

FINANCE CAREER CLUSTER DESIGN

Business Finance Pathway – CIP Code 52.0801

Approved Pathway:

- 1) Includes minimum of three secondary-level credits.
- 2) Includes a work-based element.
- 3) Consists of a sequence: Introductory-level, Technical-level, and Application-level courses.
- 4) Supporting documentation include Articulation Agreement(s) and a Program of Study.
- 5) Technical-level and Application-level courses receive .5 state-weighted funding in an approved CTE pathway.

Concentrator Requirement

For a student to be a concentrator, at least 2 of 3 required secondary level credits taken must be a combination of technical and application levels.

Nov. 2009

INTRODUCTORY LEVEL (*Required)

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|
| *Business Essentials | 12050 | .5 credit |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|

TECHNICAL LEVEL (*Required)

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| *Accounting | 12104 | 1 credit |
| *Consumer & Personal Finance | 22210 | .5 credit |

Supportive (Optional)

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|
| Business Economics | 12105 | .5 credit |
| Business Law | 12054 | .5 credit |
| Entrepreneurship | 12053 | .5 credit |

APPLICATION LEVEL (*1 credit total from a strand is required)

| <i>Banking Services**</i> | | | <i>Accounting**</i> | | | <i>Securities & Investment**</i> | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|--|--------------|------------------|
| Banking & Finance | 12101 | .5 credit | Advanced Accounting | 12108 | 1 credit | Investing | 12107 | .5 credit |
| Investing | 12107 | .5 credit | <i>AP Accounting***</i> | <i>TBD</i> | <i>1 credit</i> | <i>Risk Management & Insurance</i> | <i>12106</i> | <i>.5 credit</i> |
| Supportive (Optional): | | | <i>Finance – Workplace Experience</i> | | | <i>.5 credit</i> | | |
| | | | 12148 | | | | | |

* Required course for concentrator and pathway approval

**One credit from at least one strand is required

*** AP Accounting would waive the requirement for a student of Accounting at technical level – Concentrators will still need at least 1 credit at the technical level

Italic courses require core outcomes

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Course Descriptions:

Accounting (12104) – Technical Level – 1 credit (REQUIRED)

Accounting courses introduce and expand upon the fundamental accounting principles and procedures used in businesses. Course content typically includes the full accounting cycle, payroll, taxes, debts, depreciation, ledger and journal techniques, and periodic adjustments. Students may learn how to apply standard auditing principles and to prepare budgets and final reports. Calculators, electronic spreadsheets, or other automated tools are usually used. Advanced topics may include elementary principles of partnership and corporate accounting and the managerial uses of control systems and the accounting process.

Advanced Accounting (12108) – Application Level – 1 credit

Advanced Accounting courses expand upon the foundational accounting principles and procedures used in business. Course content typically includes the full accounting cycle, payroll, taxes, debts, depreciation, ledger and journal techniques, and periodic adjustments. Students learn how to apply standard auditing principles and to prepare budgets and final reports. Calculators, electronic spreadsheets, and other automated tools are usually used. Topics may include elementary principles of partnership and corporate accounting and the managerial uses of control systems and the accounting process and further enhancement of accounting skills.

Advanced Placement (AP) Accounting (TBD) – Application Level – 1 credit

The course includes financial accounting, managerial accounting and financial statement analysis topics. Compared to the traditional, stand-alone financial accounting and managerial accounting courses, this course encompasses more topics and learning outcomes than the traditional financial accounting course, and at least a quarter of the topics and learning outcomes in a traditional managerial course.

Banking and Finance (12101) – Application Level - .5 credit

Banking and Finance courses provide students with an overview of the American monetary and banking system as well as types of financial institutions and the services and products that they offer. Course content may include government regulations; checking, savings, and money market accounts; loans; investments; and negotiable instruments.

Business Economics (12105) – Technical Level - .5 credit

Business Economics courses integrate economic principles (such as free market economy, consumerism, and the role of American government within the economic system) with entrepreneurship/business concepts (such as marketing principles, business law, and risk).

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Business Essentials (12050) – Introductory Level - .5 credit (REQUIRED)

This is a core course designed to give students an overview of the business, marketing and finance career cluster occupations. Students will develop an understanding of how academic skills in mathematics, economics, and written and oral communications are integral components of success in these occupations. Students will examine current events to determine their impact on business and industry and legal and ethical behavior, acquire knowledge of safe and secure environmental controls to enhance productivity, determine how resources should be managed to achieve company goals, and identify employability and personal skills needed to obtain a career and be successful in the workplace. As students learn about different types of business ownership, they will interpret industry laws and regulations to ensure compliance, identify principles of business management, and analyze business practices to determine ethics and social responsibilities.

Business Law (12054) Technical Level .5 Credit

Business Law courses emphasize legal concepts that are relevant to business and business organizations. Topics examined in these courses typically include contracts, buying/renting property, installment buying, insurance, buyer/seller relationships, negotiable instruments, employment, taxes, insurance, commercial papers, legal organizational structures, and consumer liabilities.

Consumer and Personal Finance (22210 – Technical Level - .5 credit (REQUIRED)

Consumer Economics/Personal Finance courses provide students with an understanding of the concepts and principles involved in managing one's personal finances. Topics may include savings and investing, credit, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns and budget planning, contracts, and consumer protection. These courses may also provide an overview of the American economy.

Entrepreneurship (12053) – Technical Level - .5 Credit

Entrepreneurship courses acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses. Topics from several fields typically form the course content: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, and communication. Several topics surveyed in Business Management courses may also be included (Funded - Required)

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Finance—Workplace Experience (12148) – Application Level - .5 credit

Finance—Workplace Experience courses provide students with work experience in fields related to finance. Goals are typically set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses may include classroom activities as well, involving further study of the field or discussion regarding experiences that students encounter in the workplace.

Investing (12107) – Technical Level - .5 credit

Investing courses emphasize the formulation of business and individual investment decisions by comparing and contrasting the investment qualities of cash, stock, bonds, and mutual funds. Students typically review annual reports, predict growth rates, and analyze trends. Stock market simulations are often incorporated into Investing courses.

Risk Management and Insurance (12106) – Application Level - .5 credit

Risk Management and Insurance courses analyze risk management techniques from the viewpoints of those employed in the industry as well as of business owners seeking to meet risk management needs. Insurance products are evaluated in relation to cost and effectiveness.