

**NUS BUSINESS SCHOOL**  
**National University of Singapore**  
**Department of Finance**

**FIN4113 PERSONAL FINANCE AND WEALTH MANAGEMENT**

**Instructor:** Colin Pakshong  
bizwpkjc@nus.edu.sg

**Session:** Semester 1, 2016/17

**Target Audience**

The course is primarily intended for individuals who wish to improve their money management skills. It is also suitable for those who aspire to be independent financial advisors or pursue a career in private wealth management.

**Course Objectives**

Sound knowledge of personal financial planning is an important life skill. Wealth accumulation and protection is also a valued financial goal of many individuals and families. This course aims to equip individuals with skills to manage their personal finances and private wealth. As the course covers many current topics in wealth management, it will also benefit students aspiring to enter the financial planning and wealth management industry.

The course places strong emphasis on applying sound concepts and analytical tools to all aspects of financial planning. Case studies will be used to illustrate proper application of these financial tools as well as common pitfalls.

The course is divided into two parts, with first part focusing on basic building blocks of personal financial management and the second part on wealth management and asset protection. Topics covered in the first part include an overview of financial markets in Singapore, the Central Provident Fund, key steps in financial planning, financial planning tools, managing liquidity, managing credit, buying a residential property, insurance and estate planning.

Topics covered in the wealth management segment of the course includes principles of asset allocation, fixed income analytics and strategies, the role of equities in wealth accumulation, unit trusts and exchange traded funds.

**Topics covered include:**

- Benefits of financial planning
- Key steps in financial planning
- Personal financial statements and ratios
- Time value of money
- Managing liquid assets
- Managing personal credit
- Buying a residential property
- Risk management and insurance
- Overview of investments and asset allocation
- Equity investment strategies

### **Assessment**

The course is based on 100% continual assessment. Assessment components comprise exercises, self-assessment tutorials, term paper, research project and a final test. The detailed breakdown of the CA marks is as follows:

### **Breakdown of CA Marks**

Term papers (25%)

Research project (30%)

Class participation (20%)

Final test (25%)

### **Textbooks and Readings**

Benedict Koh and Wai Mun Fong, *Personal Financial Planning*, Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2011, and Benedict Koh and Wai Mun Fong, *Personal Investments*, Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2012.

For other readings, see detailed lesson plan in the course website

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY & PLAGIARISM**

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is 'the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own' (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism. Students should adopt this rule - You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard. **In case of any doubts, you should consult your instructor.**

Additional guidance is available at:

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/adminpolicy/acceptance.html#NUSCodeofStudentConduct>

Online Module on Plagiarism:

<http://emodule.nus.edu.sg/ac/>