

Course Syllabus

ACCT 6201.0W1

School of Management
The University of Texas at Dallas

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Course Information

Course

Course Number Section: ACCT 6201.0W1
Course Title: Introduction to Financial Accounting
Term and Dates: Fall 2015 (08/24/15 – 11/16/15)

Professor and Teaching Assistant Contact Information

Professor: Ashiq Ali
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Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant: Hoyoun Kyung
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Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

There are no pre-requisites for this class.

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the concepts of financial accounting with an emphasis on the interpretation of financial statements. Specifically it covers how to prepare financial statements (income statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flows) and how to utilize the information contained in financial statements. The course also covers in detail how financial statements report the financial effects of certain important types of transactions that firms commonly undertake.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Summarize the information provided by the balance sheet, income statement and statement of cash flows and interpret individual amounts

- Compute financial ratios and use financial ratios and other information to compare companies competing in an industry in terms of profitability and liquidity
- Recognize ethical issues in reporting financial results and assess the impact of these issues on shareholders and other external users of the information

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

- Introduction to Financial Accounting, 11th ed. (ISBN: 0133251039), C. Horngren, G. Sundem, J. Elliott and D. Philbrick, Prentice Hall.

Textbooks and some other bookstore materials can be ordered online through [Off-Campus Books](#) or the [UTD Bookstore](#). They are also available in stock at both bookstores.

Suggested Course Materials

Suggested Materials

- Solutions manual for the text and sample true/false exam questions.
- Suggested articles from business publications such as The Wall Street Journal and Fortune are on eLearning (see the Course Outline on page 6). The purpose of these articles is to relate the concepts discussed in the lectures to the real world. I strongly encourage you to do additional reading of this nature. It will not only improve your understanding of the role of financial accounting but will also broaden your knowledge of business.

Course Policies

Makeup Exams

There are two exams for this course. Anyone missing an exam will automatically receive a grade of zero for that exam. 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.

Extra Credit

You can't makeup any shortfall in a quiz or an exam by offering to do additional work for extra credit. I would urge you to put in that effort **BEFORE** you sit for a quiz or an exam.

Late Work

Exams and assignments must be completed within the assigned time frame unless you have prior permission from the instructor. Late submissions, without prior permission, will not be accepted. Late submissions with prior permission may be penalized.

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The university is committed to providing a reliable online course 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 extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UTD eLearning Help Desk:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/eLearninghelp>, 1-866-588-3192. The instructor and the UTD eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

You have the primary responsibility to ensure that you satisfy the hardware and software requirements as outlined in eLearning, especially when you take tests. If you run into technical difficulty when you are taking tests, you need to contact eLearning and send an email to the instructor immediately. Every reported technical problem will be investigated by eLearning staff.

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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](#).

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Course Access and Navigation

This course was developed using a web course tool called eLearning. It is to be delivered entirely online. Students will use their UTD NetID account to login at: <http://eLearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see more details on [course access and navigation information](#).

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

UTD 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 Support Center:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/eLearninghelp>.

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Communications

This eLearning course has built-in communication tools which will be used 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 [eLearning Tutorials webpage](#) for video demonstrations on numerous tools in eLearning.

Interaction with Instructor

Interaction with Instructor / Teaching Assistant (Hoyoun): We will communicate with students mainly using the Announcements and Discussions tools. Students may send personal concerns or questions to Hoyoun using the course message tool. Avoid sending email to UTD email address. Hoyoun will reply to student emails or Discussion board messages within one to two working day under normal circumstances. Hoyoun will consult me if he is not able to answer your question.

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Student Resources

The following university resources are available to students:

UTD Distance Learning:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/eLearning/students/cstudents.htm>

McDermott Library:

Distance Learners (UTD students who live outside the boundaries of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Rockwall, or Tarrant counties) will need a UTD-ID number to access all of the library's electronic resources (reserves, journal articles, ebooks, interlibrary loan) from off campus. For UTD students living within those counties who are taking online courses, a Comet Card is required to check out materials at the McDermott Library. For more information on library resources go to <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/distance.html>.

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Student Assessments

Grading Information

Weights

Assignments	15%
Exam I	15%

Exam II	15%
Final Exam	55%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Scaled Score	Letter Equivalent
95 and above	A
90-95	A-
85-90	B+
80-85	B
75-80	B-
70-75	C+
65-70	C
Less than 65	F

Grading Policy

Translation of the total point score into a letter grade will be based on the judgment of the instructor. This translation process will be based on many factors including the student's relative performance (with respect to the rest of the students in the class), the consistency of performance across all the components of assessment (such as exams and assignments), and the standards that are expected in a rigorous master's program.

Accessing Grades

Students can check their grades by clicking "My Grades" on the course menu after the grade for each assessment task is released.

Exams

There will be two exams that will be administered through eLearning in this course. You can access exams by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the exam icon on the designated page. Each exam is timed and can be accessed **only one time** within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click "Begin Assessment". After each exam is graded and released, you may go back to the Assessments page and click "My Grades" to review your exam results. All the exams will be available during the exam windows indicated in the syllabus. The final exam is proctored and you should take it either in UTD testing center or any other approved proctoring center (See information on final exam elsewhere in the syllabus).

Assignments

The main purpose of the assignment is to prepare you for the discussion of the related lecture material. I expect that my discussion of the assignment in the following lecture should address most of your difficulties. I find that this approach is very effective for students in understanding and retaining new concepts. I will grade your homework based largely on effort and not accuracy. Homework assignments are due by the date and time indicated and are to be turned in individually. Late work will not be accepted. Your work will be graded as follows:

5 points –There is evidence that you made a serious attempt on all parts of the assignment.

2.5 points – The work is incomplete.

0 points – No work (or less than a quarter of the work) is turned in.

Assignment submission instructions

Locate the assignment in your eLearning course. You will submit your assignments in the required file format with a simple file name and a file extension. To submit your assignment, click the assignment name link and follow the on-screen instructions to upload and submit your file(s). For additional information on how to submit assignments, view the [Submitting An Assignment video tutorial](#).

Please Note: Each assignment link will be deactivated after the assignment due time. After your submission is graded, you may go to My Grades on the course menu and click the score link to check the results and feedback.

Proctored Final Exam Information

This course requires a proctored final examination. Local students can now take their exams on-campus at the **UTD Student Success Center - Testing Center** (no fee charge) during **November 16, 2015, 9:00am to 11:30am**. Please see the [UTD Student Success Center - Testing Center Website](#) for more information and check the hours of operation and testing center policies. Please be sure to view and follow the **Test Center Student Guidelines** found on the Testing Center main page. All students are required to make an appointment using the **RESERVE-A-SEAT** application found on the Testing Center main page to take the exam during the required exam test window as specified. The UTD Testing Center is located at the McDermott Library basement (**Room MC 1.304**). When you arrive to take your exam, you will sign in with your **Comet Card** (or a **photo ID & UTD ID number** if you do not have a Comet Card).

Students who find UTD geographically inconvenient may use a testing service of their choice at a convenient location to have the exam proctored. All exams must be completed within this required

exam time window: **November 16, 2015, 9:00am to 11:30am**. All students must inform the instructor of their outside testing location. A proctored exam application **must** be completed before (**October 1, 2015**). Please go to the [Proctored Exam Information](#) page to check out **Procedures for Arranging an Individual Proctored Exam** and to access and complete the **Online Proctored Exam application**. Please note students are responsible for any fee charge of their testing services. All completed exams must be received by (**Date**) to allow timely grade reporting to the UTD Registrar.

The UTD Testing Center requests all students strictly follow the proctored exam scheduling deadlines. If any student needs special accommodations, please get in touch with student services. If you have any questions about using either UTD or outside testing center service, please email TestingCenter@utdallas.edu.

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Strategy to Study for the Course

(Refer to the [course outline on pages 8 and 9](#) for the items indicated in bold in this paragraph.)

Listen to the **Lectures** carefully and try to understand the material covered. To check whether you have understood the material, try to do the lecture problems once again on your own. Use the **Readings** in the Horngren text to clarify any difficulty that you have with the material covered in the lectures. Otherwise, just glance through the Readings material; you will not be tested on the material beyond that covered in the lectures. The **Practice Problems** may be used if you need additional practice in doing problems. If this is the first time you are taking an accounting course, I recommend that you try out the practice problems. The solutions to these problems are available in Horngren's solutions manual (on eLearning). When doing an **Assignment**, give it a good try but do not spend too much time on it. I have indicated the amount of time that is reasonable to spend for each of the assignments (that is after you have understood the lecture material). Note that I will grade your homework based largely on effort and not accuracy. When preparing for the **Exams** make sure that you understand well the material in the lectures and assignments. About 85% of the exam will be made up of problems and about 15% will be True/False type questions covering some of the descriptive material in lectures, assignments, and **Articles**. I will not test you on the details in the articles but rather on the major points, which for each article you should be able to summarize in two to three sentences. **Sample True/False** questions are available on eLearning.

Academic Calendar

Course Outline

WEEK / DATES	Topic / Lecture	Reading + Practice Problems	Articles	Assignment + Due Date
Week 1 8/24 - 8/30	Introduction Financial Activity Basics I (Unit1, 60mins.) Financial Activity Basics II (Unit2, 30mins.)	Chap 1 (p. 1-22) Chap 2 (p. 44-65, 69-73) Ex 1-36,44,47 Ex 2-48, 49	International Financial Reporting Standard Tips (eLearning)	
Week 2 8/31 - 9/16	Mallard Clothing (Unit3, 60mins.) (After this lecture, refer to the Mallard Clothing spread sheet solution, available on eLearning)	Chap 4 (p. 140-150, 156-165) Ex 4-39		
Week 3 9/7 - 9/13	Statement of Cash Flow (Unit4, 60mins.) (For this lecture, refer to problem 5 - 59 of Horngren 9th edition, available on eLearning)	Chap 5 Ex 5-64,65, 66 (parts 2&3)	Burning Up (eLearning) Once Hot Now Toast (eLearning)	
Week 4 9/14 - 9/20	Prepare for Exam (9/14-9/18) Exam I (9/19, 9-11am) (open book)			
Week 5a 9/21 - 9/26	Financial Statement Analysis I (Unit5, 30mins.)	Chap 12 (p. 532-559) Ex 12-48, 49, 51-55	Managing Working Capital (Horngren, p. 162) Return on Equity (eLearning)	Reebok and LA Gear (eLearning) (About 3 hours) (Due 9/26, midnight)
Week 5b 9/27	Reebok and LA Gear (Unit6, 20mins.) (Available 7am on 9/27)			
Week 6a 9/28 - 10/3	Inventory (Unit7, 40mins.)	Chap 7 (p. 289-301) Ex 7-56, 67,70	Exxon's LIFO Reserve (eLearning) Bond Covenants (Horngren p.396)	Keysor Roth (eLearning) (About 1hour) Chrysler Corp. (Horngren, Prob 7-71, p. 330) (About 1hour) (Both due 10/3, midnight)

Week 6b 10/4	Chrysler Corp. & Keysor Roth (Unit8, 35mins.) (Available 7am on 10/4)			
Week 7a 10/5 - 10/10	Property, Plant & Equipment (Unit9, 45mins.) (For this lecture, refer to the Fredericks of Hollywood problem, available on eLearning) Intangible Assets (Unit10, 15mins.) (For this lecture, skip Merck and Co. Inc., page 5)	Chap 8 (p. 338-366) Ex 8-31, 39, 52, 60, 67, 68	Earnings Helper (eLearning) Real Assets, Unreal Reporting (eLearning) Valuing Recorded and Unrecorded Assets (Horngren, p.341)	MiniScribe (Due 10/10, midnight) (About 2hours)
Week 7b 10/11	MiniScribe (Unit11, 35mins.) (Available 7am on 10/11)			
Week 8 10/12 - 10/18	Prepare for Exam II (10/11-10/17) Exam II (10/18, 9-11am) (open book)			
Week 9 10/19 - 10/25	Present Value & Bonds (Unit12, 70mins.) (For this lecture, refer to Problem 9-53 of Horngren 9th edition and Chrysler Bonds article, available on eLearning)	Chap 9 (p. 386-405, 422-429) Ex 9-60	Chrysler Bonds (eLearning)	
Week 10 10/26 - 11/1	Leases (Unit13, 25mins.) (For this lecture, skip AMR Corporation, page 7 to 12)	Chap 9 (p.408-413) Ex 9-71	On the Horizon (Horngren, p.409)	
Week 11 11/2 - 11/8	Intercompany Investments (Unit14, 85mins.) (For this lecture, refer to problems 11-31, 11-43, 11-45 of Horngren 9th edition, available on e-learning)	Chap 11 (p. 492-498, 501-518) Ex 11-32, 33, 44 (parts 1&2), 46	Murky Waters (eLearning) Impact of Goodwill Impairments (Horngren, p.365) Beyond GAAP Financial Metrics (Horngren, p.565)	
Week 12 11/9 - 11/16	Prepare for Exam (11/9-11/15) Final Exam (11/16, 9:00am -11:30am) (Closed Book, Proctored)			

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Academic Integrity

The University has policies and discipline procedures regarding academic dishonesty. Detailed information is available on the [UTD Judicial Affairs](#) web page. All students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility with respect to academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on academic honesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

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Course Evaluation

As required by UTD academic regulations, every student must complete an evaluation for each enrolled course at the end of the semester. An online instructional assessment form will be made available for your confidential use. Please watch for the email notification at your UTD email inbox with course evaluation access information towards the end of semester.

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University Policies

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

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

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

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