

**ACCT 2301 – 009/011/013**  
**Introduction to Financial Accounting**  
**Fall 2023**  
**Course Syllabus**

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<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Federico Siano JSOM 4.216 972-883-4994 <a href="mailto:federico.siano@utdallas.edu">federico.siano@utdallas.edu</a>
<b>Class Schedule:</b>	<u>Section 009</u> : M/W 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. CST (JSOM 1.212) <u>Section 011</u> : M/W 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. CST (JSOM 12.218) <u>Section 013</u> : M/W 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. CST (JSOM 12.222)
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>M/W 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. by appointment (via email)</b> In-person or via Microsoft Teams ( <a href="#">link</a> )
<b>Teaching Assistant:</b>	Bryan Torres ( <a href="mailto:bryan.torresjuan@utdallas.edu">bryan.torresjuan@utdallas.edu</a> )
<b>Other Information:</b>	Important web links, class notes, homework assignments, and other relevant details available at: <a href="http://elearning.utdallas.edu">http://elearning.utdallas.edu</a>

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**Course Modality and Expectations**

<b>Instructional Mode</b>	In-person (office hours may be via Microsoft Teams).
<b>Attendance</b>	Classroom attendance is critical to your success in this course. I expect all students to attend lectures every week and to complete the assignments due that week by Sunday at 11:59 p.m.
<b>Questions</b>	I appreciate and encourage questions during class; interaction, both within and outside of class, fosters learning. If you send an email, you can expect a response within 24 hours.
<b>Primary/Required Materials</b>	Lecture notes, homework assignments, quizzes, and other materials are made available through the eLearning platform <a href="http://elearning.utdallas.edu">http://elearning.utdallas.edu</a> .
<b>Suggested Textbook</b>	<i>Financial Accounting</i> 11 <sup>th</sup> Edition, Libby, Libby, and Hodge ISBN: 9781264634019 (this is the binder-ready version). Students are free to rent or buy other editions (end-of-chapter problems and other elements may differ).

<b>Equipment</b>	Computer/tablet/laptop with internet access to view course material on eLearning and turn in homework assignments; a basic financial calculator.
<b>Class Recordings</b>	Classroom instruction will not be recorded.  (a) Students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course, and (b) classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has granted special approval. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
<b>Extra Credit</b>	There are no extra credit assignments or exam/quiz “re-do’s” in ACCT 2301 (no exceptions). This policy is applied consistently and equally to all students.
<b>Disability/Accessibility</b>	The University of Texas at Dallas is committed to equal access to education for students with disabilities. Students needing special accommodations should contact, on a timely basis, the Office of Student AccessAbility first, and then the instructor.
<b>Syllabus Changes</b>	The Syllabus is subject to change. Any changes to this Syllabus and the lecture schedule will be posted on the eLearning platform and announced during lectures.

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### **Course Description and Student Learning Objectives**

This course is an introduction to business financial reporting designed to create an awareness of the accounting concepts and principles for preparing the three basic financial statements: the income statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flows.

The course is designed to benefit all business students who will be future users of accounting information. At the end of the semester, you will understand:

- How businesses meet the information needs of investors and creditors
- How businesses operate and how accounting serves them
- The elements of, the relationships among, and the accounting concepts underlying the primary financial statements
- How business transactions are input, processed by an accounting information system, and output by that same system to produce financial statements
- The uses and limitations of financial statements and related information for making business decisions

#### *Learning Objectives:*

- (1) Obtain a basic understanding of financial accounting concepts

- (2) Conduct basic financial ratio analysis
- (3) Compare main financial statements and understand the relationship with each other
- (4) Discuss how financial accounting information is used to make business decisions

**Course Assessment**

Assignment	Weight
Homework	10%
Quizzes (Best 5 out of 6)	10%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Cumulative final exam	40%
Total	100%

No letter grade will be associated with scores on exams or quizzes during the semester. At the end of the semester, I will calculate composite scores and assign grades in accordance with the guidelines and grading standards for the course. I may curve the final grades, if necessary, based on the class average and the academic standards for the course.

No extra credit or special assignment is available.

Except for evident grading errors, I will be unable to alter grades after final grades have been determined. If you have particular grade-related considerations that you think are important, please raise these with me one week from the date the grade is posted or communicated.

Final grades will follow the general guidelines below:

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade (out of 100)	Letter Grade	Numeric Grade (out of 100)
A+	96-100	C+	76-79
A	93-95	C-	70-72
A-	90-92	D+	66-69
B+	86-89	D	63-65
B	83-85	D-	60-62
B-	80-82	F	<60
C	73-75		

The final numeric grade will be computed as:

Numeric Grade (out of 100) = (Midterm 1 grade \* 0.20) + (Midterm 2 grade \* 0.20) + (Cumulative final grade \* 0.40) + (#Completed Homework Assignments) + (#Completed Quizzes [i.e., best 5 or less] \* 2)

Note: Midterm 1, Midterm 2, and the Cumulative Final Exam will comprise 100 points each

### ***Independent Homework Assignments***

I will assign 10 sets of independent homework assignments during the semester. Assignments are generally due by Sunday at 11:59 pm of the release week. Homework questions are released online through the eLearning platform and the corresponding solutions must be submitted online through the eLearning platform. Homework assignments are intended to be a learning experience and a participation device rather than a grading device. You should develop your best solution for each of the questions, exercises, and problems assigned. **Homework is graded based on completion instead of accuracy.** Each assignment is counted 1% towards your final grade. If you miss a homework assignment, your grade will be zero. No make-up homework is available.

### ***End-of-class Quizzes***

End-of-class quizzes will be online, open book, and independent. There will be 6 quizzes administered throughout the course. Quizzes are released shortly after class through the eLearning platform; they are due by 11:59 pm of the release date. The quizzes will be similar to homework exercises and problems and examples covered in class. Quizzes are intended to be a learning experience and a participation device rather than a grading device. **Quizzes are graded based on completion instead of accuracy.** I will drop your lowest quiz score. Each quiz is counted 2% toward your final grade (with a maximum of 5 out of 6 quizzes counted). If you miss a quiz, your grade will be zero. No make-up quizzes are available.

### ***Exams***

There will be three exams in this course: two midterm exams and a final exam. Midterm exams will be during class hours at the Testing Center (see below), closed book, and independent. The final exam will be cumulative. The final exam will also be at the Testing Center (see below), closed book, and independent. The dates for the exams are included with the class schedule (see below).

Unexcused absence from a midterm will result in a score of zero. If you miss the midterm exam due to an illness or other emergency reason, you should notify me as soon as possible and provide me with written documentation (e.g., a note from the attending physician) after you return. I have final authority to determine if your absence should be excused. If you have an excused absence from the midterm exam, you will receive extra weight on your final exam to compensate for the missed examination. There will be no make-up midterm exams.

The final exam is mandatory. Unexcused absences from the final will result in a score of zero. I have final authority to determine if your absence should be excused. If you miss the final exam due to an illness or other emergency reason, you should notify me as soon as possible and provide me with written documentation (e.g., a note from the attending physician).

Making non-refundable (or non-cancelable) arrangements for travel before the final or midterm exams will not constitute an excused absence. **PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS COURSE.**

You are not permitted to use any electronic communications devices during exams. These devices explicitly include cell phones, pagers, computers, iPads, and other advanced electronic devices. I will consider it cheating if a cell phone or other electronic communication device is used and/or visible during the exam. You are not permitted to copy or otherwise reproduce the exams at any time. This includes taking pictures of the exam with your cell phone or other device while taking the exam or when reviewing graded exams.

Unless you have prior approval from the instructor, you must take the exam in the section for which you are registered. During the exams, you can use a basic financial calculator, with no internet access nor graphing functions.

### **Testing Center**

All the exams for this course are administered through the Testing Center. The midterm exams will take place during class hours at the Testing Center. The final exams will take place at the Testing Center as well. Therefore, it is essential that students familiarize themselves with the Testing Center rules and regulations which can be found at: <https://ets.utdallas.edu/testing-center/students/>. **In order to take exams at the Testing Center, students must register online no later than 48 hours prior to the exam start time.** It is a student's responsibility to register with the Testing Center on time and comply with the Testing Center rules. **Please note again that there will be no make-up midterm exams.** Please read through the Testing Center instructions and let the instructor know about any problems or difficulties as soon as possible.

### **Technical Support**

If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas Office of Information Technology Help Desk: assist@utdallas.edu or call 972-883-2911. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The services include a toll free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning Helpdesk: <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/eLearningHelpdesk.html>.

### **Class Materials**

The class materials are made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

## **Class Participation**

Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class (e.g., homework and quizzes). It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

## **Public Health Resources**

There is uncertainty about developments associated with COVID-19 or other threats to public health and how these developments might affect the plan and schedule for this course. Please check regularly the following website with updates and general UT Dallas policies and guidelines <https://www.utdallas.edu/health/>. Please email me if you have any conflicts, problems, or concerns related to COVID-19 or other threats to public health. I will attempt to accommodate uncertain and unexpected problems in line with the University's policies.

## **Comet Creed**

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

## **Violations of the Code of Conduct**

Students are expected to follow the rules stated within the [Student Code of Conduct](#). **Cheating during an exam implies a score of 0 for that exam.**

## **Academic Support Resources**

The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

## **UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures**

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the [credit/no credit](#) or [pass/fail](#) grading option and withdrawal from class.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

**ACADEMIC SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Quiz</b>	<b>Homework</b>
1	8/21	Syllabus and Lecture Notes 1	Introduction to Financial Accounting		
1	8/23	Lecture Notes 1	Overview of Financial Statements		H1 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
2	8/28	Lecture Notes 2	Balance Sheet	Q1 (by 11:59 pm)	
2	8/30	Lecture Notes 2	Balance Sheet (Continued)		H2 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
3	9/4		<i>Labor Day (No class)</i>		
3	9/6	Lecture Notes 3	Income Statement		H3 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
4	9/11	Lecture Notes 3	Income Statement (Continued)	Q2 (by 11:59 pm)	
4	9/13	Lecture Notes 4	Accounting Adjustments		H4 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
5	9/18	Lecture Notes 4	Accounting Adjustments (Continued)	Q3 (by 11:59 pm)	
5	9/20		<b><u>Review:</u></b> Terminology and Practice		
6	9/25	Lecture Notes 5	Revenues, Receivables, Cash		
6	9/27	Lecture Notes 5	Revenues, Receivables, Cash (Continued)		
7	10/2		<b><u>Review:</u></b> Midterm 1		
7	<b>10/4</b>	<b>Covers weeks 1-6</b>	<b>Midterm 1 (Testing Center)</b>		
8	10/9	Lecture Notes 6	Cost of goods sold, Inventory		H5 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
8	10/11	Lecture Notes 6	Cost of goods sold, Inventory (Continued)	Q4 (by 11:59 pm)	
9	10/16	Lecture Notes 7	Long-term assets		H6 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
9	10/18	Lecture Notes 7	Long-term assets (Continued)	Q5 (by 11:59 pm)	
10	10/23	Lecture Notes 8	Long-term liabilities		H7 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
10	10/25	Lecture Notes 8	Long-term liabilities (Continued)		
11	10/30	Lecture Notes 9	Bonds		
11	11/1		<b><u>Review:</u></b> Midterm 2		

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Quiz</b>	<b>Homework</b>
12	11/6	<b>Covers mainly weeks 8-11</b>	<b>Midterm 2 (Testing Center)</b>		
12	11/8	Lecture Notes 9	Bonds (Continued)		H8 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
13	11/13	Lecture Notes 10	Owners' Equity	Q6 (by 11:59 pm)	
13	11/15	Lecture Notes 10	Owners' Equity (Continued)		H9 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
14	11/20		<i>Fall Break (No class)</i>		
14	11/22		<i>Fall Break (No class)</i>		
15	11/27	Lecture Notes 11	Statement of Cash Flows		
15	11/29	Lecture Notes 11	Statement of Cash Flows (Continued)		H10 (by Sun 11:59 pm)
16	12/4		<b>Review:</b> Bonds		
16	12/6		<b>Review:</b> Final Exam		
	<b>12/12</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>Final Exam (Testing Center)</b>		