



5055 Santa Teresa Blvd  
Gilroy, CA 95023

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### Course Outline

**COURSE:** ECON 14                      **DIVISION:** 50                      **ALSO LISTED AS:** BUS 14

**TERM EFFECTIVE:** SUMMER 2025

**CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE:** 05/13/2025

**SHORT TITLE:** PERSONAL FINANCE

**LONG TITLE:** Personal Finance

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
3	18	Lecture:	3	54
		Lab:	0	0
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	3	54

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Out of Class Hrs:            108.00

Total Learning Hrs:        162.00

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to equip students with specific knowledge and skills enabling them to make sound financial decisions over the course of their life, in order to build and maintain wealth. Students will develop quantitative reasoning and critical analysis abilities, and will apply them to topics including: budgeting, time value of money calculations, financial planning, retirement planning, tax planning and related calculations, investing, credit and credit cards, insurance, and estate planning. Students will take a hands-on approach to learning by using mathematical reasoning and formulae to solve problems and complete projects. Instructors will provide student-centered activity-based instruction, which emphasizes the conceptual understanding and skills of mathematics and quantitative reasoning to develop competence and confidence in problem solving abilities. This course is also listed as BUS 14. Prerequisite: Placement as determined by the college's multiple measures assessment process or completion of a course taught at or above the level of intermediate algebra.

**PREREQUISITES:**

Score of 2600 on MM CCCApply Math

OR

Score of 2600 on MM Placement Tool Math

OR

Completion of MATH 233, as UG, with a grade of C or better.

OR

Completion of MATH 240, as UG, with a grade of C or better.

OR

Completion of MATH 242, as UG, with a grade of C or better.

**CREDIT STATUS:** D - Credit - Degree Applicable

**GRADING MODES**

L - Standard Letter Grade

**REPEATABILITY:** N - Course may not be repeated

**SCHEDULE TYPES:**

02 - Lecture and/or discussion

05 - Hybrid

71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous

72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. students will be able to apply time value of money concepts and formulae to perform financial planning calculations.
2. students will be able to use quantitative reasoning skills to apply federal tax codes in order to accurately compute adjusted gross income and tax liability.
3. students will be able to apply quantitative reasoning and critical thinking skills when articulating the trade-offs among different investment opportunities.
4. students will be able to use quantitative reasoning skills to construct a personal balance sheet and calculate net wealth.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. apply time value of money concepts to calculate annual savings requirements needed to meet specific retirement plans.
2. explain different sources of risk associated with investing in stocks.
3. apply the expected value formula to identify the factors contributing to different premiums for different people across insurance policies.
4. apply the IRS framework to calculate tax liability.
5. set financial goals and use quantitative reasoning to create plans to achieve them.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

Curriculum Approval Date: 05/13/2025

(9 hours)

Topics:

Making Financial Decisions

Your Life Situation and Financial Planning

Social and economic influences

Financial Planning

Developing and Achieving Financial Goals

Opportunity Costs and Time Value of Money

Performing Time Value of Money Calculations

Career Choice and Financial Planning

(3 hours)

Topics:

Money Management Skills

Psychology of Money: Wealth and Status

Components of Money Management

Personal Financial Statements

Your Cash Flow Statement: Inflows and Outflows

Money Management and Achieving Financial Goals

(3 hours)

Topics:

Taxes in Your Financial Plan

Planning Your Tax Strategy

Calculating Federal Tax Liability and Adjusted Gross Income

Social, Family, Cultural Implications

Tax Preparation Services

Tax Planning Strategies

Consumer Purchasing

Investment Decisions

Retirement and Education Plans

(3 hours)

Topics:

Financial Services: Savings Plans and Payment Accounts

Financial Services and Economic Conditions

Comparing Savings Plans

Money Market Accounts and Funds

U.S. Savings Bonds

**COURSE CONTENT(CONTINUED):**

(6 hours)

Topics:

Consumer Credit: Advantages, Disadvantages, Sources, and Costs

The Importance of Consumer Credit in Our Economy

Psychological implications of credit

Uses and Misuses of Credit

General Rules of Credit Capacity

Credit Scores

Familial and Social Obligations

Cosigning a Loan

Consumer Credit Protection Laws

Managing Your Debts

Financial Counseling Services

Declaring Personal Bankruptcy

(3 hours)

Topics:

Consumer Purchasing Strategies

Warranties

Research-Based Buying

Major Consumer Purchases: Buying Motor Vehicles

Legal Options for Consumers

(3 hours)

Topics:

Selecting and Financing Housing

Evaluating Renting and Buying

Lifestyle and Housing Choices

The Finances of Home Buying

Home-Selling Strategy

(4 hours)

Topics:

Home and Automobile Insurance

Insurance and Risk Management for Various Life Stages

Risk Management Methods

Physiological Factors Affecting Options and Cost

Property and Liability Insurance

Home and Property Insurance

Renter's Insurance

Automobile Insurance Coverages

No-Fault Insurance

Factors Contributing to Insurance Premiums (expected value formula)

**COURSE CONTENT(CONTINUED):**

(3 hours)

Topics:

Health and Disability Income Insurance

Health Insurance and Financial Planning

Private Health Care Plans and Government Health Care Programs

Health Insurance and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010

Disability Income Insurance

(3 hours)

Topics:

Financial Planning with Life Insurance

The Principle and Psychology of Life Insurance

Estimating Your Life Insurance Requirements

Financial Planning with Annuities

Tax Considerations

(3 hours)

Topics:

Investing Basics and Evaluating Bonds

Asset Allocation and Diversification

The Psychology of Investing in Bonds

Government Bonds and Debt Securities

Corporate Bonds

Current Yield Calculations

Trade-offs Among Investment Opportunities

(3 hours)

Topics:

Investing in Stocks

Common and Preferred Stock

Numerical Measures That Influence Investment Decisions

Dividend Yield and Total Return

Long-Term and Short-Term Investment Strategies

(4 hours)

Topics:

Investing in Mutual Funds

The Psychology of Investing in Funds

Classifications of Mutual Funds

Managed Funds versus Index Funds

**COURSE CONTENT(CONTINUED):**

(3 hours)

Topics:

Starting Early: Retirement and Estate Planning

Conducting a Financial Analysis

Estimating Retirement Living Expenses

Employer Pension Plans

Public Pension Plans

Personal Retirement Plans

Annuities

Legal Documents

Types of Wills

Types of Trusts

Taxes and Estate Planning

(2 hours) FINAL EXAM.

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

Lecture, demonstration, discussion, collaborative student projects.

**OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:**

Required Outside Hours 108

Assignment Description

Homework for each week:

Read the chapters covered in the class lectures, and do the homework at the end of the chapters.

**METHODS OF EVALUATION:**

Writing assignments  
Evaluation Percent 25  
Evaluation Description  
10% - 30%  
Written homework;  
Reading reports

Problem-solving assignments  
Evaluation Percent 15  
Evaluation Description  
10% - 70%  
Homework problems;  
Quizzes;  
Exams

Skill demonstrations  
Evaluation Percent 15  
Evaluation Description  
10% - 50%  
Performance exams

Objective examinations  
Evaluation Percent 45  
Evaluation Description  
30% - 70%  
Multiple choice;  
True/false;  
Matching items;  
Completion

**REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:**

Focus on Personal Finance, Jack Kapoor, McGraw Hill, 2024 or a comparable textbook/material.

Rationale: This is an outstanding textbook.

12+ Grade Verified by: MS Word

**ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION**

Associate Degree:

CSU GE:

CSU B4, effective 202230

IGETC:

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable CSU, effective 202230

UC TRANSFER:

Not Transferable

**SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:**

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

CAN:

CAN Sequence:

CSU Crosswalk Course Department:

CSU Crosswalk Course Number:

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: E

Maximum Hours:

Minimum Hours:

Course Control Number: CCC000344516

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 220400