

**The University of Texas at Dallas**  
**Financial Accounting: ACCT 6301.001**  
**Fall 2024**

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**Course Information**

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	ACCT 6301.001
<i>Course Title</i>	Financial Accounting
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2024
<i>Time</i>	Wednesday 10:00am-12:45pm
<i>Classroom</i>	JSOM 2.106

**Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Ningzhong Li
<i>Office Phone</i>	972-883-5822
<i>Email Address</i>	Ningzhong.Li@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	JSOM 4.422
<i>Office Hours</i>	Wednesday 2:15-3:15pm

<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Jongha Kim
<i>Email Address</i>	JongHa.Kim@UTDallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	14.321
<i>Office Hours</i>	Thursday 1:00pm-3:00pm

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**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

There are no pre-requisites for this course.

**Course Description**

The purpose of this course is to furnish students with a basic understanding of the financial reporting process (and in particular how financial statements are put together). Although the course principally concentrates on the production of financial statements, the aim is not to turn participants into practicing accountants. The philosophy is rather to provide an appreciation of the production process that is sufficiently detailed to give students the ability to successfully analyze a relatively complex set of financial statements. This ability is essential for elective accounting courses, which are mainly concerned with the analysis and interpretation of company financial statements in various contexts. Additionally, in a number of other core courses and several electives, the ability to extract relevant information from accounting data for the purpose of decision-making is an important skill.

**Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

1. Understand the financial reporting process.
2. Be able to summarize the information provided by the balance sheet, income statement and statement of cash flows and interpret individual amounts (assets, liabilities, equities, revenues and expenses, cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities).

3. Be able to compute financial ratios and use financial ratios and other information to compare companies competing in an industry in terms of profitability and liquidity (short and long term).

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

For each lecture you will be given a copy of my slides which, when annotated with your own notes, should be sufficient for both review purposes for the exam and as a record of the course for future reference. I will post lecture slides, mini-cases, and optional readings one week before the class. You should read the lecture slides and mini-cases before class (except for the first class).

The required textbook for this course is:

P. Easton, J. Wild, R. Halsey, and M. McAnally. *Financial Accounting for MBAs (Ninth Edition)*. Cambridge Business Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-61853-358-6.

The textbook can be ordered online or purchased at the [UT Dallas Bookstore](#).

### **Technical Requirements**

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

### **Course Access and Navigation**

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

### **Communication**

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

### **Distance Learning Student Resources**

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the [eLearning Current Students](#) webpage for more information.

### **Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties**

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

### **Academic Calendar**

**Session 1:** Aug 21  
**Topics:** Course Overview  
Financial Accounting Basics

**Readings:** Modules 1 (1.1-1.18) and 2

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**Session 2:** Aug 28  
**Topics:** Balance Sheet and Income Statement

**Readings:** Modules 1 (1.1-1.18) and 2

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**Session 3:** Sep 4  
**Topics:** Transaction Analysis  
Basic Financial Statements Preparation

**Readings:** Module 3 (3.1-3.9, 3.13-3.18)

#### **\*First homework distributed**

**Session 4:** Sep 11  
**Topics:** Basic Financial Reporting Principles  
Accrual Accounting

**Readings:** Module 3 (3.9-3.13)

#### **\*First homework due**

**Session 5:** Sep 18  
**Topics:** Current Assets

**Readings:** Modules 5 (5.16-5.24) and 6 (6.1-6.11)

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**Session 6:** Sep 25  
**Topics:** Revenue Recognition

**Readings:** Module 5 (5.1-5.13)

**\*Second homework distributed**

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**Session 7:** Oct 2  
**Topics:** Long-term Assets

**Readings:** Module 6 (6.17-6.21)

**\*Second homework due**

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**Session 8:** Oct 9  
**Topics:** Cash Flows Statement

**Readings:** Module 11 (11.1-11.26)

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**Session 9:** Oct 16  
**Topics:** Midterm Exam (at University Testing Center)

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**Session 10:** Oct 23  
**Topics:** Long-term Liabilities

**Readings:** Modules 7 (7.8-7.16) and 10 (10.3-10.9)

**\*Third homework distributed**

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**Session 11:** Oct 30  
**Topics:** Shareholders' Equity

**Readings:** Module 8 (8.1-8.24)

**\*Third homework due**

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**Session 12:** Nov 6  
**Topics:** Inter-corporate Investment

**Readings:** Module 9 (9.1-9.24)

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**Session 13:** Nov 13  
**Topics:** Financial Statement Analysis

**Readings:** Module 4 (4.1-4.12, 4.35-4.38)

**\*Fourth homework distributed**

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**Session 14:** Nov 20  
**Topics:** Course Review

**\*Fourth homework due**

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**Final Exam:** Dec 4

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### **Class Materials**

The instructor may provide class materials that will be 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, they 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](#).

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### **Class Attendance**

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty.

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### **Class Participation**

Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Class participation is documented by faculty. 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](#).

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### **Class Recordings**

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the 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](#).

The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law.

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## Grading Policy

### Grading Formula

- **Individual Homework Submissions** 20%
- **Midterm Exam** 30%
- **Final Exam** 50%

### **Individual Homework Assignments** 20%

There will be four graded homework assignments. Each accounts for 5% of the course grade. Assignments are intended to be a learning experience. To be so, they must be completed individually. You are encouraged to discuss them with your classmates before submitting your solution. Group interaction is important in most work contexts and is an important component of your graduate education. Discussion is especially fruitful when there is a problem-solving focus. Nevertheless, all problem solutions are assumed to be your own.

The assignments should be typed and emailed to the teaching assistant before the beginning of the class on the due date. **Extensions will not be given under any circumstances** and so it would not be wise to leave these problem sets to the last minute.

### **Individually Written Examinations** 80%

Midterm (30%) and Final (50%)

There are two exams for this course. Anyone missing an exam will automatically receive a grade of zero for that test. Exceptions for documented emergencies may be permitted. Where possible, either the teaching assistant or I should be contacted prior to the time of the exam. At my discretion, either a make-up exam will be scheduled or a reallocation of the weight to remaining examinations will be made. Exams will be based on the assigned material in the textbook and class readings.

### **Course Policies**

#### *Make-up exams*

No make-up exams will be provided unless there is a documented emergency.

#### *Extra Credit*

No extra credits will be provided.

#### *Late Work*

Late assignments will not be accepted.

#### *Special Assignments*

No special assignments will be assigned.

### **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.”*

### **Academic Support Resources**

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

Please go to [Academic Support Resources](#) webpage for these policies.

### **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 [UT Dallas Syllabus Policies](#) webpage for these policies.

*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*