on instructor*

K. Procedures for Parental Access to Instructional Materials

- a. Aspen Parent Portal
- b. Instructor's Website
- c. Email Instructor
- d. Parent Teacher Conference
 - There are two designated conference dates during the school year. Parents who would like to request additional meetings may make appointments for conferences with the teachers (during their planning periods), counselors, or a principal by telephoning the school office.

L. Field Trips

- a. No Field Trips are scheduled

M. Standards & Objectives

- a. I can think in creative and innovative ways using technology to communicate and collaborate, research and solve problems in an appropriate manner to personal finance.
- b. I can take responsibility for personal financial decisions by effectively understanding and considering consumer choice.
- c. I can find and evaluate financial information from a variety of sources to make informed and educated decisions.
- d. I can effectively plan for college or career financially by researching information, studying possible consequences and setting short and long term goals.
- e. I can secure my financial standing by obtaining the vocabulary and wealth strategies used by financial institutions.
- f. I can define the concept and explain the importance of personal financial planning.
- g. I can explain the importance of personal financial planning using any of the following: informational material, news articles, blogs, personal narrative, and possibly industry publications.
- h. I can define opportunity cost, net worth, and delayed gratification and describe the consequences of purchasing choices.
- i. I can identify regulatory agencies and their functions, including:
 - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation [F.D.I.C.]
 - National Credit Union Association [N.C.U.A.]

- Securities and Exchange Commission [S.E.C.]
- The Federal Reserve [the Fed]
- j. I can explain banking procedures and services, including:
 - checking and savings accounts
 - bank service fees
 - payment methods
 - debit cards
 - bank cards
- k. I can craft an argumentative essay for which type of service is most appropriate for a specific stage of life, depending on borrowing capacity and employment status.
- l. I can create a realistic household budget, including many of the following items: saving, housing, utilities, food, entertainment, clothing, transportation, personal items, insurance, child care costs and educational savings plans.
- m. I can cite specific textual evidence to support a realistic household budget when considering earnings, estimated expenses, taxes, savings and emergency fund.
- n. I can create and justify my personal 5, 10 and 20 year saving and investing plans based on educational, emergencies [rainy day funds], short-, medium-, and long-term financial goals and retirement and time value of money.
- o. I can evaluate economic factors that may influence my goals and design a personal financial plan when given a factitious scenario and one for my current situation.
- p. I can identify the long-term consequences of accumulating unpaid debt and filing for bankruptcy by formulating a plan to retire debt over an extended period of time, citing specific textual evidence to defend elements of plan.
- q. I can compare and contrast various types of loans, including mortgage, installment, education/training loans, check cashing business, personal, secured and unsecured, line of credit, equity, title loans, pawn shops and payday loans.
- r. I can demonstrate awareness of consumer protection and information, including personal responsibility, laws and regulations, legal documents/contracts, consumer protections, crimes against consumers, fraud and scams, loan sharking, identity theft and protection, rental/lease, credit reporting services [Equifax, Trans Union, and Experian], and how to check credit for free.
- s. I can create a tech-rich project to explain the importance of comparison shopping and making informed purchasing decisions through cost comparison of goods and services including buying a car.
- t. I can identify strategies for effective debt management and recognize the warning signs of impending debt problems.
- u. I can create an analytical report of consumer debt management, including:
 - credit card use and abuse
 - credit costs – interest, APR, penalties, fees, credit score
 - loan consolidation – benefits and disadvantages
 - credit counseling
 - garnishment
 - effect on employment

- purchase of insurance
- v. I can create a tech-rich project to demonstrate inflation's effect on purchasing power, including cost and availability of goods, effect of cost on availability of and demand for goods, and its effect on the value of money.
- w. I can define scarcity.
- x. I can demonstrate knowledge of basic principles of consumer finance, including:
 - credit worthiness
 - consumer loans
 - credit life
 - interest [simple vs. compound]
 - insurance
 - down payment vs financing

