

» **Course Overview**

Navigating the intricate world of personal finance can seem daunting, but this course is here to guide students step by step. From understanding big picture topics like goals and risks, to detailed nuances of paystubs, taxes, and credit scores, students will grasp the essentials to kickstart their financial journey. Students will also prepare for their financial future by learning about loans, banking, investing, and much more. Beyond the invaluable financial insights, this course prepares students for the Intuit Personal Finance certification, equipping them to confidently showcase their newfound knowledge.

» **Course Outline by Module**

Module 1	Paystubs and Taxes	Module 6	Investing
Module 2	Getting Paid	Module 7	Loans
Module 3	Spending	Module 8	Credit
Module 4	Budgeting	Module 9	Managing Risk
Module 5	Financial Goals and Banking		

» Module Overview and Learning Objectives

| Module 1. Paystubs and Taxes

This module will provide a basic introduction paystubs and taxes. Students will begin by learning what a paystub is and the difference between gross income and net income. Then, students will understand withholdings such as social security, federal income tax, state income tax, and more. Students will then be given an overview of taxes including concepts such as tax brackets, deductions, filing status, and charitable giving. Finally, students will learn about various tax forms such as Form 1040, W-2, W-4, and Form 1099.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Interpret the details of a pay stub including differentiating between gross and net income.
- Identify the types of taxes and voluntary withholdings on a pay stub and 1099 including, but not limited to, Social Security, Medicare, federal income tax, local tax, state tax, insurance premiums, 401(k), union dues, and FSA.
- Identify factors used when filing taxes including filing status and deadlines, deductions, tax credits and tax brackets for employees and contractors including, but not limited to, charitable giving and using tax brackets to compute your tax liability.
- Compare SSN and ITIN and identify the purpose of tax forms, including only the 1040, W-2, W-4, and 1099 forms.

| Module 2. Getting Paid

This module will focus on various aspects of getting paid and receiving income. The module will begin by examining different forms of financial compensation such as wages, salaries, commissions, and bonuses. Students will also learn about other contributing factors in total compensation such as benefits, perks, and cost of living. Next, the module will explore different methods of payment including direct deposit, payroll cards, and paychecks, as well as some of the benefits and drawbacks of each. The module will conclude with lessons on earned income and unearned income, examining the differences between the two as well as the implications of each.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Compare two employment opportunities while considering factors of total compensation including, but not limited to, benefits, wages vs. salary, commissions, bonuses, and entrepreneurial ventures.
- Identify methods of payment including direct deposit, payroll card, and paycheck
- Determine the difference between earned and unearned income and related financial implications including, but not limited to, inheritance, lottery, and tips.

| Module 3. Spending

In this module, students will investigate various factors that influence spending. The first lesson will explore how the cost of living index impacts spending. Next, students will learn about marketing tactics including the role of emotions, scarcity, and social media. In lesson three, the module will provide an overview of how societal influences such as peer pressure and cultural expectations can influence spending. Students will be introduced to the concept of the time value of money and how understanding the concept can change the way people look at the money they have to spend in the present. Finally, students will explore concepts such as inflation and supply and demand.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify how outside influences can affect spending including but not limited to, cost of living index.
- Identify how marketing tactics influence purchase decisions.
- Identify social pressures that influence spending behavior.
- Determine how the time value of money impacts immediate vs. delayed purchase decisions.
- Identify economic effects on price.
- Given a scenario, distinguish how supply and demand affect price.
- Identify the impact of inflation.

| Module 4. Budgeting

This module will introduce students to budgeting. Students will learn about big financial goals such as paying for higher education. They will also learn various methods for budgeting, such as the 50/30/20 method, the Envelope System, and Zero-Based budgeting, among others. From there, students will gain an understanding of the differences between discretionary and non-discretionary purchases as well as fixed vs. variable expenses. The module concludes with a closer look at the pros of cons of home and car ownership.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify how to budget for your goals including but not limited to planning and paying for postsecondary education.
- Identify budgeting methods including, but not limited to, zero-based budgeting method, 50/30/20 budgeting method, and envelope budgeting method
- Differentiate between discretionary and non-discretionary purchases.
- Differentiate between fixed and variable expenses.
- Compare short-term and/or long-term advantages and disadvantages between renting a home or buying a home.
- Compare short-term and/or long-term advantages and disadvantages between leasing a car or buying a car.

| Module 5. Financial Goals and Banking

This module will discuss the importance of making informed buying decisions. First, students will take a closer look at some of the various advertising techniques used by companies, and how those techniques influence consumers. The module will introduce students to various consumer resources from online reviews to federal agencies. Students will learn what is considered consumer rights and why those rights are important. Next, the module will examine various financing options including common types of credit cards. The module will conclude by helping students learn the correct way to handle issues such as statement errors or lost bank cards as well as understanding the implications of a digital footprint.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify short-term and long-term financial goals, the “Pay Yourself First” principle, and SMART goals.
- Identify features of consumer banking and compare features of banks and credit unions including, but not limited to FDIC, NCUA, ownership, and interest rates. Compare insured and uninsured deposits .
- Identify common costs, risks and/or interest rates including, but not limited to, nonsufficient funds, ATM fees, the impact of inflation, and monthly fees as it relates to debit and credit cards.
- Compare the benefits, risks, and fees between virtual banks, physical banks and/or non-financial institutions and features of account types as well as banking account types including, but not limited to, CDs, money market, savings, and checking.
- Compare brokerage accounts and retirement accounts including, but not limited to digital currency, traditional and Roth IRAs, 401(k), and pre-tax vs. post-tax options.

| Module 6. Investing

Wouldn't it be amazing if you could turn \$1,000 into \$2,000 without going to work? This is the idea behind investing and it's the concept we'll explore throughout this module. To begin, we'll talk about the relationship between risk and reward in investing. From there, we'll explore the different types of investments. This includes stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, collectibles, and more. Next, the module will identify investment costs and income types including, dividends, capital gains, and interest. Finally, students will understand and utilize the rule of 72 to estimate the time to double an investment.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify the relationship between risk and return including, but not limited to, financial risk tolerance, financial risk pyramid, and diversification.
- Compare different investment types including, but not limited to, stocks, bonds (corporate vs. government), mutual funds, Exchange Traded Funds (ETF), real estate, commodities, digital currency, and collectibles.
- Identify investment costs and/or income types including, but not limited to, dividends, capital gains, and interest.

- Utilize the Rule of 72 to evaluate investments.

| Module 7. Loans

In this module, we will delve into the fascinating world of loans and lending with a focus on empowering you with essential financial knowledge. We'll start by comparing various types of lending, analyzing components like down payments, collateral, and trade-ins that differentiate secured and unsecured loans. Then, we'll contrast installment and revolving loans while discussing the benefits and risks associated with alternative lending sources such as student loans (both Federal and private), banks, credit unions, pay later apps, advanced payroll loans, payday loans, excessive fees, balloon payments, loan flipping, and asset-based lending. Additionally, we'll guide you in preparing the necessary documentation for funding applications, encompassing student loans, grants, financial aid, FAFSA, and scholarships. Through this module, you'll gain a comprehensive understanding of loans and lending, empowering you to make informed financial decisions.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Compare different types of lending and categorize the components of secured and unsecured loans including, but not limited to, down payments, collateral, and trade-in.
- Contrast installment and revolving loans and compare the benefits and risks of alternative sources of lending including, but not limited to, student loans (Federal and private), banks, credit unions, pay later apps, advanced payroll loans, payday loans, excessive fees, balloon payments, loan flipping, and asset-based lending.
- Prepare the required documentation for an application to receive funding including but not limited to student loans, grants, financial aid, FAFSA, and scholarships.

| Module 8. Credit

In this module, we will delve into key learning objectives essential for navigating the complex world of credit and debt. We will explore the factors influencing credit scores, shedding light on the pivotal elements that can impact your financial standing. Through

critical examination, we will compare various types of debt and interest rates using the Annual Percentage Rate (APR), equipping you to make informed financial decisions. Additionally, we will uncover the far-reaching influence of credit scores on multiple aspects of life, including employment opportunities, rental prospects, and insurance rates. Understanding the significance of debt management, we will contrast methods such as snowball, avalanche, debt management plans, and bankruptcy, providing a comprehensive view of their implications. Emphasizing capacity as a crucial aspect, we will analyze its influence on creditworthiness and lending. Furthermore, we will unravel the intricacies of credit reporting, empowering you to determine when to request, review, freeze, and dispute your credit report, ultimately fostering financial empowerment and responsible credit behavior.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify factors that affect credit scores.
- Compare the benefits and risks of different types of debt and interest rates using APR.
- Identify the impact of credit score on financial options including, but not limited to, employment, rentals, and insurance rates.
- Identify options for managing debt and contrast debt management methods including, but not limited to, snowball, avalanche, debt management plan, and bankruptcy options and impact.
- Identify the impact of capacity (ability to repay loans) on credit.
- Determine when to request, review, freeze, and/or dispute a free credit report.

| Module 9. Managing Risk

In this module, we will delve into risk management. We'll start by exploring various types of insurance, which essentially involve shared risk. From auto insurance, and health/dental/vision insurance, to understanding the nuances of whole versus term life insurance, and even home/renters' insurance - we'll dissect each one to grasp how they collectively safeguard our well-being. Additionally, we'll delve into short-term and long-term disability insurance, as well as accidental death and dismemberment coverage, shedding light on the vital safety nets they provide. Furthermore, we'll uncover the intricate factors that influence insurance costs, such as premiums, deductibles, co-pays,

and out-of-pocket maximums. Additionally, we'll explore the varying risk factors associated with different types of insurance, ranging from age, gender, smoking habits, and credit score, to even academic grades, giving us a comprehensive understanding of the variables that shape insurance premiums and coverage. Next, the module will discuss federal agencies like the FTC, FDA, CFPB, and SEC, understanding how they advocate for consumer rights and safety, ensuring a fair and secure marketplace. Then, we'll shed light on various common consumer fraud tactics - phishing, dumpster diving, Ponzi and pyramid schemes, fake charities, prize and lottery fraud, and dating schemes. Lastly, we'll emphasize the importance of regularly reviewing statements from all our accounts.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Identify types of insurance (shared risk) including only auto insurance, health/dental/vision insurance, whole vs. term life insurance, home/renters' insurance, short-term and long-term disability, accidental death and dismemberment.
- Identify factors that impact the costs of insurance including, but not limited to, premiums, deductibles, co-pays, and out-of-pocket maximums and the risk factors that may vary by insurance type including, but not limited to, age, gender, smoking, credit score, and grades.
- Identify federal agencies that help with consumer protections including, but not limited to, FTC, FDA, CFPB, and SEC.
- Identify types of common consumer fraud including, but not limited to, phishing, dumpster diving, Ponzi and pyramid schemes, fake charities, prize and lottery fraud, and dating schemes as well as ways to reduce the risk of scams and identity theft.
- Identify the benefits of reviewing statements from all accounts.