



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Personal Finance Management and Investment	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinator(s): Assist. Dr. Laura Dargenytė-Kacilevičienė	Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy

Study level	Type of subject/module
First	Individual studies

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Mixed	Autumn / spring	Lithuanian/English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: –	Co-requisites (if relevant): –

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	133	43	90

Purpose of the course unit
To develop a conscious approach to personal finance and investing and to provide basic knowledge of investment forms and the methods of personal finance management. To develop students' financial literacy to continuously increase and efficiently use the financial resources available, helping to accelerate the creation of a foundation for human well-being. To develop the ability to solve financial problems analytically and to critically evaluate saving, borrowing and investment decisions to achieve personal goals and financial well-being.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Know and be able to apply the main theories of personal finance management.	Lectures, seminars: active learning methods (group discussion; case studies)	Individual work and its presentation Presentation – discussion during workshops Written examination (test)
Be able to apply theoretical knowledge of personal finance and investment to responsible personal finance and investment decisions.	Lectures, seminars: active learning methods (group discussion; case studies)	Individual work and its presentation Presentation – discussion during workshops Written examination (test)
Be able to present written work that critically evaluates the choices made in saving, borrowing and investing for personal financial well-being.	Oral presentation of an individual work at the seminar demonstrating a level of financial literacy appropriate to the knowledge acquired	Presentation skills are demonstrated by the clarity and logic of the presentation, as well as by the appropriate and well-reasoned presentation of the main proposals for solving the problem and their impact on the results.

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures/e-learning	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops/e-learning	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
1. The basics of personal finance. Personal finance and its importance. The nature of money and the psychological aspects of money management. Theories of financial behaviour.	2			3			5	10	Literature study [on demand]: Kapoor, Personal finance; Keown, Personal finance: turning money into wealth, p. 1-31; Walker, Personal finance, p. 4-27.
2. Managing income and expenditure. Sources of revenue. Ways of increasing revenue. Payroll calculation. Taxation of personal income. Expenditure categories and their management.	2			3			5	10	Literature study [on demand]: Kapoor, Personal finance, p. 50-58; Walker, Personal finance: building your future, p. 54-66.
3. Personal budget. The essence and benefits of budgeting. Budgeting and evaluation of personal financial statements.	3	1		2			6	10	Literature study [on demand]: Kapoor, Personal finance, p. 76-94; Keown, Personal finance: turning money into wealth, p. 33-64; King, Personal finance: a practical approach, p. 18-23.
Intermediate Knowledge Test (Topics 1-3)				2			2		Intermediate Knowledge Test
4. Savings. The meaning and objectives of savings. The size of savings. Time value of money and risk. Financial savings instruments and interest.	2			2			4	10	Literature study [on demand]: Kapoor, Personal finance, p. 304-404; p. 568-610; Keown, Personal finance: turning money into wealth, p. 299-380; King, Personal finance: a practical approach, p. 195-243.
5. Financial well-being. Investing. Investment instruments. Investment risk and return. Basic investment rules.	4			3			7	10	Study of literature [as needed]: Kapoor, Personal finance, p. 406-560; Keown, Personal finance: turning money into wealth, p. 381-544; King, Personal finance: a practical approach, p. 125-194.
6. Specific features of borrowing. Consumer loans. Leases. Acquisition of housing. Personal credit history.	3			3			6	10	Literature study [on demand]: Keown, Personal finance: turning money into wealth, p. 173-298; King, Personal

									finance: a practical approach, p. 44-61.
7. Presentation and discussion of individual work (prepared personal budget).	2	1		3			6	30	Preparing and presenting proposals for personal budgets, solutions to financial problems and financial well-being.
Examination (4-6 topics)				2			2		Examination
Total	18	2		23			43	90	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Intermediate Knowledge Test (Topics 1-3)	30%.	During the semester	The midterm assessment consists of closed (multiple-choice) questions (varying in difficulty). Each question in the test has a corresponding answer mark. The score depends on the number of correct answers. Each correct answer is worth 0,333 points.
Individual work (10-15 pages) and presentation (7-10 minutes).	40%.	Thirteenth week of term	Each student prepares individual work, which includes all the work completed during the semester, the mid-term assignments, and a personal budget. The content of the written work accounts for 80% of the mark, and the oral presentation (PowerPoint presentation) accounts for 20% of the total mark. 10 – 9 points: Personal financial goals and objectives are well formulated and expressed. The student raises problematic issues and proposes solutions. The work demonstrates the student's creativity and innovative thinking. The work is organised and coherent, based on theoretical concepts. The student speaks freely during the presentation, does not use notes, and presents the main results. Expresses ideas clearly and demonstrates competence in the subject. Correctly answers the questions asked. 8 – 7 points: work includes personal financial goals, but the objectives are unclear, too few problematic issues are raised, and theoretical concepts are only partially supported. The student speaks quite freely during the presentation, only occasionally using notes and presenting key results. The student expresses ideas clearly but only partially demonstrates competence in the subject. Does not respect the time limit; answers only part of the questions. 6 – 5 points: The student formulates personal financial goals but does not clearly express the objectives. Problematic questions are not raised. Links to theoretical concepts are not disclosed. The student constantly uses notes during the presentation. Expresses ideas clearly when reading the notes but cannot speak fluently. Only partially demonstrates competence in the subject. Does not keep to the time limit; answers only part of the questions. 4 – 1 points: the work does not meet the minimum requirements of the assignment. The student reads from notes and is unable to present the main results. The student did not keep to the time limit during the presentation and could not answer the questions asked. To achieve a higher mark, students can improve their written work by considering the lecturer's and colleagues' comments and suggestions during the presentation. Dates for the presentation of the individual work are arranged with the students during the first class. 0 points – if no written work is submitted.
Exam (Topics 4-6)	30%	During the exam session	The exam consists of 30 multiple-choice test questions. The final mark depends on the number of correct answers. Each

			correct answer is worth 0,333 points. The minimum mark is 15 out of 30 questions.
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Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or Weblink
Required reading				
Kapoor, J. R.	2015	Personal finance	11 th edition	New Your: McGraw-Hill Irvin
Keown A. J.	2014	Personal finances: turning money into wealth	6 th edition	Harlow: Pearson
King, J.; Carey, M.	2014	Personal finance: a practical approach		Oxford: Oxford University Press
Recommended reading				
Farnoosh, T.	2012	Financial literacy		Upper Sa