

Principles of Finance/Entrepreneurship Syllabus

1st Quarter-Principles of Finance gives students a thorough introduction to the concepts, tools, and institutions of finance and serves as a foundation for the core courses offered by the Academy of Finance. Principles of Finance begins with the basics of financial literacy and the function of finance in society. Students then study income and wealth, including budgeting, personal banking, credit and borrowing, and planning for retirement. Next, students examine financial institutions and the role of finance in organizations. They learn about common methods by which businesses raise capital, and they study key investment-related terms and concepts, including the time value of money. Students also explore specific topics of importance in today's world of finance, risk management, taxes, and ethics. They research how technological and international innovations have changed the financial services field.



As an integral part of the course, students also participate in an in-depth study of a particular finance topic. Students use a Project Based Learning approach to become personal finance experts and lead an exhibition on issues critical to financial literacy. Working in groups of three or four, students choose a topic to investigate and examine their topic from various perspectives, including its importance to an individual's understanding of finance as well as its relevance to the finance industry and society. Groups synthesize their learning and create a three-panel display, public service pamphlet, and talking points, all of which they present to an invited audience at a financial literacy fair.

Finally, students explore the types of careers that exist in finance today.

LATE WORK: Work should be turned in the day it is due. 5 points will be deducted for each day work is turned in late.

PASSWORDS: We use many different online resources throughout the class. It is the student's responsibility to remember their passwords and logins to various programs. User names and passwords should never be shared.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS:

- Enter the class quietly and on time.
- Eat and Drink before you enter the classroom.
- Follow directions the first time given. Stay on task. Do not stray from assigned classroom activities.
- Raise your hand if you have a question or comment. Wait for your chance to speak and listen to others when they are speaking.
- Be respectful. Respect others, their time, voice, and property.
- Respect electronic equipment at all times, including but not limited to, going into others' files, the Internet, or being destructive to computer hardware or software.
- Follow all LCS and LCHS policies.

Contact Information

A. Weeks
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919-776-7541 ext. 2620

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Block 1: Business Essentials
Block 2: AOBF Financial Services/Financial Planning
Block 3: Planning
Block 4: AOBF Principles of Finance/ Entrepreneurship

***LCHS STUDENT HANDBOOK:**

Please review the handbook for information on school policies including but not limited to attendance and tardies.

Final Exam: Students will take an NC State Assessment at the end of semester for this class. This exam will count as 20% of your final grade.

Grading Scale

A = 100-90

B = 89-80

C = 79-70

D = 69-60

F = 59-0

Major Assignments = 60%

Minor Assignments = 40%

Materials needed for class:

- *Writing Utensil*
- *3 Ring Binder*
- *Loose leaf Paper*

REMIND: Using your cell phone, text to number:81010 with the message @aobf2026. Follow the instructions and type your FIRST and LAST NAME. Please do not use nicknames. This is how I will send out important reminders and updates. You will also be able to chat with me to ask questions via text during my office hours. (M-F 7:45am until 4:00pm) Download the Remind App if you have a SmartPhone.

Gmail: All students have a Lee County High School Google Account. Please make sure you are able to access your account. If you have trouble accessing your account, please see me. Please check your email regularly.

Course Objectives



AOF Principles of Finance Learning Objectives

Unit Name	Lesson No.	Learning Objective	Description
Getting Started	1	1	Explain how money functions
	2	4	Explain what financial literacy is and why learning about it is valuable
	2	7	Describe the financial services industry and the financial system that it serves
	3	8	Identify the functions of different types of financial intermediaries
Personal Finance	4	1	Compare and contrast <i>income, expenses, cash flow, and wealth</i>
	4	2	Describe the sources and uses of money from a personal finance perspective
	5	7	Evaluate the importance of financial planning
	6	9	Describe the impact of technology on banking, including online banking, mobile banking, and online-only banks
	7	12	Define <i>debt</i> and differentiate between good debt and bad debt
Financial Institutions	9	5	Describe the key risks and returns associated with investing
	9	7	Describe common investment instruments
Key Influencers of Financial Decisions	10	3	Compare the advantages and disadvantages of the three main forms of business ownership
	11	6	Explain how businesses should respond to ethical problems when they occur
	12	9	Explain how various business-environment factors—including technology, societal trends, and globalization—affect business decision making
Careers in Finance and Course Closure	14	5	Identify the types of jobs that are available in the finance industry
	14	6	Describe entry-level jobs in the finance industry and corresponding qualifications

2nd Quarter

Entrepreneurship provides students with an understanding of the critical role played by entrepreneurs in the national and global economy. Students learn not only the skills necessary to become entrepreneurs but also the attitudes, characteristics, and techniques that successful entrepreneurs have and that students will need to succeed. Building on concepts introduced in Principles of Finance, the Entrepreneurship curriculum approaches student learning experientially by encouraging students to evaluate, develop, and work with the business ideas they already have or those they conceive during the course.

Students explore the steps necessary for starting a business, including analyzing the market, finding financing, and creating a form of organization that will accommodate future growth. They learn about the operational issues that new businesses face, such as regulations, protecting intellectual property, and the financial risks of starting a business. Students examine ethical issues and develop a framework for managing them. Finally, students identify the risks, returns, and other aspects of entrepreneurship as a potential career.

Integral to the curriculum is a culminating project that builds on students' ability to research the market and develop a business plan. Students work in teams of two or three students to conceive of and develop a business idea that fills a need in the market. In the process of completing their project, the students create a marketing plan for their business, make financial projections, assess the risks inherent in the new venture, and develop a code of ethics to guide their business actions and relationships. Additionally, students learn about the operational and legal logistics involved in business. Finally, they create a business plan and deliver an oral presentation in which they pitch their business idea to their classmates and to an invited audience representing potential investors.

AOBF Entrepreneurship Learning Objectives

Eligible for Assessment on NAFTrack Certification End-of-Course Examination

Unit Name	Unit #	Lesson #	Learning	Description
Getting Started	1	2	3	Define <i>entrepreneurship</i> and describe its impact on a free-market economy
	1	2	5	Identify key qualities of successful business leaders
Assessing New Business Ideas	2	3	1	Describe where business ideas come from and how they are evaluated
	2	4	5	Describe the various sources of market information
	2	5	12	Identify the important steps in the preparation of a business plan
Business Operations and Adm	3	6	1	Explain the role and importance of marketing for a new business venture
	3	6	4	Explain the role of competitive advantage in marketing a new business
	3	7	8	Compare common types of business insurance
	3	8	11	Characterize the pros and cons of the different forms of business ownership
	3	8	12	Describe the legal and tax obligations of a small-business owner
	3	8	15	Explain the importance of protecting intellectual property
	3	9	17	Compare and contrast debt and equity financing
	3	9	18	Identify start-up and operating costs for a new venture
	3	9	20	Explain the value of keeping complete and accurate financial records
	3	10	22	Describe the role of social responsibility in small business
3	11	29	Describe the role of partnerships, franchises, mergers, and acquisitions in growing a business	