

Financial Literacy (“finlit”) Syllabus Winter Term 2022

About finlit

Welcome to finlit, a St. Joseph School Exploratory Program.

Money. People use it daily, but money is rarely taught in primary or secondary education. The fact is most students learn how to use a credit card before they learn how to manage debt. Most students learn how to consume and spend before they learn how to save and invest. Let's do something about this. Let's invest in our future by learning about money today.

In finlit, we will learn about the history of money and how money has evolved over time. We will learn about budgeting, including income and expense management. We will learn about assets, liabilities, compound interest, and the basics of investing. We will discuss entrepreneurship and what to consider when starting a business. We will have guest speakers from the financial services industry who will share what they do professionally. Whether you are interested in finance and investing or simply want to learn good money habits, then finlit is the exploratory program for you.

About Your Instructor - Petros Koumantaros (“Mr. 401k”)

Petros is a principal and shareholder in seven closely held financial service and retirement plan consulting, administration, and technology businesses. Collectively, these businesses work with 2,200 workplace retirement plans, representing \$9.2 billion in retirement plan assets, and support over 97,000 retirement plan participants. Through his businesses, Petros advises and consults with employers, households, individuals, and institutional investors.

The eldest son of an immigrant small business owner and a schoolteacher, Petros was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. After completing undergraduate studies at the University of Washington, Petros began his career in the technology sector at the world's largest semiconductor manufacturing company.

Soon after earning an MBA from Arizona State University, Petros joined Spectrum Pension Consultants, the company his father founded, under challenging circumstances. After his father's tragic passing from bladder cancer in 2005, Petros was called upon to lead the organization. Since then, the company has grown significantly, made strategic business acquisitions, expanded into new geographic markets, and delivered new service offerings to clients.

In 2011 Petros co-founded **GROUPIRA**, a fintech company that empowers people to invest better within individual retirement accounts (“IRAs”) and enables investment advisers to grow their IRA businesses.

The Puget Sound Business Journal honored Petros in 2013 as one of the region's 40 Under 40 -- an award recognizing the top business leaders under the age of 40 who excel in their industry and show dynamic leadership. Petros is a member of the Seattle #4 Rotary Club and an Advisory Board Member of the Seattle Rotary Boys & Girls Club. For several years, Petros was a Rotary Business Mentor to University of Washington Business School Students. Those students, in collaboration with Petros, consulted with Seattle-area businesses to solve real-world business problems.

Passionate about giving back to the community, the Koumantaros family launched the Pano Koumantaros Cancer Research Fund, named after Petros's father, which has raised over \$1.7 Million in support of cancer research, care, and treatment initiatives.

In 2018, Petros became a Financial Consultant with intellicents, a financial services firm with \$5.0 billion in assets under management, \$3.0 billion of which is ERISA Retirement Plans, and he leads the intellicents Seattle Area Branch Office. Petros spearheaded intellicents's investment consultant RFP services and facilitated investment advisory services searches for large retirement plan sponsors in Washington State.

Petros has testified before the United States Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions to improve retirement and enhance savings in America. He provided insights on best practices concerning beneficiary designations in retirement plans to the U.S. Department of Labor Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans.

Petros has earned professional qualifications from the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries and the National Association of Plan Advisors, and he serves on National Association of Plan Advisors government affairs committee. Petros is active in the retirement plan service provider industry and speaks regularly at conferences and professional societies. He served on the Alliance Benefit Group Board of Managers and the FIS Retirement Solutions Strategic Advisory Council.

Petros and his family live in Seattle.

Instructor Contact Information

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finlit Tentative Class Schedule

Week #	Class #	Date	Topics	Notes
1	1	Monday, November 14, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Introduction History of Money 	First Day
1	2	Wednesday, November 16, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purposes of Money 	
1	3	Thursday, November 17, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Speaker – Yannis Koumantaros 	Petros OOT
2	N/A	Monday, November 21, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No School 	Thanksgiving
2	N/A	Wednesday, November 23, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No School 	Thanksgiving
2	N/A	Thursday, November 24, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No School 	Thanksgiving

Week #	Class #	Date	Topics	Notes
3	4	Monday, November 28, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker – Demetre Christofilis 	Petros OOT
3	5	Wednesday, November 30, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker – Jamie Nacht 	Petros OOT
3	6	Thursday, December 1, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker – Jeff Reynolds 	Petros OOT
4	7	Monday, December 5, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income & Expenses 	
4	8	Wednesday, December 7, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income & Expenses 	
4	9	Thursday, December 8, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income & Expenses 	
5	10	Monday, December 12, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxes 	
5	11	Wednesday, December 14, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgets 	
5	12	Thursday, December 15, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Banking System Overview 	
6	N/A	Monday, December 19, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
6	N/A	Wednesday, December 21, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
6	N/A	Thursday, December 22, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
7	N/A	Monday, December 26, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
7	N/A	Wednesday, December 28, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
7	N/A	Thursday, December 29, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
8	N/A	Monday, January 2, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Christmas
8	13	Wednesday, January 4, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets & Liabilities 	
8	14	Thursday, January 5, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets & Liabilities 	
9	15	Monday, January 9, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets & Liabilities 	Petros OOT
9	16	Wednesday, January 11, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Speaker – Jack Westphal 	Petros OOT
9	17	Thursday, January 12, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time Value of Money 	
10	N/A	Monday, January 16, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	MLK
10	18	Wednesday, January 18, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple Interest & Compound Interest 	
10	19	Thursday, January 19, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing Debt 	
11	20	Monday, January 23, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Markets: Primary Markets 	
11	21	Wednesday, January 25, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Markets: Secondary Markets 	
11	22	Thursday, January 26, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments Overview 	
12	23	Monday, January 30, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Equity 	
12	24	Wednesday, February 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Equity 	
12	25	Thursday, February 2, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Fixed Income: 	
13	26	Monday, February 6, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Fixed Income 	
13	27	Wednesday, February 8, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Mutual Funds 	
13	28	Thursday, February 9, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investments: Diversification & Planning 	
14	29	Monday, February 13, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflation 	

Week #	Class #	Date	Topics	Notes
14	30	Wednesday, February 15, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrepreneurship 	
14	31	Thursday, February 16, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrepreneurship 	
15	N/A	Monday, February 20, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Midwinter
15	N/A	Wednesday, February 22, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Midwinter
15	N/A	Thursday, February 23, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No School 	Midwinter
16	32	Monday, February 27, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting it all together 	
16	33	Wednesday, March 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Putting it all together 	
16	34	Thursday, March 2, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life lessons • Where to learn more • Your feedback 	Last Day