

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
Department of Economics

**Applied Market Research Practicum:  
Financial Literacy Outreach and Training (FLOAT)**

Econ 488L

Fall 2018

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(Note: My preferred method of contact is via the email address above.)

Course website: ELMS

Time and Location: W 6:00 – 7:30 Tydings Hall TBA

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 1 - 3 p.m. and by appointment

**Graduate Assistant (GA) Information:**

Name: Ketsia Massé

Email: [TBA@umd.edu](mailto:TBA@umd.edu)

Office Hours: TBA

**Course Description:** This course is the first part of a two-semester program designed to teach financial literacy to high school and middle school students in the College Park area. This course also has two halves. The first half will explore the tenets of financial literacy and ensure that participants understand the material at a high enough level in order to teach it in turn to local students in the following semester. Each week a different aspect of financial literacy will be discussed. Then, in the second half of the course, we will reconsider each aspect again, but this time from the perspective of how to best teach and motivate local students to put the principles from each of these modules into practice in their own lives.

**Prerequisites:** It is expected that you have taken principles of macro and microeconomics. This is equivalent to ECON200 and ECON201 here at the University of Maryland.

**Textbook and Readings:** There is no required textbook for the course, but here some helpful resources (listed alphabetically) from which we will draw:

Edutopia: [Resources and Downloads for Financial Literacy](#)

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC): [Financial Education](#)

[FDIC Teacher Online Resource Center](#)

National Credit Union Administration (NCUA): [Financial Literacy Resources](#)

National Education Association (NEA): [Resource for Teaching Financial Literacy](#)

U.S. Department of the Treasury: [Financial Literacy and Education Commission](#)

[Clark Howard](#) (The Clark Howard Show)

[Dave Ramsey](#) (The Dave Ramsey Show)  
[Emma Johnson](#) (Wealthy Single Mommy with Emma Johnson)  
[Freakonomics Radio](#)  
[Planet Money](#)  
[Ric Edelman](#) (The Truth About Money)  
[Rich Dad Radio Show](#)  
[So Money with Farnoosh Torabi](#)  
[Stacking Benjamins](#)

### **Course Requirements:**

1. This course is primarily a discussion course, so your attendance will be critical in helping to build and understand the financial literacy curriculum in the first half of the course, and then finding and shaping the teaching resources and techniques that will be used in the second semester of the course.
2. To facilitate discussion, the course will often be broken into separate groups. Each group will be asked to write one or more quiz questions that will be collected and turned into a weekly quiz via ELMS for all students to take to ensure their understanding and mastery of each week's topic(s).
3. There will be no midterm or final, but you will produce a "lesson plan" on at least one topic within financial literacy by the end of the term

**Grading:** Since this is a practicum, there are only grades of passing or failing, which will be determined by your participation in discussions and quizzes and the quality of your effort in producing a lesson plan.

**Academic Honesty:** As a University of Maryland student you have to abide by the academic honesty policy and the Code of Academic Integrity. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Please visit [www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu](http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu).

**Disabilities:** Students who are registered with the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) office and who provide me with an updated DSS form by specific date you choose will be accommodated.

**UMD Course Policies:** Policies relevant to ALL Undergraduate Courses including this one are found here: <http://ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>. Topics addressed include academic integrity, student and instructor conduct, accessibility and accommodations, attendance and excused absences, grades and appeals, copyright and intellectual property. Every student is expected to understand and uphold these policies which elaborate your rights and responsibilities; ignorance of the policies is not an acceptable excuse. Students will also find on this page information about valuable resources to support academic success in this course, as well as overall health and well-being.



## Tentative Course Outline

Date	#	Topics
8/29	1	Introduction to Financial Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is financial success?</li> <li>● Determinants of financial success</li> <li>● Financial literacy and financial success</li> </ul>
9/5	2	Module 1: Live Within Your Means <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Budgets</li> <li>● Needs vs. wants</li> <li>● Gambling and risk-taking</li> </ul>
9/12	3	Module 2: Spending Wisely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comparison shopping</li> <li>● Price vs. quality</li> <li>● Consumer Reports and other information sources</li> <li>● Common ways we mis-think about money</li> </ul>
9/19	4	Module 3: Borrow Wisely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Loans and interest rates</li> <li>● Credit cards</li> <li>● Student loans</li> <li>● Protecting your credit score</li> </ul>
9/26	5	Module 4: Save Your Money <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How to save?</li> <li>● Saving vs. checking accounts</li> <li>● Investment accounts</li> <li>● Retirement accounts</li> </ul>
10/3	6	Module 5: Invest in Your Future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● College</li> <li>● Jobs</li> <li>● Buying a house</li> <li>● Health and life insurance</li> <li>● Saving for retirement</li> </ul>
10/10	7	Recap and Introduction to Teaching Financial Literacy
10/17	8	Teaching Module 1: Live Within Your Means
10/24	9	Teaching Module 2: Spending Wisely
10/31	10	Teaching Module 3: Borrow Wisely
11/7	11	Teaching Module 4: Save Your Money
11/14	12	Teaching Module 5: Invest in Your Future
11/21		*** <b>THANKSGIVING</b> ***
12/5	13	Presentation of Lesson Plans