

# Academy of Business – Clairemont High School

## Business & Financial Markets Syllabus 2013-14

Teacher: Mr. Mark Colombo  
Room: 209  
E-mail: mcolombo@sandi.net  
Phone: (858) 273-0201 (ext. 4209)  
Prep period: period 4

TEXTBOOK: PERSONAL FINANCE, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, by Kapoor et al.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will expose students to a variety of topics that will help prepare them for careers and/or further study in the field of Finance. It will feature lots of discussion and writing, and constant reference to what is currently happening in the “real world”. Students may visit, and be visited by, Academy of Finance (AOF) partners. The course will give students the chance to learn and apply what they’ve learned through a variety of group and individual projects. Up to six (6) units of college credit can be awarded through San Diego City College (SDCCD) to **students who receive a “B” or higher** in BFM I, as explained later in the syllabus.

(Note: SDCCD is currently reviewing its articulation agreement with local high schools, and may decide to modify its policy on awarding credits to students in this program.)

### GRADES:

Your grade will be determined as follows:

HOMEWORK + CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS	- 40 %
QUIZZES, TESTS & EXAMS	- 40
PARTICIPATION	- 10
WEEKLY BUSINESS DRESS UP DAY	- <u>10</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>- 100 %</b>

Tests and quizzes are normally curved; other than that, grades are the standard 90% and above for an “A”, 80-89% for a “B”, 70-79% for a “C”. **Below 70% is an “F”.**

### Important Comments about Grades:

In order to allow a wide variety of students to succeed in this course, the coursework is divided into **mandatory** and **optional** categories. The mandatory work will generally be fairly basic and easy to do; optional work will be more challenging and appropriate for the student who wants to push him or herself. **All** students must successfully complete at least 70% of the mandatory assignments/projects, and have a “C” average or better on tests in order to get a “C” in the class. Those students who want a higher grade and a chance at college credit for the course, however, must do additional work.

To earn a **“B” (and possible college credit)** in this class, you must have a **“B”** average on the tests and assignments, **and successfully complete at least 50% of the optional assignments/projects**. To earn an **“A”** in this class, you must have an **“A”** average on the tests and assignments, **and successfully complete at least 75% of the optional work**.

### **CLASSROOM POLICIES:**

**General:** Students are expected to act in ways that enhance the learning culture of our school. Respect for individuals and property is essential for all students to succeed and for everyone to get along. Students may not eat, drink, or chew gum in class for reasons that will gladly be explained. As a matter of courtesy, students should remove any head coverings and sunglasses upon entering the classroom. The school's dress code will be enforced, as will its policies on attendance, zero tolerance, plagiarism, Personal Listening Devices (PLDs) and Personal Communication Devices (PCDs). Profanity or other offensive language will not be tolerated. Bathroom passes will not be allowed during the first 15 or last 15 minutes of the period.

**Homework:** Put your assignments on the instructor's desk before the bell rings if you want to receive credit for them. Late homework is **ONLY** accepted because of an excused absence, in which case you have 2 days after returning to hand it in. It is the **student's** responsibility to request missed homework.

**Testing:** Tests count twice as much as quizzes, and exams count twice as much as tests; all of them are curved. Quizzes and minor tests **cannot be made up** - your test grade component (40%) will be based on the test and quizzes taken. Exams **cannot** be made up if your absence is unexcused. Exams **must** be made up **the same day you return to school** from an excused absence, so make sure you're ready when you return.

### **TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**Weeks 1-6: Unit I –** Course Introduction: Boot Camp

**Weeks 7-9: Unit II –** Financial Planning Fundamentals

**Weeks 10-12: Unit III –** Begin client contact and analysis

**Weeks 13-15: Unit IV –** Develop Financial Plan

**Weeks 16-36 Unit V –** Finalize and present client Financial Plans

