



Finance (FNCE) 322

Personal Finance (Revision 5)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the course listing for the current revision ✕
Delivery mode:	Individualized study online ☑ with eText ☑
Credits:	3
Area of study:	Applied Studies (Business and Administrative Studies)
Prerequisites:	ACCT 253 or FNCE 300/ ECON 300 (formerly FNCE 234) or FNCE 370 or equivalents or professor's approval.
Precluded:	None
Challenge:	FNCE 322 has a challenge for credit option.
Faculty:	Faculty of Business ☑
Notes:	Students registering in grouped study, are advised that there may be some differences in the evaluation and course materials information indicated below. To obtain the most up-to-date information, contact the Faculty of Business Student Support Centre at 1-800-468-6531.


Overview

Finance 322: Personal Finance is a three-credit course that examines the knowledge and competencies required to prepare a financial plan and manage the full range of personal finance matters. Concepts covered within the course include the five-step financial planning process, goal-based financial planning math, tax minimization strategies, investment fundamentals, risk management (insurance), family law, retirement planning, registered plans, estate planning, consumer credit management, and ethics.

You will learn to analyze and evaluate financial products, planning processes, and strategies. This course emphasizes active decision making. As you learn the basic concepts, you will implement them in hypothetical environments within the course. This approach will broaden your general knowledge, and improve your professional competencies and credibility if you work in the financial services industry.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to


- explain the concepts relevant to comprehensive personal financial planning
- describe common products (such as investments, insurance products, credit facilities, and legal documents) available within the financial services industry
- analyze individual and family financial circumstances and recommend appropriate strategies to achieve goals within a personal finance context
- apply the knowledge gained in this course to enhance current and future client relationships within the financial planning and investment advisory industries
- differentiate between ethical and unethical practices in the financial services industry.

Notice: Athabasca University is approved by the Financial Planning Standards Council (FPSC) as an Education Provider for FPSC Level 1® Certification in Financial Planning. Students who wish to take FNCE 322 for this certification must enroll in Revision 5 (older versions of FNCE 322 cannot be applied to the certification.) For more information on FPSC Level 1® Certification in Financial Planning, visit www.fpcanada.ca .

Outline

- Lesson 1: Personal Financial Planning
- Lesson 2: Time Value of Money
- Lesson 3: Taxation
- Lesson 4: Investment Fundamentals
- Lesson 5: Stocks
- Lesson 6: Bonds
- Lesson 7: Mutual Funds
- Lesson 8: Insurance and Family Law
- Lesson 9: Retirement Planning and Registered Plans
- Lesson 10: Estate Planning
- Lesson 11: Consumer Credit

Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for *Finance 322: Personal Finance*, you must achieve a grade of 50% on the Final Examination and a minimum overall grade of 50% for the entire course. Any unsubmitted work will receive a grade of 0%.

Note: If you are applying this course towards the FPSC Level 1® Certificate offered through the Financial Planning Standards Council, you must achieve a minimum grade of 50% on the Final Examination and an overall grade of at least 65% for the entire course.

The following chart summarizes the evaluation activities in this course.

Activity	Weight	Complete by
Assignment 1	10%	After Lesson 3


Activity	Weight	Complete by
Midterm Online Examination	20%	After Assignment 1 and Lesson 5
Assignment 2 (Case)	20%	After Lesson 11
Assignment 3 (Ethics)	10%	After Assignment 2
Final Online Examination (cumulative)	40%	After Assignment 3
Total	100%	

The **midterm and final examinations** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the **Exams and grades** [↗](#) section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

Materials

This course either does not have a course package or the textbooks are open-source material and available to students at no cost. This course has a **Course Administration and Technology Fee** [↗](#), but students are not charged the Course Materials Fee.

Roesler, W. (2017). Personal finance: Plan, invest, enjoy. (1st Can. ed.). Under licensed agreement with Kompass Financial Advisory Inc.  (eText)

eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on **electronic textbooks** [↗](#), please refer to our **eText Initiative site** [↗](#).

Other Resources

All other learning resources will be available online

Challenge for credit

Overview


The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about **challenge for credit** [↗](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation





To **receive credit** [↗](#) for the FNCE 322 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **“D” (50 percent)** [↗](#) on the examination.

- Online Exam (4 hours)

 **Important Note:** Students should contact the Financial Planning Standards Council (FPSC) to determine whether credits earned via the challenge for credit option are accepted as partial fulfillment of the qualifications requirement for FPSC's Level 1 exam.

 **Challenge for credit course registration form**

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) 
- › [Program planning](#) 
- › [Request assistance](#) 
- › [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 5, April 11, 2017

Updated October 12, 2023

View **previous revision** 