Description: The Planning Environment

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>FIN</td>
<td>5401</td>
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<td>1, 2002</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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**Academic Group:** FOBUS  
**Academic Org:** FOB009  
**HECS Band:** 2  
**ASCED Code:** 081105

**STAFFING**  
Examiner: Diana Beal

**RATIONALE**  
Personal financial planning (PFP) is becoming increasingly important, both to individuals and to professionals, in their offering of services to the public. Governments have made it very clear that the public sector will support retirees and the unemployed to a 'safety-net' standard only. In addition, people increasingly will be asked to direct their superannuation savings. Individuals will have more comfortable lives if they plan and manage their finances skilfully.

**SYNOPSIS**  
In this course students will be exposed to the economic environment in which financial planning takes place. Financial markets and products are introduced and the legal framework in which planners operate is examined. As an introductory course to financial planning education, the financial planning process is analysed as are ethical issues and codes of practice for planners.

**OBJECTIVES**  
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- discuss the roles of money and of the Reserve Bank of Australia and the execution in monetary policy in recent times;
- understand theories of interest rate determination and the structure of interest rates;
- appreciate recent fiscal policy initiatives and the management of economic cycles;
- understand the implications of an open economy in a globalised economic world;
- understand the role of, and participants in, the Australian financial system;
- appreciate the implications of regulation and deregulation;
- appreciate the scope and roles of financial institutions and markets;
• understand the range of financial products and the taxation implications of related cash flows;
• understand the process of financial planning for clients;
• understand the Australian legal framework within which planners operate and their legal responsibilities;
• understand the role of planners, codes of practice and ethics;
• understand the complaints resolution process.

TOPICS

Description Weighting (%)
1. The Economic Environment 30.00
2. Introduction to Financial Markets and Products 30.00
3. Legal Framework and Responsibilities of Planners 40.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
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<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<tr>
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<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>EXAMINATION (3 HOURS)</td>
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<td>60.00</td>
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NOTES:

3. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised.
OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 To be assured of a passing grade in this course, students must attempt all of the assessments, achieve at least 50% in the examination and at least 50% of the available marks for the course. Final grades for the course will be determined by the addition of the marks obtained in each assessment item, weighted as in the Assessment Details and by considering the student’s level of achievement of the objectives of the course. To be assured of a B grade students will be required to obtain an overall mark of 65%. To be assured of an A grade students will be required to obtain an overall mark of 75%. To be assured of an HD grade students will be required to obtain an overall mark of 85%.

2 Students must retain a copy of all pieces of assessment which must be produced if/when required by the lecturer.

3 LATE ASSIGNMENTS (i) All assessments submitted after the due date (and not approved for extension) in accordance with university policy will be penalised 20% per working day. (ii) If students submit assignments after the due date and wish to claim extenuating circumstances then they shall provide validated documentary evidence with the assignment, explaining the circumstances. (iii) The course examiner shall consider the statement accompanying a late assignment and decide on the outcome.

4 Assignments not submitted in the appropriate assignment folders will be deemed as not being received.

5 DISHONEST ACTIONS (i) Any student who is alleged to having performed a dishonest action relating to any assessment in the course will have a course of action taken against him/her as outlined in the Academic Regulations. (ii) Pieces of assessment should be the work of individual students. Joint pieces of assessment are not permitted unless written approval has been obtained from the course leader. (iii) Dishonest action in relation to assessment includes: copying or attempting to copy the work of others; use of or attempting to use information prohibited from use in that form of assessment; submitting the work of another as your own; consciously committing acts of plagiarism, ie taking and using another's thoughts or writings as one's own with intent to deceive, which occurs when paragraphs, sentences, a single sentence or significant parts of a sentence which are copied directly, are not enclosed in quotation marks and appropriately footnoted or referenced in the text. Direct quotations are not used, but text is paraphrased or summarised, and the source of the material is not acknowledged by footnoting or other reference in the text.

6 DEFERRED EXAMINATIONS (i) Deferred examinations will be granted at the Dean's discretion based on non-attendance for medical, compassionate or employment-related reasons having regard to item 1. If a deferred examination is granted students shall sit the deferred examination in the next semester examination period. If, for whatever reason, this deferred examination is not taken then the student will be graded ‘F’. (ii) To be eligible for consideration for a deferred examination, students must have submitted a genuine attempt at all mandatory assessment items. (iii) Deferral of an examination CANNOT be granted on an existing deferral in that course. (iv) Requests must be in writing to the Faculty Operations Manager clearly stating student name, student number, current address,
course alpha-numeric identifier and name for the examination not attended. (v) Requests MUST BE supported by original or suitably authenticated documentation. (vi) Requests and documentation must be submitted to the Faculty Operations Manager within ten (10) calendar days of the missed examination date. (vii) Requests based on medical reasons must be supported by medical evidence on the appropriate University of Southern Queensland medical certificate or doctor's certificate. A medical certificate must be dated with the same date as the period of illness for which the absence from examination is being sought and clearly indicate the student's name and, if possible, student number (retrospective medical certificates will not be accepted for either assignment work or examinations). Only original or authenticated medical certificates will be accepted. A student's medical condition must be stated clearly (IN ENGLISH). (Certificates stating a student has a 'medical condition' may not be sufficient grounds for deferment of examination). Medical evidence must cover the student for the day(s) of the missed examination(s). (viii) Requests based on family/personal reasons must be supported by a clear statement (IN ENGLISH) from a medical practitioner, counsellor or independent member of the community. (ix) Requests based on employment-related reasons must be supported by a clear statement (IN ENGLISH) from the student's employer. (x) Students who have a medical condition or genuine compassionate or employment-related problems on the day of the examination are advised to obtain the relevant documentary evidence and NOT attempt the examination. If a student makes an attempt at the examination, the assessment item will be marked and a grade awarded. In these cases, a student cannot, after receiving a 'fail' grade, request a deferred examination or special consideration. (xi) Students who have been granted deferred examinations will not be granted a waiver of prerequisites, without the permission of the Heads of Department, in subsequent semesters (if they do not have a passing grade).

7 Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.

8 Mechanised erasers are not permitted in exam venues.

9 The examination will be restricted. Students will be allowed to bring a quiet, battery-operated non-programmable calculator into the examination. Dictionaries are NOT to be used in the examination.