

**FINANCE 3565/6590 SEMINAR IN FINANCE
FINANCIAL PLANNING CAPSTONE**

Class location: ABH - 00003

Class times: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

SPRING 2018

Course objective: This course integrates material from the courses in the UMSL CFP® board-registered financial planning curriculum. Students will learn to analyze complex fact patterns and prepare and present comprehensive, professional-level personal financial plans. Completion of the capstone course is required by the Certified Financial Planner™ Board of Standards for those who wish to sit for the CFP® examination. Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the content found within the Financial Planning curriculum and effectively apply and integrate this information in the formulation of a financial plan.
2. Effectively communicate the financial plan, both orally and in writing, including information based on research, peer, colleague or simulated client interaction and/or results emanating from synthesis of material.
3. Collect all necessary and relevant qualitative and quantitative information req'd to develop a financial plan.
4. Analyze personal financial situations, evaluating clients' objectives, needs, and values to develop an appropriate strategy within the financial plan.
5. Be able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches to a specific financial problem.
6. Evaluate the impact of economic, political, and regulatory issues with regard to the financial plan.
7. Apply the CFP Board Financial Planning Practice Standards to the financial planning process.

Source: <http://www.cfp.net/teamup/plandevlopmentcourse.asp#objectives>

Prerequisites: Completion of ACCTG 3441, FIN 3520, 3560, 3561, 3563, and 3564; or permission of instructor.

Required course materials:

1. Financial calculator (strongly recommended: HP10b-II)
2. Cases In Financial Planning Analysis and Presentation 2nd Edition; Dalton, Dalton & Oakle; Money Education Copyright 2014; ISBN: 978-1-93662-19-3.
3. Software: Money Guide Pro-education edition.

Go to: <https://learn.moneyguidepro.com/universities/support/welcome?context=popup> to see how to use MGP. There you will find access to training videos, live webinars, user guides and more. While learning the program make sure you click SmartAlex™ is your personal computer assistant; she will explain the most important features on each page (but only when you ask her to).

Course grading: a successful financial planner must be able to integrate knowledge from several areas in order to prepare his/her recommendations toward meeting the client's financial goals. These recommendations, in turn, are combined in the comprehensive financial plan, which must be presented to the client(s) in a clear, concise, and understandable manner. You will be assigned to a two-person team the first day of class; that team will prepare and present the comprehensive case on the final day of class.

Your grade will be based on the following:

Mini-case exercise	30%
Compressive Case Quizzes	20%
Comprehensive financial plan	50%

Each class meeting will consist of review and discussion of topics relevant for successful completion of the CFP® exam, and analysis of an associated case from the text. Class discussions, mini-cases, and presentations are designed to prepare you for the preparation and presentation of the comprehensive case at the end of the course. Presentations will be graded on the basis of the rubric accompanying this syllabus.

2018 Financial Planning Capstone Course Meeting Schedule

Class location: ABH - 00003
Class times: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saturday 31 March Meeting 1: Case Analysis and Presentation – Chapter 1

Welcome and introduction to the course.
Money Guide Pro Software orientation
Review: Financial Planning Process.

Saturday 7 April Meeting 2: Financial Planning Approaches: Analysis & Recommendations – Chapter 2

Review: Financial Planning methods.

Saturday 14 April Meeting 3: Personal Financial Statements: Preparation & Analysis – Chapter 3

Review: Statement Preparation & Analysis.
Assign Mini Case 9 with Exercises

Saturday 21 April Meeting 4: Mini Cases: : Examples & Exercises & John & Mary Burke Case and Case Analysis – Part 2 & 3

Review Mini Cases using various analysis methods.

Saturday 28 April Meeting 5: Comprehensive Cases & Grading Rubric – Part 4

Continue reviewing Mini Cases using various analysis methods.
Turn in Mini Case 9

Saturday 05 MAY Meeting 6: Presentation Day

Students make presentations of their comprehensive cases to panel of instructors and practitioners. (Grading rubric attached.)

FINANCIAL PLAN ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Course participants will be graded on the content and presentation of the comprehensive financial plan on the basis of mastery of the learning objectives below. Instructors will observe your presentation, confer, and then award consensus scores based. Both team members will earn the same score.

Learning objectives	4 - Exemplary	3 - Excellent	2- Acceptable	1- Poor
<i>Demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the Financial Planning curriculum and effectively applied and integrated it in the formulation of the financial plan.</i>				
<i>Effectively communicated the financial plan, orally and in writing.</i>				
<i>Collected all necessary and relevant qualitative and quantitative information required to develop the financial plan.</i>				
<i>Analyzed personal financial situations, evaluated clients' objectives, needs, and values to develop an appropriate strategy within the financial plan.</i>				
<i>Demonstrated logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches to specific problems.</i>				
<i>Evaluated the impact of economic, political, and regulatory issues with regard to the financial plan.</i>				
<i>Applied the CFP Board Financial Planning Practice Standards to the financial planning process.</i>				
<i>Overall presentation score</i>				
<i>Comments</i>				