



# Personal Finance Curriculum

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Marking Period	Reading/Writing Assignment	Chapter/Section
1	What's Your Money Personality? Reading/Writing assignment based on your relationship with money and whether you spend or save and why.	Chapter 1/Section 2
2	The Power of Compound Interest activity. Breaking down the story of Ben and Arthur, and the time value of investing early.	Chapter 2/Section 3
3	Can Anyone Become a Millionaire? Looking at several possibilities of making this happen, including time/interest/discipline and several other avenues to success.	Chapter 8/Section 3
4	Taxes on Income activity. Reading/Writing assignment about all the taxes on Earned Income, Portfolio Income and Passive Income.	Chapter 11/Section 5

## Scoring Rubric for Written Work

1 - Emerging	2 - Intermediate	3 - Proficient	4 - Exemplary
<p><b>Conceptual Understanding</b> Demonstrates almost no understanding of learning targets, and includes significant errors or deficiencies in thought.</p> <p><b>Mathematical Skills</b> Gives incorrect answers and explanations and does not follow or implement correct processes or methods for the solution.</p> <p><b>Work Habits</b> Does not complete the majority of tasks and/or work is unintelligible.</p>	<p><b>Conceptual Understanding</b> Demonstrates some understanding of learning targets, potentially including several errors or deficiencies in thought.</p> <p><b>Mathematical Skills</b> Gives partially correct answers and explanations, does not use ideal processes or methods, and work is not clear.</p> <p><b>Work Habits</b> Completes almost all tasks but work is not organized or easily understood.</p>	<p><b>Conceptual Understanding</b> Demonstrates nearly all understanding of learning targets, potentially including a minor error or deficiency in thought.</p> <p><b>Mathematical Skills</b> Gives correct or nearly correct answers and explanations through solving equations, drawing graphs, identifying figures, etc., and may also lack some clarity.</p> <p><b>Work Habits</b> Completes tasks thoroughly, and work is mostly organized and legible.</p>	<p><b>Conceptual Understanding</b> Demonstrates complete understanding of learning targets.</p> <p><b>Mathematical Skills</b> Gives clear and correct answers and explanations through solving equations, drawing graphs, identifying figures, etc..</p> <p><b>Work Habits</b> Completes tasks thoroughly, and work is organized, legible, and easily understood.</p>



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## Content Topics and Pacing

Topic	Duration	Learning Target(s)
<b>Ch. 1 Introduction to Personal Finance</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	Section 1: What Is Personal Finance? ... Describe what personal finance is. ... Outline the components of effective financial planning. ... Identify the focus of study throughout this course. Section 2: Money, the American Way ... Understand the evolution of America's dependence on credit. ... Observe and analyze the "normal" American family as it relates to personal finance. Section 3: You and Money ... Develop communication strategies for managing money and discussing financial issues. ... Evaluate your own money personality; identify your money strengths and weaknesses.
<b>Ch.2 Saving</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	Section 1: Saving: An Exercise of Character ... Identify the Five



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		<p>Foundations of Personal finance. ... Understand the purpose of having an emergency fund. Section 2: Three Basic Reasons to Save Money ... Explain the three basic reasons for saving money. ... Understand the importance of saving for both long-term and short-term goals. ... Describe what a sinking fund is and identify purchases for which you would use a sinking fund. Section 3: The Power of Compound Interest ... Demonstrate how compound interest works and understand the impact of annual interest rate. ... Describe the difference between simple and compound interest. ... Understand the importance of beginning to save now.</p>
<b>Ch. 3 Budgeting</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Budgeting 101 ... Understand the purpose of cash flow planning. ... Identify reasons some people avoid having or sticking to a budget. ... Identify changes in personal spending behavior that contribute to wealth building. ... Explain the difference between a cash flow statement and a budget. Section 2: The</p>



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		<p>Basics of Banking ... Develop a filing system for keeping financial records, both paper and electronic. ... Describe recordkeeping features that financial institutions provide for online account management. ... Describe how to use different payment methods and banking features. Section 3: The Importance of Having a Zero-Based Budget ... Define zero-based budget. ... Develop a plan for spending and saving that has both long-term and short-term components. ... Analyze how changes in circumstances can affect a personal budget.</p>
<b>Ch.4 Debt</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Debt: Product, Not Privilege ... Identify the costs of using various types of credit. Section 2: Debunking the Credit Myths ... Evaluate and refute the myths associated with debt. ... Apply systematic decision making to identify the most cost-effective option for purchasing a car. ... Identify various types of mortgage loans and the most cost-effective option for purchasing a home. ...</p>



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		<p>Evaluate ways that debt can negatively affect your financial future and how to overcome personal debt. Section 3: The Credit Score ... Describe the elements of a credit score. ... Understand how to obtain a credit report. ... Explain how a credit score affects creditworthiness and the cost of credit. ... Explain the factors that affect a credit score. ... Analyze a credit report, indicate the time that certain negative data can be retained, and describe how to dispute inaccurate entries. Section 4: Credit Bureaus and Identity Theft ... Identify organizations that maintain consumer credit records. ... Summarize major consumer credit laws. ... Develop a plan for protecting personal information.</p>
<b>Ch.5 Life After High School</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Beware and Be Wise ... Understand the long-term impact of student loans. Section 2: Start With the End in Mind ... Identify reasons for not taking on debt to fund your education. Section 3: Cash-Flow Your College Education ... Develop a plan to attend college</p>



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		<p>without acquiring debt. ... Demonstrate how to apply for financial aid. Section 4: Education Options for the 21st Century ... Identify the educational requirements, training and cost for your career of choice. ... Analyze post-high school education and career training options.</p>
<b>Ch.6 Consumer Awareness</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Buyer Beware ... Identify ways companies compete for your money. ... Be familiar with marketing strategies that encourage people to go into debt or finance large purchases. ... Evaluate how peer pressure can affect spending decisions. ... Summarize factors that influence consumer decisions. Section 2: Buyer's Remorse ... List five steps you should take before making a major purchase. Section 3: Opportunity Cost ... Evaluate the role opportunity cost plays in purchasing decisions. ... Describe the effect of inflation on buying power.</p>
<b>Ch.7 Bargain Shopping</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Bargain Shopping: Part of a Healthy Financial Plan ...</p>



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		<p>Understand how shopping for bargains is part of a healthy financial plan. ... Analyze and use the three keys to getting bargains: Learn how to negotiate, have patience, and know where to find great deals. Section 2: The Seven Basic Rules of Negotiating ... Develop skills for negotiating deals on products or services. ... Understand that integrity and honesty are important when it comes to negotiating with others. Section 3: Places to Find Great Deals ... Know the best places to shop for deals. ... Evaluate the benefits of not buying brand-name products, taking advantage of seasonal shopping, buying slightly outdated products, etc.</p>
<b>Ch.8 Investing and Retirement</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Investing 101 ... Explain how investing builds wealth and helps meet financial goals. ... Examine the relationship between diversification and risk. ... Identify regulatory agencies and their functions. Section 2: Types of Investments ... Evaluate</p>



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		<p>investment alternatives: money markets, bonds, single stocks, mutual funds, annuities and real estate. ... Explain the Rule of 72. ... Identify different types of retirement plans. ... Explain how taxes affect the rate of return on investments. ... Understand how pre-tax and after-tax investments work. ... Understand how the stock market works. ... Be familiar with the various retirement account tax treatments. ... Develop a plan for investing; describe how to buy and sell investments.</p> <p>Section 3: Employer Benefits &amp; Retirement Plans ... Analyze the components of an employer benefits package. ... Explain how compound interest works.</p>
<b>Ch.9 Insurance</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Protecting Your Wealth ... Explain why insurance is an essential part of a healthy financial plan. ... Identify ways to lower the cost of insurance premiums. ... Identify insurance for the types of risks that young adults might face. Section 2: Basic Types of Coverage ... Identify</p>





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		<p>common types of risks. ... Distinguish between necessary and unnecessary types of coverage. ... Understand the importance of identity theft protection. ... Understand the importance of property and liability protection. Section 3: The Importance of Life Insurance ... Differentiate between term and cash value life insurance. ... Explain how one becomes self-insured. ... Examine the purpose and importance of a will. Section 4: Insurance to Avoid ... Know what types of insurance to avoid and why</p>
<b>Ch. 10 Money and Relationships</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Understanding Your Money Personality ... Identify differences among people's values and attitudes as they relate to money. ... Evaluate your own money personality. Section 2: Marriage and Money ... Evaluate how discussing important financial matters with household members can reduce conflict. ... Understand how having a budget or a money plan can reduce conflict. Section 3:</p>



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		<p>Communication Is Key ... Understand the value of discussing individual and shared financial responsibilities. ... Develop communication strategies for discussing financial issues. ... Integrate healthy communication about money with parents, friends and others.</p>
<b>Ch.11 Careers and Taxes</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	<p>Section 1: Self-Assessment ... Identify your personal strengths and weaknesses. Section 2: Goal Setting ... Clarify your educational and career goals. ... Understand the components of goal setting. Section 3: You Won't Love the Entry Level ... Understand the value of entry-level jobs. ... Identify valuable work attributes outside of your general skill set. Section 4: Best Practices of Successful People ... Identify the best practices of successful people. ... Develop a résumé. ... Analyze the interview process and develop personal interview skills. Section 5: Income and Taxes ... Describe factors affecting take-home pay. ... Identify sources of personal income. ... Identify</p>



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		different types of taxes. ... Be familiar with various documents for reporting taxes. ... Analyze the costs and benefits of paying taxes and the cost of government services.
<b>Ch.12 Giving</b>	<b>3 weeks</b>	Section 1: False Perceptions ... Identify your core values. ... Identify your own specific talents and evaluate ways you could use those talents to help others. Section 2: Make an Impact ... Identify ways in which giving benefits both the giver and the receiver. Section 3: Give Your Time and Talents ... Identify various types of charitable giving (time, money, talents). ... Examine various areas of need in your own community. ... Identify a variety of charitable organizations. Section 4: Define Your Legacy ... Explain the concept of leaving a legacy. ... Illustrate the importance of giving to others throughout your life, starting now.