

**Southgate Anderson**  
**15475 Leroy**  
**Southgate, MI 48195**  
**734 246-4611**

**Course Name:** Consumer Education/Personal Finance  
**Course Number:** 1673  
**Course Credit:** .5 / trimester  
**School Year:** 2008/2009  
**Instructor:** Rachael Cannon and Amanda Bias

**Course Description:** Students will understand basic personal economic principles and apply those principles to daily living. Students will learn about money management, balancing a checkbook, an understanding of taxes and insurance, stocks and bonds, and decision-making processes. Emphasis will be placed on simulated an/or real life situations for a majority of the learning experiences. Recommended for juniors and seniors.

**Course Objectives:** Upon the completion of this course students will have the ability to :

- Understand values
- Distinguish between needs vs. wants
- Set financial goals
- Understand financial planning
- Distinguish between job vs. career
- Understand career planning
- Develop cover letters
- Develop resumes
- Practice interviews techniques
- Understand and calculate taxes
- Develop spending plans
- Distinguish between different financial institutions
- Manage money and set budgets
- Understand purpose and types of insurance
- Calculate interest rates

**Student Competencies:** State of Michigan's Life Management Education's Content Standards: 4, 8, 9, and 10.

**Required Text:** Provided by instructor

**References & Other Resources:** Not Applicable

**Course Advisory Committee:** Rachael Cannon, Amanda Bias, Tonya Malecki, Kathy Carey, Rosann Roloff, Larry Miele, Karen Close, Jennifer Armstrong.

**Class Assignments:** Assignments may vary with the students' abilities but will include on-line projects, group work, power point projects, and quizzes.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be 20% of the student's grade. It will be comprised of two portions, multiple choice and essay, each portion worth 50%.

**Class Policies:** Along with the School policies in the Southgate Anderson High School Student Code of Conduct the student will have the following classroom policies.

- Disruptions will not be tolerated. There will be times to listen, times to talk and times to read on this class. I need you to know the difference between these times. This class can be a lot of fun, but cooperation is needed at all times.
- Students will show respect for their fellow classmates and their instructor. During the trimester, we will routinely discuss our personal values and give opinions on a variety of important

subjects. "Put-downs" will not be tolerated! There are many ways to disagree with someone without criticism.

- This class is different from other classes you have taken. Personal responsibility is stressed.
- We all have different attitudes about school. Some love school, others view it as a waste of time, and other just try to get by. I ask that you view this class differently-begin this class with a positive attitude. Everyday, I want you to give me your best effort and full attention.
- You will be given time in class to complete all assignments. It is rare that I assign homework. It is up to you to complete assigned work in class, if you do not, it is your responsibility to finish at home.
- You are strongly encouraged to participate in class. This class will only be as interesting as you, the student, make it. Everyone's opinion counts in here!
- Hallway passes are viewed as a privilege. If you abuse this privilege, it will be taken away. You must have your planner with you to receive a pass.
- I expect all students to adhere to all of the school policies including dress code, phones, I-pods, etc. You will be sent to the office if you are in violation of dress code. Your phone/I-pod will be given to an administrator if I see you using it.
- Tardy policy is strictly enforced.
- If you are absent it is your responsibility to check the calendar and get what you missed. If you need to make up a quiz, you must arrange a time with me. I will not keep track of this for you.
- There will be no food in this classroom

**Evaluation & Grading:** Grades are updated frequently on PowerSchool. Students are encouraged to monitor this for any errors which may occur.

Your Trimester grade will be calculated as follows:

- Daily Work 60%
- Tests and Quizzes 40%

The final grade will consist of the Trimester grade worth 80% and final exam worth 20%. *You may opt to take your final exam even if you are exempt in an attempt to improve your grade. Your final grade will not be used if it lowers your grade.*

All work is graded on a point system and then converted into a percentage grade. Southgate Schools uses the following percentage grading scale:

|         |    |         |    |              |    |
|---------|----|---------|----|--------------|----|
| 100     | A+ | 84 – 80 | B- | 69 – 67      | D+ |
| 99 – 95 | A  | 79 – 77 | C+ | 66 – 65      | D  |
| 94 – 90 | A- | 76 – 75 | C  | 64 – 60      | D- |
| 89 – 87 | B+ | 74 – 70 | C- | 59 and below |    |
| 86 – 85 | B  |         |    |              |    |

**Course Outline:** Major Topics to be covered:

1. Career Development
  - a. Interest inventory
  - b. Career research
  - c. Cover letters
  - d. Resumes
  - e. Interviewing
2. Values
  - a. Needs vs. wants
  - b. Setting financial goals
  - c. Life cycle of financial planning
3. Finances
  - a. Understanding paychecks
  - b. Spending plans
  - c. Time value of money/Rule of 72.1
  - d. Managing cash
  - e. Savings
  - f. Stock market
4. On your own
  - a. Renting vs. owning
  - b. Housing/leases
  - c. Loans
  - d. Shopping for an automobile
  - e. Insurance
  - f. Evaluating convenience
5. Financial Institutions
  - a. Electronic banking
  - b. Credit
  - c. Credit reports
  - d. Identity theft

**Articulation Agreements:**

Not applicable