

ACCT 6331.501

Cost Accounting

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Course Syllabus
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 Fall 2020: August 17th – December 8th
 Class meetings Mondays 2:00 – 4:45 PM

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.SS1” in subject line of the email
 Office Location JSOM 4.806
 Office Hours Mondays 1:00 – 2:00 PM (in person / office phone)
 On other days, email me for an online appointment. I will forward a link for the meeting using WebEx or Blackboard Collaborate.

TA Contact Information

Information will be updated as soon as it is available

Course Modality and Expectations

Instructional Mode	The mode of instruction is “Remote”. Class is taught online on Mondays 7 – 9:45 PM. Please refer to https://www.utdallas.edu/fall-2020/fall-2020-registration-information/ for more details on the instructional mode.
Course Platform	The lectures will be delivered online using eLearning (https://elearning.utdallas.edu/webapps/blackboard/execute/announcement?method=search&context=course&course_id=_177626_1&handle=cp_announcements&mode=cpview) and MS Teams (https://cometmail.sharepoint.com/sites/ACCT63315012208)
Expectations	Regular attendance and class participation are expected. Students are also expected to read the assigned materials ahead of each class.
Asynchronous Learning Guidelines	If necessary, it is possible for a student to complete the course in an asynchronous mode. The live lectures will be recorded and uploaded to eLearning. The tests can also be completed online, if this is the chosen option. Please visit the following link for further details: https://www.utdallas.edu/fall-2020/asynchronous-access-for-fall-2020/

COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's COVID-19 resources. Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

Classroom Conduct Requirements Related to COVID-19

UT Dallas requires that all students must wear a face covering that covers the nose and mouth in all university buildings and classrooms. To help protect the health and safety of students, instructors, and the University community, students who choose not to wear a face covering may not attend class in person but may attend a course remotely. Anyone attending class in person without a face covering will be asked to put one on or leave. Instructors may end the class if anyone present refuses to appropriately wear a face covering for the duration of class. Students should also be sure they are at least six feet away from their fellow students and faculty, and seated in a seat that is designated to ensure that distance. Students who either refuse to wear face coverings appropriately or to adhere to other social distancing protocols may face disciplinary action for [Student Code of Conduct](#) violations. Students who are unable to comply with the university policies including wearing a face covering should consult the [Comets United](#) webpage for further instructions.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 or may have been exposed should not attend class in person and should instead follow required disclosure notifications as posted on the university's website (see "[What should I do if I become sick?](#)" webpage)

Class Attendance

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

In-person participation records may be used to assist the University or local public health authorities in performing COVID-19 occurrence monitoring. Please note – in-person attendance requires consistently adhering to University requirements, including wearing a face covering and other public safety requirements related to COVID-19, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. 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. 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 (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by the instructor. 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](#).

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. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. 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. 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. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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, 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](#).

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

(including required prior knowledge or skills)

There is no pre-requisite to this course.

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

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.

Student 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.

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**)¹

The bookstore may have different options such as loose-leaf pages, hardbound or e-book. Choose the option that is convenient to you.

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,

¹ 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.

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 *practice problems* for each chapter illustrating the key concepts from that chapter. Solving these problems will help you master the concepts in the chapter. You can expect to see a few problems similar to these problems in tests and homework assignments. I have provided to you suggested solutions to these 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 in the class. In addition, solving these problems on your own would provide you practice to solve problems in tests and homework assignments.

(iii) Tests and Exam: There are three tests this course. The tests will typically 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 practice problems listed in the syllabus. The date for the third test (to be administered online) 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. Start solving the assigned problems on an ongoing basis without waiting for a test. That should help you do well in the tests.

(iv) Homework Assignments: There are three homework assignments. Homework assignments will have problems that are similar to the representative problems given in the syllabus. You should submit the homework assignment electronically in eLearning. No late submission will be accepted.

(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.

Course Access in eLearning

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

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

Proctored Exams

This course will use [Honorlock](#) – an online exam proctoring tool. To successfully take an exam, you must have a web camera with microphone, a laptop or desktop computer (no tablets/phones), Chrome browser, a reliable internet connection and your photo ID. You will be prompted to install the Honorlock Chrome Extension (which you can remove after you finish the test). You will then access the exam within your eLearning course and go through the authentication process. The web camera will monitor you

throughout your test. Please see the [Testing Guidelines](#) and [Support Information](#) for additional information.

Course Outline/Schedule

Session	Date	Topic of discussion	Textbook reference
1	August 17th	The Manager and Management Accounting An Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes Determining How Costs Behave Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 10 Chapter 3
2	August 24 th	Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis Job Costing	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
3	August 31st	Job Costing Process Costing	Chapter 4 Chapter 17
		Homework # 1 due	
	September 7 th	Labor Day – No classes	
4	September 14 th	Process Costing Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap	Chapter 17 Chapter 18
5	September 21 st	Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap	Chapter 18
		Test 1	Covers chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 17
6	September 28 th	Activity-Based Costing and Activity-Based Management	Chapter 5
7	October 5 th	Activity-Based Costing and Activity-Based Management Customer Profitability Analysis Allocation of Support Department costs	Chapter 5 Chapter 14 A (pages 559 – 578) Chapter 15
8	October 12 th	Cost Allocation: Joint Products and Byproducts Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting	Chapter 16 (pages 643 – 656) Chapter 6 (pages 197 – 220)
		Homework # 2 due	
9	October 19 th	Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting Flexible Budgets: Direct Cost Variances	Chapter 6 (pages 197-220) Chapter 7

10	October 26 th	Flexible Budgets: Direct Cost Variances Flexible Budgets: Overhead Cost Variances	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
		Test 2	Covers chapters 5, 6, 7, 14 (pages 550-560), 15 and 18
11	November 2 nd	Flexible Budgets: Overhead Cost Variances	Chapter 8
12	November 9 th	Wrap up cost variances Sales Variances	Chapter 14 B (pages 579-588)
13	November 16 th	Inventory Costing and Capacity Analysis Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis	Chapter 9 Chapter 21
		Homework # 3 due	
14	November 23 rd	Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis Management Control Systems, Transfer Pricing, and Multinational Considerations	Chapter 21 Chapter 22
	December 7 th	Test 3 (To be confirmed)	Chapters 8, 9, 14 (pages 579-588), 21, and 22.

Practice problems for tests

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 25% of the questions in all homework and tests 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 Problem 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 Problem 32
14 B	Sales-Variance Analysis (pages 579 – 588)	Questions 12 Exercises 27, 28 Problem 40
15	Allocation of Support-Department Costs, Common Costs, and Revenues	Questions 1, 7, 9 Exercises 19, 20, 25 Problem 31
16	Cost Allocation: Joint Products and Byproducts	Questions 2, 6, 7 Exercises 24, 28, Problem 33
17	Process Costing	Questions 2, 3 Exercises 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33 Problem 36, 37, 38, 39
18	Spoilage, Rework, and Scrap	Questions 2 Exercises 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 33 Problem 39
21	Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis	Questions 6, 7 Exercises 23, 24, 26, Problem 34
22	Management Control Systems, Transfer Pricing, and Multinational Considerations	Questions 1, 2, 6, 7, 8 Exercises 24, 25, 26 Problem 30

Student Assessments

Grading Information

Grading scheme:

Homework assignments	20%
Tests 1 & 2*	50%
Test 3	25%
Class participation**	5%
Total	100%

* The exam with the higher score will be given a weight of 30% and the less scoring exam will be given a weight of 20%

** Class participation grade will be based on the extent of contribution to discussions in eLearning discussion boards as well as remote live sessions and the regularity of students logging on to the eLearning course and going through the recorded lectures, tutorials, periodic posting of comments in the discussion board, and timely submissions of the self-assessed quizzes. For those who choose to finish the coursework asynchronously, the class participation grade will be based on all components discussed above other than the attendance and contribution to class discussions during remote live sessions on Mondays.

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 our masters’ program.

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 make up 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, are very important. To encourage class participation, 5% of the course grade depends upon the contribution you make to class discussions. If you have chosen to complete the course asynchronously, class participation criteria can be fulfilled by periodically posting comments in the eLearning discussion board. Contact the instructor for more details.

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.

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

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.

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.

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