

EF5300: ADVANCED PERSONAL FINANCE

Effective Term

Semester B 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Advanced Personal Finance

Subject Code

EF - Economics and Finance

Course Number

5300

Academic Unit

Economics and Finance (EF)

College/School

College of Business (CB)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to:

- a) Introduce students from all backgrounds to plan and manage their personal financial matters at different stages of their life.
- b) Provide students with a conceptual framework and practical tools of financial planning.
- c) Strengthen the discovery skills of students as they engage in determining the various factors involved when designing a financial plan.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe the decisions involved in financial planning and the importance of financial planning as part of the broader scheme of life planning.	25	x		
2	Describe and compare the characteristics of financial planning products in the market.	25	x	x	
3	Analyze various factors that can influence personal financial planning processes.	20		x	x
4	Combine knowledge from various related disciplines in making appropriate personal finance decisions and design financial plans for various customers. These areas include (i) economics, (ii) finance, (iii) accounting, (iv) risk management, (v) life-cycle planning, (vi) human relationship, and (vii) law.	30	x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures	Provide basic concepts and structure of personal financial planning, and review the current issues in financial markets. Lectures will provide current issues in financial markets to help students discover the latest developments.	1, 2, 3, 4	-

2	In-class exercise	To give students hands-on experience with applications of concepts in pre-defined situations and to encourage students' creative and critical thinking for problem solving.	1, 2, 3, 4	-
3	Cases / projects	Cases on personal finance situations are assigned. Students are expected to present their answers either individually or in a group, and participate in group discussion. Students will have opportunities to present their viewpoints in an interactive approach. Students are expected to collect product information from financial institutions (banks or insurance companies), analyze their features and make recommendations to their clients. Students are expected to provide a written group report on, for e.g., drawing up a financial plan that would incorporate the various inter-disciplinary areas. This will assist students to develop the abilities to communicate innovative ideas and to enhance critical thinking on practical financial planning issues.	2, 4	-

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Coursework (exercises, cases / projects, etc.)	2, 4	50	-

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Examination Duration (Hours)

Additional Information for ATs

Students are required to pass both coursework and examination components in order to pass the course.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Coursework (exercises, cases / projects, etc.) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Based on students' performance in the exercises, cases / projects, etc.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal

(D) Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure

(F) Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

Final examination (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Based on the final exam.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal

(D) Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure

(F) Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

Coursework (exercises, cases / projects, etc.) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Based on students' performance in the exercises, cases / projects, etc.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good

(B+, B) Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure

(F) Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

Final examination (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

1. Household Finance
2. Assessing Financial Health

- 3.Managing Cash Flows and Debts
- 4.Stock, Bond, and Mutual Fund Investment
- 5.Insurance and Risk Management
- 6.Retirement Planning
- 7.Tax Planning

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Kapoor, Dlabay, Hughes, Personal Finance, McGraw-Hill, latest edition.
2	Jeff Madura, Personal Finance, Pearson, latest edition.
3	www.hkiec.hk
4	www.sfc.hk
5	www.ifphk.org