

University of Houston
C.T. Bauer College of Business
ACCT 6331
Financial Accounting
Spring 2016
SYLLABUS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to financial accounting. It will cover the analysis and recording of economic events and the preparation of financial statements with the objective of understanding how economic events are reflected in the financial statements of the firm. Emphasis will be placed on the interpretation of financial statements, promoting an understanding of the content of the statements and developing the ability to use them for a variety of decision making purposes.

This course directly supports the MBA Program's goal of students' gaining a comprehensive foundation in the fundamentals of business.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. An understanding of the role of accounting and financial statements in meeting the information requirements of firm stakeholders.
2. An understanding of the concepts and methods underlying financial statement construction, and an ability to articulate the relationship between the financial statements.
3. An ability to analyze a variety of business transactions to determine their economic and accounting implications, and to assess the related ethical considerations in accounting for these transactions.
4. An ability to understand and evaluate financial statements and apply the information they contain in a variety of decision-making contexts.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL:

Dyckman, T., Magee R., and Pfeiffer, G., Financial Accounting 4th Edition, Cambridge Business Publishers, 2014, ISBN(13): 978-1-61853-044-8.

Financial Accounting Tutorial - available online from Cambridge Business Publishing

Two Green Scantrons, Form 882-E - for use in exams

Access to Blackboard Learn

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING:

Examinations:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Midterm Exam | 35% |
| Final Exam | 35% |
| Financial Statement Analysis Project | 15% |
| In-class Exercises (best 8 out of 10) | 10% |
| Financial Accounting Tutorial | 5% |

Course Grades will be assigned as follows:

A = at or above 93%, A- = 90 to 92.9%, B+ = 87 to 89.9%, B = 83 to 86.9%, B- = 80 to 82.9%, C+ = 77 to 79.9%, C = 73 to 76.9%, C- = 70 to 72.9%, D = 60 to 69.9%, F = below 60%.

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be two exams: a midterm exam covering the material in Chapters 1-6 and a comprehensive final exam. The midterm exam will be held during the regularly scheduled class period as listed on the course schedule. The final exam will be held in accordance with the Bauer College published exam schedule. The date and time are listed on the course schedule.

All exams will be "closed book/closed notes". A hand held calculator is acceptable for use on exams. However, you may not store/access notes in your calculator, nor use wireless devices. Any such retrieval of stored or online information during the exams will result in a grade of zero on the exam.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ANALYSIS PROJECT

As part of the course requirements you will complete a project applying the financial statement analysis techniques you learn in the course to the financial statements of a publicly traded company. As a group of between 3 and 5 students, you will prepare a written analysis of the financial statements and ratios of the company of your choice. The company you select for this project must be approved by me, on a first-come, first-served basis. No two groups may select the same company. Your written analysis must be contained in 6 or fewer typewritten pages, excluding tables and appendices. The completed written project will be due on or before April 20, 2016. Your presentation of your analysis to the class will take place during the last week of classes. Additional details will be provided on Blackboard and in class.

CLASSWORK EXERCISES:

During 10 selected class sessions there will be an in-class exercise covering the current day's material or homework problem assignments from previous class sessions. I will use the average of your best 8 grades on these classwork exercises to comprise 10% of your course grade.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING TUTORIAL:

During the first two weeks of class, you are expected to complete an accounting tutorial which covers Chapters 1-3. The link to this tutorial is posted on Blackboard. There are three parts of this tutorial: 1) a pre-test, 2) three modules corresponding to chapters 1-3, each with a quiz at the end, and 3) a post-test. Your grade will be based on the average of your grades on the three module quizzes and the tutorial post-test. This grade will comprise 5% of your course grade. Additional information is provided on Blackboard.

HOMEWORK:

Selected problems from the end of each chapter in the text are listed on the course schedule. Some of these problems will be worked in class. The remaining problems are assigned as homework. It is important to work problems to ensure mastery of the material. Consulting with classmates on homework is strongly encouraged. However, understanding the homework problems and solutions is ultimately an individual requirement.

ATTENDANCE AND PRE-CLASS READING:

It will be difficult to do well in this class without your regular attendance and consistent preparation of assigned homework problems. You are expected to come to class having read the assigned chapter. In addition, you are encouraged to bring discussion of current business news to class when it relates to financial accounting.

POLICIES:Academic Honesty:

The University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy is strictly enforced by the C.T. Bauer College of Business. No violations of this policy will be tolerated in this course. This policy may be found in the Student Handbook at <http://catalog.uh.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=1866>. Bauer College students are expected to be familiar with this policy.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The C.T. Bauer College of Business would like to help students who have disabilities achieve their highest potential. To this end, in order to receive academic accommodations, students must register with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) (Telephone 713-743-5400), and present approved accommodation documentation to their instructors in a timely manner.

Evaluation for Instructors:

The C.T. Bauer College of Business has a policy for its instructors to be evaluated by students to provide feedback on how their performance can be improved. We encourage students to participate in the evaluation process.