RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

BUSI 191 Personal Finance

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: BUSI 191 Personal Finance

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2017

D. Effective Term: Fall 2017

E. Sponsoring Department: Business & Public Service

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3.0

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3
   Lecture: 3
   Laboratory: 0
   Out of class student work per week: 6

H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

I. Laboratory Fees: None

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair at time of approval: Anne Marie Anderson 908-526-1200 x8337

II. Catalog Description

This course will enable the student to develop strategies for improving their own personal finances. Practical solutions to questions of budgeting, insurance, banking, investing, loans, and other finances are considered.
III. Statement of Course Need

A. Personal Finance provides the information, forms, and procedures that individuals and families need to make intelligent decisions about their financial affairs. It focuses on managing personal finances as a method for improving one’s lifestyle.

B. There is no lab component to this course.

C. This course is not specifically designed as a transfer course. As posted on NJ Transfer, this course has not yet been evaluated for transfer at a majority of institutions in New Jersey. Where it does transfer, it generally transfers as Personal Finance or as an elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective

B. This course meets a program requirement for Business Management AAS and Electric Utility Technology AAS.

C. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

A. Tools for Financial Planning
B. Managing Your Liquidity
C. Personal Financing
D. Protecting Your Wealth
E. Personal Investing
F. Retirement and Estate Planning
G. Synthesis of Financial Planning

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Evaluate financial alternatives using personal and economic circumstances. *
2. Apply quantitative reasoning and tools to personal financial issues. (GE-NJ 2)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Construct a personal financial plan.
2. Compare alternatives when making personal finance decisions.
3. Explain how securities markets operate.
C. **Assessment Instruments**

The following assessment methods may be used:
1. research papers
2. demonstrations
3. essays
4. journals
5. portfolios
6. computer programs

VII. **Grade Determinants**

Determinants of the course final grade may include:
A. Examinations
B. Student Presentation
C. Class Participation
D. Student Project
E. Homework

Modes of teaching:
A. lecture/discussion
B. small-group work
C. computer-assisted instruction
D. guest speakers
E. student oral presentations
F. simulation/role playing
G. student collaboration

VIII. **Texts and Materials**

The following types of course materials may be used:
A. required textbook:
   Author: Madura
   Title: *Personal Finance*
   Publisher: Pearson
   Edition: Latest
B. web sources
C. homework manager (such as MyFinanceLab)

**Please Note:** The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.

IX. **Resources**

No special resources are required.