

## *Online Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	ACCT 6333 – Section 0W1
<i>Course Title</i>	Advanced Financial Reporting
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2016

### **Professor Contact Information**

<i>Professor</i>	Kathy Zolton
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<i>Email Address</i>	kathy.zolton@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	JSOM 3.705
<i>Online Office Hours</i>	TBD – will be posted in eLearning

### **About the Instructor**

I am a CPA licensed in the state of Texas and have served as the Associate Director of the Graduate Accounting Program in the Naveen Jindal School of Management at UT Dallas from 2013-2015.. I received my BBA and MS in Accounting from Texas A&M University. Prior to joining UT Dallas in 2012 as an adjunct professor then full time as a Sr. Lecturer in January 2013, I spent over 15 years working in public accounting and industry. My public accounting career was spent with Arthur Andersen as an external auditor and then with Ernst & Young in one of their specialty practices doing SOX implementation. My industry experiences include spending time as a SEC Financial Reporting Manager, Director of Corporate Accounting, IT Controller, and Asst. Controller for publically held companies in hospitality and financial services industries. I have a passion for financial reporting and financial statements and understand the needs of the business and the users of the financial statements to have consistent and accurate information. My objectives for this class include helping you understand how the debits and credits you learned in your Intermediate Accounting courses comes together to form consolidated financial statements. In addition, for you to see the interrelationship between the lines in the financial statements and how consolidated statements are developed and the impact of foreign currency risk.

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

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions ACCT 6330 & 6332 – Intermediate Financial Accounting I & II are required prerequisites

Note for those planning to take the CPA exam: If you are considering taking the Uniform CPA Exam through the state of Texas, please note that of the 30-credit hours of upper-level accounting courses required to be eligible to sit for the exam no more than 15 of total 30 hours can be online. The remaining 15 credit hours must result from physical attendance at classes meeting regularly on the campus of the transcript-issuing institution. Please see the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy website at <http://www.tsbpa.state.tx.us/> for additional details.

## Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with a higher and more thorough understanding of some specific comprehensive problems in financial accounting, including the Equity Method of Accounting for Investments, Preparation of Consolidated Financial Reports, Translation of Foreign Currency Statements and Partnership Accounting. In addition, this course incorporates practical experience in using the FASB Accounting Standard Codification and SEC online reporting tools.

## Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

The key learning objectives include developing a solid understanding of:

1. Be able to analyze transactions where one firm acquires control of another firm and apply accounting rules for consolidation of financial reports.
2. Be able to differentiate among types of foreign currency transactions, describe various hedging situations and apply accounting rules for derivatives and foreign currency translation.
3. Be able to classify partnerships and demonstrate accounting for formation, operation and termination of partnerships.
4. Be able to apply these accounting rules in specific different accounting circumstances.
5. Be able to apply research in the Codification and SEC EDGAR databases to real world examples.

## Required Textbooks and Materials

Textbook: The textbook for the course is Advanced Accounting, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Robert Halsey and Patrick Hopkins, Published Cambridge Business Publishers, ISBN: 978-1-61853-190-2

**eLearning:** All course-related information including syllabus, lecture notes, self-quizzes, discussions and assessment materials will be provided in the eLearning course.

### **FASB Accounting Standard Codification** – Academic Accounting Access

<http://aaahq.org/FASB/Access.cfm>

Students will be required use the Academic Accounting Access to the FASB Accounting Standard Codification. Access will be provided to students at no charge; information on access will be provided by the TA after Census Date of the semester.)

Textbooks and some other bookstore materials can be ordered online through Off-Campus Books <http://www.offcampusbooks.com> or the UT Dallas Bookstore <http://www.bkstr.com/texasatdallasstore/home>. They are also available in stock at both bookstores.

### **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 <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#techreqs> on the Getting Started with eLearning webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html>.

### **Course Access and Navigation**

The course can be accessed using the UT Dallas NetID account at: <https://elearning.utdallas.edu>. Please see the course access and navigation <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/getting-started.html#courseaccessandnav> section of the site for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the Student eLearning Tutorials <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html>.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The eLearning Support Center <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp> services include 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 eLearning Tutorials webpage <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/eLearningTutorialsStudents.html> 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 page <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearning/students/cstudents.htm> for details.

### **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 <http://www.utdallas.edu/elearninghelp>. The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

ACCT6333 - Advanced Financial Reporting				
Fall 2016 Professor Kathy				
ACCT6333.01W				
#	Week of	TOPIC	CH	Exercises & Problems (suggested)
<i>For all chapters, also study the Comprehensive Review that is presented after the Summary</i>				
1	8/22/2016	Module 0 - Course Introduction	--	
		Start Module 1		*Suggested homework to be updated**
		SEC Reporting (supplemental information)		Not in text - materials in eLearning
2	8/29/2016	Accounting for Intercompany Investments	1	Q: All MC: 11-14, 17, 18, 21, 22 E: 26, 29, 33 P: 36, 38
3	9/5/2016 (Labor Day Holiday Monday)	Intro to Business Combinations and the Consolidations Process	2	Q: All MC: 23-24, 27, 28, 30, 31 E: 35-38, 40, 42 P: 45, 46
4	9/12/2016	Consolidated Financial Statements Subsequent to the Date of Acquisition	3	Q: All MC: 19, 24-26 E: 32, 33, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42 P: 47, 48, 50, 52, 53, 54
<b>***PROCTED EXAM #1 FORM DUE!</b>				
Week of 9/18 - Exam on 5 Saturday, 9/24		<b>EXAMINATION #1</b> <b>Online - Testing Window Sat 9/24</b> <b>Launch 9am-11am (Dallas time, CST),</b> <b>120 minutes to complete</b>		<b>Module 1</b>  <b>SEC Info and Chap 12, 1, 2 &amp; 3</b>
6	9/26/2016	Start Module 2 Consolidated Financial Statements and Intracompany Transactions	4	Q: All MC: 12-15, 22-25, 28 E: 30-35 P: 39, 40, 42, 48, 50, 57
7	10/3/2016	Complete Chapter 4		
7	10/10/2016	Consolidated Financial Statements with Less than 100% Ownership	5	Q: All MC: 14-18, 20-27 E: 35, 36, 40, 42-45, 47 P: 49-51, 54-56, 58, 61, 62, 63, 67
8	10/17/2016	Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities and Other Intercompany Investments	6	Q: All MC: 28-38 E: 42, 48, 49, 54, 48 P: 66
<b>***PROCTED FINAL EXAM FORM DUE!</b>				
9	Saturday Week of 10/24 - Exam on 10/29	<b>EXAMINATION #2</b> <b>Proctored Exam 2 -Testing day</b> <b>Saturday, 10/29</b>		<b>Module 2</b>  <b>Chapters 4, 5, &amp; 6</b>

### Assignments & Academic Calendar

#	Week of	TOPIC	CH	Exercises & Problems (suggested)
10	10/31/2016	Start Module 3 Accounting for Foreign Currency Transactions and Derivatives	7	Q: All MC: All E: All P: All
11	11/7/2016	Finish Chapter 7	7	
	Monday 11/14/2016	<b>Research Project DUE - submitted into eLearning by midnight (CST)</b>		
12	11/14/2016	Consolidation of Foreign Subsidiaries	8	Q: All MC: 12-21 E: 23, 25, 28 P: 33, 35
	Week of 11/21	<b>Thanksgiving Week - No Classes</b>		
14	11/28/2016	Accounting for Partnerships	13	Q: All MC: 8-14 E: 29-31 P: 32, 36
	Week of 12/5 - Exam on 12/9 or 12/10	<b>PROCTORED CUMULATIVE FINAL/EXAM 3 In testing center 12/9 or 12/10 120 minutes to complete</b>		<b>Cumulative Mods 1 &amp; 2 &amp; Module 3 Chapters 7, 8, &amp; 13</b>
	*the text includes Chapters 9-11 on Governmental Accounting -this will not be covered in THIS course, however other full			
<b>Suggestions for Success....Every semester students ask me what I recommend for success in this course...</b>				
1 - Read the chapter, maybe more than once BEFORE we discuss it in class.				
2 - Work through the Comprehensive Reviews at the end of the chapter - it is a great mix of working the problem, but it also provides the "why." Work out the Topic Reviews in the text.				
3 - I post the solutions to the "Questions" in the Solutions - work through these WITHOUT the solutions open. These cover the theory very well.				
4 - Work out the assigned homework problems WITHOUT the solutions. If you work on them with the solutions open, you don't get the full learning experience.				
5 - Know that the powerpoints and in class examples do not cover every scenario that might show up on an exam. Just reviewing those for quizzes/exams will not be sufficient.				
6 - Finally, if a template is posted - download it and use it for practice. There is a great chance you'll see it again!				

## Proctored Final Exam Procedures

This course requires two proctored examinations. Local students can now take their exams on-campus at the **UTD Student Success Center - Testing Center** (no fee charge) during the testing windows – please see the syllabus for dates. 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 web page. Students are required to make an appointment using the **RESERVE-A-SEAT** application to take the exam during the required exam test window as specified. The UTD Testing Center is located at the McDermott Library basement. 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 windows as posted on the syllabus. All students must inform the instructor of their outside testing location. A proctored exam application **must** be completed before **(9/123/16)**. 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 the following Tuesday 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 seek the instructor's approval in advance. If you have any questions about using either UTD or outside testing center service, please email [TestingCenter@utdallas.edu](mailto:TestingCenter@utdallas.edu).

## Grading Policy

### *Weights*

Getting to Know You Introduction Discussion	10 Points	2%
Syllabus Quiz	10 Points	2%
Participation / Discussion Grades – 1 grade assigned per module (20 pts each Module)	60 Points	12%
Research Project	100 Points	20%
Online Exam 1	75 Points	15%
Proctored Exam 2	100 Points	20%
Proctored Cumulative Final & Module 3	150 Points	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>100%</b>

### ***Grading Scale***

<b>Scaled Score</b>	<b>Letter Equivalent</b>
454-505	A
404-453	B
354 403	C
402 – below	F

Prior to all tests and assignments students will be provided information via eLearning on how the grade will be assessed for that item. See the participation section for information on participation requirements. The instructor reserves the right to adjust scores and grading scales as deemed necessary.

### **Course Policies**

#### ***Make-up exams***

None. If you do not complete online or proctored quizzes or tests during the testing window, you will receive a 0 on that exam. You must notify the instructor in the event of an emergency and provide documentation of the situation. Examples of a circumstance that would warrant a make-up exam include serious illness (including documentation) or death in the immediate family.”

If you have conflicts with the testing window(s), you need to let me know as soon as possible BEFORE the quiz or testing window OPENS. The windows are a very narrow amount of time, please plan accordingly. Under NO circumstances will a test be given early. All make-up tests will be taken AFTER the regularly scheduled window, and the instructor reserves the right to give a different test which may be more difficult than the original

#### ***Extra Credit***

None

#### ***Late Work***

Not accepted

#### ***Class Participation***

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in eLearning to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as discussion board, chat or conference sessions and group projects. These may be considered as part of your grade.

#### ***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.

### **Research Project**

Student will be required to complete a Research Project on an assigned footnote within an assigned publically traded company. The goal of the Research Project is to familiarize students

with the process of researching applicable standards in the FASB Accounting Standard Codification and applying real world knowledge in the review of financial statements in the SEC EDGAR database. The background of the applicable accounting standard will be research along with industry standard practices. Students will be required to identify key areas of the FASB Accounting Standard Codification pertaining to the assigned topic, determine the risks associated with the management judgments included and identify any alternative treatments (if applicable). Students will also review the most recent quarterly filings, 8-Ks and earnings calls for the assigned company.

Prepare a report in the form of a written narrative with sources referenced and footnotes as appropriate explaining your research and findings, examples of company-reported accounting and applicable SEC filings of the public company. More information will be provided in the beginning of the semester. The project is due **Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> by midnight** and must be submitted via eLearning. No late submissions will be accepted or submissions by any method other than eLearning. Additional details regarding the project will be provided during Module 1 of the course.

### **Turnitin eLearning Assignment Submission Instructions**

The assignment(s) will be submitted and examined through the integrated plagiarism detection tool called [Turnitin](#). Please find the Turnitin assignment submission link on the designated course page and click to view it. Please follow the on-screen instruction to view the assignment information and to submit your assignment. (Note: only one single file may be submitted. Some common file types accepted are: Word, HTML, PDF, TXT and RTF.) You can go back to the Turnitin assignment page to view your submission and check the feedback when it becomes available. If instructor chooses to release the Originality Report (showing the percentage of similarity match and the sources detected), you will also be able to view it. For more information and assistance on using Turnitin, please go to: [http://www.turnitin.com/en\\_us/support/help-center](http://www.turnitin.com/en_us/support/help-center).

### **Suggested Homework**

ACCOUNTING IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT!

There will be suggested exercised and/or problems to be worked for each chapter. While there will be NO points allocated to homework, **there is a direct correlation between working problems and performing successfully on examinations**. It is your responsibility to ask for help when you feel you need it. You are encouraged to ask questions. Solutions to the suggested exercises and/or problem will be posted on eLearning. It is recommended that you complete the homework and then refer to the solutions. From time-to-time I may also suggest additional practice from the problems at the end of the chapter. The suggested practice problems will not be submitted for a grade and are provided for your own practice and self-assessment.

### **Participation/Discussions**

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in eLearning to monitor student activity. Students should participate in all class activities such as discussion board, chat or conference sessions. At the end of each module the

instructor will assign a participation grade based upon your overall participation and contribution to class discussions.

**To earn full points for each module you must have participated in at least 4 discussions and have a meaningful contribution to the discussion. Occasionally, other activities may be incorporated as part of the Discussion Board grading. Just participating in 4 discussions does not guaranteed full points being allocated.**

Contributions can be in the form of examples of your experiences, references to articles and outside information, additional relevant questions regarding the topic etc. **Merely agreeing to a post, summarizing the post or posting information that has already been posted is not sufficient participation.** The discussion boards and class participation is used to mirror that of an in-person class discussion. Each student brings to this class a diverse background, desire to learn, and their ability to share and that participation is integral to the value received from the course.

*One or two discussion items will be posted each Monday morning and will close at 10pm the following Sunday evening. No discussion items will be posted the week that end with a Saturday exam or the week leading up to the final exam.* Students may post new discussion items that are relevant to the course material being covered, however these are subject to instructor approval.

### **Online Tests/Quizzes**

For module 1 you will have an online exam. You will have a short window of time to launch the exam and then 2 hours to complete the exam.

**The Module 2 Exam and the Cumulative final/Module 3 exam will both be a proctored test and you will be allowed 2 hours to complete the exam.** See the information below for proctored tests. All of the lectures, text book readings (unless specifically excluded by the instructor) assignments and discussions are valid material for a test. If you do not take the exam during the specified testing window, you will receive a 0 on the exam. **If you have conflicts with the testing window(s), you need to let me know as soon as possible BEFORE the testing window opens.** Make-up exams are only given under extreme circumstances – i.e. serious illness or death in the immediate family. **Documentation supporting request must be provided. Once the testing window is open NO exceptions will be made.** Any reschedules will be after the testing window – no exams will be allowed to be taken early.

**PLEASE NOTE for ONLINE EXAM: YOU WILL HAVE A 2 HOUR WINDOW TO LAUNCH THE EXAM AND THEN 2 HOURS TO COMPLETE THE EXAM. FAILURE TO LAUNCH THE EXAM DURING THIS SHORT WINDOW WILL RESULT IN A GRADE OF ZERO IF YOU HAVE NOT CONTACTED THE INSTRUCTOR PRIOR TO THE START OF THE EXAM WINDOW WITH A VALID REASON FOR DEFERRAL.**

You can access the online exam by clicking the Exams link on the course menu or see the exam icon on the designated page. The 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”. Online examss will utilize the Locked Down Browser functionality.

After each exam is graded you will see your grade posted in eLearning. Quizzes and Exams will not be given back or released; however, time will be made available with the instructor or TA to review and discuss. Students will be given a limited amount of time (approximately 15 minutes

to review their exams), and no notes or photographs from the exam will be allowed. Students not geographically convenient to UT Dallas can schedule discussions via telephone.

### **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.”

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

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