Course Syllabus (Revised on 3/17/20)
ACCT 6331

School of Management
The University of Texas at Dallas

Course Information

Course

Course Number/Section	ACCT 6331.501
Course Title	Cost Accounting
Term and Dates	Spring 2020: January 13th – May 8th
Class meetings	Thursdays 7:00 – 9:45 PM. Log onto course room in Blackboard[1]

Professor Contact Information

Professor	Surya Janakiraman
Office Phone	972 883 6370
Email Address	Use eLearning Messages (preferred) or suryaj@utdallas.edu. If the latter email address is used, include "ACCT 6331" in subject line of the email
Office Location	4.806
Office Hours	Tuesdays 12:00 – 1:00 PM and Thursdays 5:00 – 6:00 PM. For other days and times, please email me to set up appointment.

Course pre-requisites, Co-requisites and/or other restrictions	None.

Course Description

Success in any organization…be it profit seeking or non-profit seeking… requires the use of cost accounting concepts and practices. Cost accounting provides key data to managers for planning, decision making, controlling and in evaluating performance. Managers need the cost data to cost a product, a service and even customers. In this highly competitive and global business world, managers need input from cost accounting system to constantly formulate strategic responses to competitor's actions. Managers need cost accounting data to determine product and service costs for internal management and external financial reporting. This course focuses on how cost accounting helps managers make better decisions, as cost accountants are increasingly becoming integral members of their company's decision making teams.

In a nutshell, in this course, you will study how organizations produce accounting information to facilitate planning, decision making and control. I shall emphasize three aspects:

1. **Cost Analysis**

   Cost is the most basic concept in management accounting. Many higher level concepts are built from the concept of cost. This course deals with cost methods, cost accumulation and allocation, and understanding cost flows in organizations.

2. **Planning and Control**

[1] Go to the course home page and click on "Collaborator". Join the course room.

Building on the knowledge of cost analysis, you will study the use of cost information for decision making in the short term and in the long term, responsibility accounting, performance measurement and evaluation.

3. Performance evaluation

An organization's performance evaluation and reward systems are key tools for aligning the goals of workers, managers, and owners. You will be exposed to the use of cost accounting data for performance evaluation.

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Course Learning Objectives

The learning objectives for the course are:

1. Gain fluency and mastery over different costing techniques. Develop expertise over the mechanics of various job and process costing systems.
2. Get a deep understanding of cost allocation methods with a particular focus of why and how a particular cost allocation method is chosen for a given situation.
3. Advance the knowledge of setting up benchmarks for performance evaluation and computing variances. Develop the expertise to interpret various variances in a way that help develop solutions for deviations from goals.
4. Comprehend the critical role of management control systems in organizations by gaining deep insight into transfer pricing mechanics and performance evaluation systems.
5. Develop expertise in capital budgeting techniques.

Key elements of the course:

The course is designed with the objective of achieving the student learning objectives with the help of the following course elements:

(i) Textbook: Read the textbook chapter ahead of the class in which the chapter is going to be covered. The book will introduce you to concepts, explain or amplify them through examples, and help you to understand how they are used in management. For each session, I have indicated the chapter(s) from the textbook that will be covered in the class. Please spend at least an hour per chapter of the textbook before each class. You might want to read the chapter again after we discuss the concepts in class.

(ii) Problems: Problems in real organizations rarely come pre-packaged by discipline. However, solving structured problems can help you to understand how you can apply the solution concepts in real world. I have created a list of *core assigned problems* for each chapter. Solving these problems will help you master the concepts in the chapter.
I have provided to you suggested solutions to the *core assigned problems* in eLearning. You should try to solve these problems on your own (i.e. without looking at the suggested solutions first). This will really help you to test your understanding of the material covered in the book and the class.

(iii) Tests and Exam: There are two tests and a final exam in this course. The tests and final exam will have multiple choice questions as well as problem solving questions. At least 25% of the questions in the tests/final exam will be similar to the core assigned problems. The date for final exam in the syllabus is tentative and is subject to change by Registrar. I will allow you to refer to 2 pages (8.5 X 11") of notes during tests and final exam. Start solving the assigned problems on an ongoing basis without waiting for an exam or test. That should help you do well in the tests and exam.

(iv) Homework Assignments: There are three homework assignments. Homework assignments will have problems that are similar to the core assigned problems in the syllabus.

(v) eLearning: All course materials will be made available through eLearning. The PowerPoint lecture notes and problem sheets will be posted ahead of each class. You are required to bring to class either a soft or hard copy of the PowerPoint slides and the problem sheets.

Required Textbooks and Materials

This course requires the following text book:

Horngren's Cost Accounting: A Managerial Emphasis
Srikant Datar, and Madhav Rajan
Pearson Publishers (**16th edition**)[2]

Course Access in eLearning

Classes will resume on April 2nd in an online format. There is no change in the day and time that we usually meet. We will continue to meet on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Instead of meeting physical in the classroom, we will meet online.

This course uses material that is available in eLearning. You can login to the course at: https://elearning.utdallas.edu.

Once you go to the course homepage, click on Blackboard collaborator. Then join the "Course room" and then enable the audio and video.

All exams, from now, will be conducted online through eLearning. The exam that was originally scheduled on March 26th is postponed to April 2nd. The final exam will still be conducted on May 7th. All exams will be timed and administered during the class time.

If you have any problems with your eLearning account you may contact 1-866-288-3192

[2] Make sure that you buy the correct edition. I will provide the solutions for selected problems from the 16th edition. If you buy any other edition, then you won't be able to benefit from these solutions. I don't require you to purchase any access card.

Course Outline/Schedule

Session	Date	Topic of discussion	Textbook reference
1	January 16th	The Manager and Management Accounting An Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes Determining How Costs Behave Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis Job Costing	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 10 Chapter 3 Chapter 4
2	January 23rd	Job Costing Process Costing	Chapter 4 Chapter 17
3	January 30th	Process Costing Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap	Chapter 17 Chapter 18
		Homework # 1 due in class	
4	February 6th	Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap Review for Test 1	Chapter 18
5	**February 13th**	Activity-Based Costing and Activity-Based Management	Chapter 5
		Test 1	**Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 17, and 18**
6	February 20th	Activity-Based Costing and Activity-Based Management Customer Profitability Analysis Allocation of Support Department costs	Chapter 5 Chapter 14 (pages 559 – 578) Chapter 15
7	February 27th	Cost Allocation: Joint Products Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting	Chapter 16 (pages 643 – 656) Chapter 6 (pages 197 – 220)
8	March 5th	Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting Flexible Budgets: Direct Cost Variances	Chapter 6 (pages 197-220) Chapter 7
		Homework # 2 due in class	
9	March 12th	Flexible Budgets: Direct Cost Variances Flexible Budgets: Overhead Cost Variances Review for Test 2	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
10	March 19th	No class – Spring break	
11	March 26th	No class – Extended spring break	

12	**April 2nd**	Flexible Budgets: Overhead Cost Variances	Chapter 8
		Test 2 (administered through eLearning during the second half of the class)	**Chapters 5, 14 (pages 559-578), 15, 16 (pages 643 – 656), 6 (pages 197 – 220), and 7**
13	April 9th	Wrap up cost variances Sales Variances	Chapter 14 (pages 569-577)
14	April 16th	Inventory Costing and Capacity Analysis Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis	Chapter 9 Chapter 21
15	April 23rd	Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis Management Control Systems, Transfer Pricing, and Multinational Considerations	Chapter 21 Chapter 22
		Homework # 3 is due in class	
16	April 30th	Performance Measurement, Compensation, and Multinational Considerations Review for Final Exam	Chapter 23
17	**May 7th**	**Final Exam administered through eLearning @ 8:00 PM**	**Chapters 8, 9, 14 (pages 569-577), 21, 22, and 23**

Core Assignment Material

The suggested solutions for the following problems are provided to you (check the link "***suggested solutions to selected problems***" under each module in eLearning). It is highly recommended that you try to solve the following problems before you consult the solutions. You can expect at least a few questions in every quiz or exam to be similar to some of the following problems.

Chapter	Topic	Core assignment material
1	The Manager and Management Accounting	Questions 1, 4 Exercises 18
2	An Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes	Questions 1 – 12 Exercises 22, 32 Problems 35, 39
3	Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis	Questions 4, 8, 12 Exercises 21, 28, 29, 30, 33 Problems 41
4	Job Costing	Questions 2, 9, 13 Exercises 22, 28, 34, 35 Problems 40, 41
5	Activity Based Costing and Activity Based Management	Questions 1 – 7 Exercises 22, 25, 26

		Problems 41
6	Master budget and Responsibility Accounting	Questions 9, 10 Exercises 25, 30 Problems 37
7	Flexible Budgets, Direct-Cost Variances, and Management Control	Questions 1, 3, 4, 5 Exercises 23, 25, 29 Problems 36, 40
8	Flexible Budgets, Overhead Cost Variances and Management Control	Questions 3 Exercises 21, 22, 27 Problems 35, 36
9	Inventory Costing and Capacity Analysis	Questions 4, 12 Exercises 21, 22, 30 Problems 35
10	Determining How Costs Behave	Questions 1, 2 Exercises 21, 28, 33, 34
14 A	Cost Allocation and Customer-Profitability Analysis (pages 559 – 578)	Questions 1, 5, 6, 8 Exercises 19, 24 Problems 32
14 B	Sales-Variance Analysis (pages 579 – 588)	Questions 12 Exercises 27, 28 Problems 40
15	Allocation of Support-Department Costs, Common Costs, and Revenues	Questions 1, 7, 9 Exercises 19, 20, 25 Problems 31
16	Cost Allocation: Joint Products and Byproducts	Questions 2, 6, 7 Exercises 24, 28, Problems 33
17	Process Costing	Questions 2, 3 Exercises 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33 Problems 36, 37, 38, 39
18	Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap	Questions 2 Exercises 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33 Problems 39
21	Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis	Questions 6, 7 Exercises 23, 24, 26, Problems 34
22	Management Control Systems, Transfer Pricing, and Multinational Considerations	Questions 1, 2, 6, 7, 8 Exercises 24, 25, 26 Problems 30
23	Performance Measurement, Compensation, and Multinational Considerations	Questions 1, 5 Exercises 22, 23, 29 Problems 36

Student Assessments

Grading Information

Grading scheme:

Homework assignments	15%
Tests 1 & 2*	45%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

* The test with the higher score will be given a weight of 25% and the less scoring test will be given a weight of 20%

Grading Policy

The following scale reflects, on the average, how points were translated into letter grades, in the past, when I taught this course. However, please keep in mind that the cutoff for letter grades do change from year to year and the following scale should be considered as "the expected scale" and not to be treated as "firm commitment". **The grading scale can change anytime during the semester at my discretion.**

Scaled score	Letter Equivalent
95% above	A
90% – 94%	A-
85% – 89%	B+
80% – 84%	B
75% – 79%	B-
70% – 74%	C+
65% – 69%	C
Less than 65%	F

Treat the above translation table as a rough guideline. Translation of the total point score into a letter grade will be based on my judgment. 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 quizzes, exams and assignments), and the standards that are expected in a rigorous master's program such as UTD MS / MBA.

Course Policies

(i) Makeup Exam

I do not ordinarily give makeup exams. If you fail to take a test (without my prior permission), then you are automatically given a grade of zero. Please make sure that you are present in class to take the tests. If you have a valid reason to miss a test (such as medical emergency), you should get in touch with me, before the test/exam.

(ii) Extra Credit

You can't makeup any shortfall in a test or exam or assignment 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.

(iii) Class Participation

You are expected to come to class regularly and participate in class discussions. Regular attendance and participation in class discussions, though not graded separately, are very important.

The University has policies and discipline procedures regarding scholastic dishonesty. Detailed information is available on the Scholastic Dishonesty web page. All students are expected to maintain a high level of responsibility with respect to academic honesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty 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.

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 look for the course evaluation link on the course Homepage towards the end of the course.

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.

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

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