

SYLLABUS
ACCT 6331(Session 10078): FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING
Fall 2024

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Office: MH 390 P
 Department: Accountancy & Taxation
 Delivery Method: ZOOM and Canvas
 Office hours: Virtual by appointment or e-mail

Prerequisites: Admission to the MBA program

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| Textbook: | Michelle Hanlon, Robert Magee and Glenn Pfeiffer. Financial Accounting, 7th Edition, Cambridge Business Publishers, 2023, ISBN-13: 978-1-61853-431-6. https://mybusinesscourse.com/book/fa7e |
| Additional | Access to Canvas and ZOOM; webcam; microphone; |

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The information contained in this class syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

ONLINE CLASS POLICIES

This is a synchronous online class that meets at the designated time just like regular class. **I expect attendance in class as the interaction and the chat features during the designated times of the class will be helpful for your learning.**

Exams and quizzes will be through canvas. You will need a camera on your computer to take the exams and quizzes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The C.T Bauer College of Business and the Department of Accountancy & Taxation have established Learning Goals for each of our programs as part of our accreditation by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Additional information about the learning goals for accounting may be found at <https://www.bauer.uh.edu/departments/accy/mission/>

Financial statements are a key source of information about the economic activities of a firm. This course addresses the construction and interpretation of financial statements. The goal of the course is **NOT** to train you to become an accountant. Rather, the course should equip you to become an informed user of financial statement information. Because annual reports are somewhat formidable, we will study how firms present the information for various accounts in their financial statements, including the footnotes. By the end of the course, you should have a basic understanding of financial statements and the ability to use this understanding to analyze business situations and recommend appropriate actions (MBA learning goal “critical thinking”). Furthermore, we will discuss the subjective nature of accounting choices which will enable you to identify ethical dilemmas in the context of financial information and allow you to recognize and evaluate alternative courses of action (MBA learning goal “ethical reasoning”).

Several features of the course facilitate achieving the course objectives. The textbook provides a conceptual foundation for the course by introducing the accounting framework and by characterizing accounting principles and alternative methods. The online videos and practice problems will help you learn the more technical aspects of accounting. I also assign several articles from the financial press. These articles will help you to gain further understanding of real-world financial reporting issues. The cases serve as the basis of class discussion and provide a challenging test of your understanding of the topic. They are designed to help illustrate the issues associated with various accounting methods and the manner in which the information is disclosed in corporate financial statements. After graduation, many students report that this course is one of the most valuable courses during their time as an MBA student. My hope is that you will be one of these students.

COURSE INFORMATION

The course is organized in Canvas around weekly modules. Each module includes a series of instructional videos, practice problems and quizzes. The due dates for all assignments and quizzes will be clearly posted in each module.

I will also hold weekly Zoom meetings during scheduled class hours. This will be a time for me to go over some key PowerPoint slides and to discuss cases and answer questions. I will also be available for virtual office hours using Zoom by appointment.

Each of you will be assigned to a team for group case assignments. During our first Zoom meeting, I will discuss how these groups will function.

MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY AND TAXATION

- Prepare accounting graduates for leadership roles in the accounting/business profession
- Conduct research that advances the body of accounting knowledge, and inevitably has implications on accounting practice
- Perform service that leads to the efficient and effective practice of accounting

OBJECTIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY AND TAXATION

- Prepare its undergraduate students for graduate education or productive careers by establishing the foundations for life-long learning
- Prepare its master-level students for positions of leadership in the accounting profession
- Prepare its doctoral students for successful careers in accounting education and research

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help students who are having difficulties managing stress, adjusting to college, or feeling sad and hopeless. You can reach CAPS (www.uh.edu/caps) by calling 713-743-5454 during and after business hours for routine appointments or if you or someone you know is in crisis. Also, there is no appointment necessary for the “Let's Talk” program, which is a drop-in consultation service at convenient locations and hours around campus. http://www.uh.edu/caps/outreach/lets_talk.html.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMS

Your grade in the class will be determined in the following manner:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Quizzes | 30% |
| Final Exam | 35% |
| 3 Group cases submissions | 30% |
| Class Participation | <u>5%</u> |
| Total | 100% |

Final grades will be based on a university approved grading scale: A = 90 or above, B+ = 86 to 89.9, B = 83 to 85.9, B- = 80 to 82.9, C+ = 76 to 79.9, C = 73 to 75.9, C- = 70 to 72.9 F = below 59.

Although not specifically identified in the calculation of grades, attendance and active participation are expected of all students. A grade of "**C**" or **better** is required to pass this class.

Attendance and active participation are expected of all students even though we have our class meeting virtually.

EXAMINATION DATES, TIMES AND COVERAGE

The examination dates are listed with the schedule of topics covered by date. Examinations *must be* taken at the scheduled time. **Exams and quizzes are given through Canvas. Please make sure you have a computer that is working and has a camera attached to it.** Examinations may be missed only under extraordinary circumstances which must be approved by the instructor *prior* to the examination. Lack of preparation or multiple examinations on the same day are not acceptable excuses for missing an exam. An alternative time for the examination will be allowed for *university-approved* conflicts (such as military duty, religious holy days, and participation in an intercollegiate sport). [Students with disabilities who need special accommodations are requested to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities (Phone: 713-743-5400)].

Quiz

There will be multiple short, online quizzes throughout the semester. There will be 9 such quizzes and account for 30% of your final grade. Please pay attention to the due dates for the online quizzes. Online quizzes generally must be submitted before midnight on the due date. If you wait and submit the quiz until 12:00 am, the system will not accept it, and I won't either. The good news is that if this happens once to you, I drop your lowest quiz score. Online quizzes are open note and book, but you may not receive help from other people (this includes students, colleagues, brothers, sister, or people online).

ANY KIND OF COOPERATION WITH OTHER STUDENTS FOR EXAMS/QUIZZES, IS CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY.

Cases

Three cases are to be completed in group teams and submitted on Canvas. We will discuss teams during the first classroom meeting. All other cases are chosen to stimulate, rather than solidify your thinking and facilitate meaningful class discussions. The cases discussions are an integral part of the learning experience of the course. I expect that you will prepare the cases and assignments for each class in advance and that you will be actively involved in all discussions during our class time, including asking questions and sharing your knowledge and experiences with the rest of the class. In some situations, the readings and cases may represent your first exposure to a particular issue or problem; in such instances, you are expected to read and work through the questions to the best of your ability or your team's ability. It is likely that you will not understand or be familiar with all terms that are used in the readings, cases and assignments. The responsibility for increasing your understanding of these terms lies jointly with you (to look up these terms and phrases prior to class) and me (to lay out the fundamental issues in class as part of the lecture and discussion).

Class Participation

I always expect professional conduct in the classroom. Each student is expected to be prepared and actively involved in all class discussions, including asking questions and sharing your knowledge and experiences with the rest of the class. I will call on students that volunteer to participate but will avoid calling on the same students repeatedly. Reward is not given solely for the quantity of comments. Furthermore, there are no

penalties for “wrong” answers. It is the attempt to thoughtfully reason through a problem or to ask a pertinent question that is valued and adds to the classroom experience for everyone. Cold calls are fair game.

CANVAS

Having access to internet connection is crucial for this class. The Canvas support desk is at 713-743- 1411. The web address to access Canvas is <http://www.uh.edu/canvas/>.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

You are responsible for material presented in class whether or not that material is posted on the UH Canvas. Material will be presented in class that might not be on Canvas and such material will be on the exams. The course will be conducted as a seminar/lecture. You should read the class material (power point slides, etc.) in advance of the class and be prepared to actively participate in the discussion of such in class.

WORK SCHEDULES: DO NOT STAY IN THE CLASS IF IT CONFLICTS WITH YOUR WORK SCHEDULE. WE DO NOT ADAPT ACCT 6331 CLASS AND EXAMS TO FIT THESE SCHEDULES

OTHER COURSE POLICIES AND INFORMATION

POLICY ON INCOMPLETE (I) GRADES

The University of Houston regulations for assigning incomplete grades state: *"The grade of I (incomplete) is a conditional and temporary grade given when students are passing a course, but for reasons beyond their control, have not completed a **relatively small part** of all requirements."* (Emphasis added) Reasons for a student being unable to complete a course are due to: *"Health, Accident, Injury, or Family Tragedy"*

*A student who wants to try to improve their course grade, or avoid scholastic probation, or avoid loss of scholarship grants, or a student who needs to retake the course but wants to avoid paying tuition etc., **WILL NOT** be given an incomplete grade.*

IMPORTANT DATES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 -- LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT RECEIVING A GRADE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024 -- LAST DAY TO DROP OR WITHDRAW WITH A “W”.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy is strictly enforced by the C. T. Bauer College of Business. No violations of this policy will be tolerated in this course. A discussion of the policy is included in the University of Houston Student Handbook, <http://www.uh.edu/provost/policies-resources/honesty/documents-honesty/academic-honesty-policy.pdf>. Students are expected to be familiar with this policy.

ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The C. T. Bauer College of Business would like to help students who have disabilities achieve their highest potential. To this end, in order to receive academic accommodations, students must register with the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) (telephone 713-743-5400), and present approved accommodation documentation to their instructors in a timely manner.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

The University of Houston has a number of resources to support students’ mental health and overall wellness, including [CoogsCARE](#) and the [UH Go App](#). UH [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers 24/7 mental health support for all students, addressing various concerns like stress, college adjustment and sadness. CAPS provides individual and couples counseling, group therapy, workshops and connections to other support services on and off-campus. For assistance visit uh.edu/caps, call 713-743-5454, or visit a [Let’s Talk](#) location in-person or virtually. [Let’s Talk](#) are daily, informal confidential consultations with CAPS therapists where no appointment or paperwork is needed.

Need Support Now?

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call CAPS crisis support 24/7 at 713-743-5454, or the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: call or text [988](tel:988), or chat 988lifeline.org.

TITLE IX SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Per the UHS Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a “responsible employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information about resources on the Title IX website at <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>.

The [Student Health Center](#) offers a Psychiatry Clinic for enrolled UH students. Call 713-743-5149 during clinic hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to schedule an appointment.

The [A.D. Bruce Religion Center](#) offers spiritual support and a variety of programs centered on well-being.

The [Center for Student Advocacy and Community \(CSAC\)](#) is where you can go if you need help but don't know where to start. CSAC is a “home away from home” and serves as a [resource hub](#) to help you get the resources needed to support academic and personal success. Through our [Cougar Cupboard](#), all students can get up to 30 lbs of FREE groceries a week. Additionally, we provide 1:1 appointments to get you connected to on- and off-campus resources related to essential needs, safety and advocacy, and more. The [Cougar Closet](#) is a registered student organization advised by our office and offers free clothes to students so that all Coogs can feel good in their fit. We also host a series of cultural and community-based events that fosters social connection and helps the cougar community come closer together. Visit the CSAC homepage or follow us on Instagram: @uh_CSAC and @uhcupbrd. YOU belong here.

WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCES CENTER

The mission of the [WGRC](#) is to advance the University of Houston and promote the success of all students, faculty, and staff through educating, empowering, and supporting the UH community. The WGRC suite is open to you. Stop by the office for a study space, to take a break, grab a snack, or check out one of the WGRC programs or resources. Stop by Student Center South room B12 (Basement floor near Starbucks and down the hall from Creation Station) from 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

CLASS E-MAILS

Email communications related to this course will be sent to your Exchange email account which each University of Houston student receives. The Exchange mail server can be accessed via Outlook, which provides a single location for organizing and managing day-to-day information, from email and calendars to contacts and task lists. Exchange email accounts can be accessed by logging into Office 365 with your Cougarnet credentials or through Access UH. They can also be configured on IOS and Android mobile devices. Additional assistance can be found at the Get Help page. Students are responsible for checking Canvas for class related communications. There have been instances where students have gone on-line and processed a change to have their UH e-mails forwarded to a personal e-mail account (Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) and the messages are not being forwarded – particularly for Hotmail accounts. This is not a UH issue – it is an issue within the Hotmail server(s) – so you need to check your UH e-mail for messages instead of your personal e-mail accounts that you are having your UH e-mails forwarded to.

REASONABLE ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS/AUXILLIARY AIDS

The University of Houston complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, pertaining to the provision of reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids for disabled students. In accordance with Section 504 and ADA guidelines, UH strives to provide reasonable academic adjustments/auxiliary aids to students who request and require them. If you believe that you have a disability requiring an academic adjustments/auxiliary aid, please contact [the Justin Dart Jr. Student Accessibility Center](#) (formerly the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with Disabilities).

EXCUSED ABSENCE POLICY

Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston [Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy](#) and [Graduate](#)

[Excused Absence Policy](#) for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Under these policies, students with excused absences will be provided with an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the course grade or a satisfactory alternative. Please read the full policy for details regarding reasons for excused absences, the approval process, and extended absences. Additional policies address absences related to [military service](#), [religious holy days](#), [pregnancy and related conditions](#), and [disability](#).

RECORDING OF CLASS

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the [Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center](#). If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform. Classes may be recorded by the instructor. Students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

SYLLABUS CHANGES

The instructor may need to make modifications to the course syllabus and may do so at any time. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through canvas.

WEBCAMS

Access to a webcam is required for students participating remotely in this course. Webcams must be turned on (state when webcams are required to be on and the academic basis for requiring them to be on). (Example: Webcams must be turned on during exams to ensure the academic integrity of exam administration.)

HONOR CODE STATEMENT

Students ABIDE BY an honor code statement as part of their submission of any graded work including but not limited to projects, quizzes, and exams: "I understand and agree to abide by the provisions in the University of Houston Undergraduate Academic Honesty Policy, University of Houston Graduate Academic Honesty Policy – "I understand that academic honesty is taken very seriously and, in the cases of violations, penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the University of Houston."

EVALUATIONS

The CBA has a policy that requires all of its instructors to be evaluated by their students. The results of these evaluations are important to provide feedback to instructors on how their performance can be improved. In addition, these evaluations are carefully considered in promotion, salary adjustment and other important decisions. We openly encourage students to provide feedback to the instructors and to the CBA through the evaluation process.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Regular Zoom meetings will be held from 6-8:30ish pm on Mondays unless announced otherwise. Please come prepared to class having completed the material listed under each date mentioned below.

Week 1: August 19 - Zoom Meeting

Course Introduction (chapter 1)

The Accounting System (chapter 2)

Week 2: August 26 - Zoom Meeting

The Accounting System (con't) (chapter 2)

Walmart case class discussion

Cosco case part A class discussion

Week 3: Labor Day off, no class

Week 4: September 9 - Zoom Meeting

The Accounting Cycle (chapter 3)

Quiz 1 on Debits and Credits due Sep 15

Week 5: September 16 - Zoom Meeting

The Accounting Cycle (cont.) (chapter 3)

The Statement of Cash Flows (chapter 4)

Cosco case Part B class discussion

Group Case Assignment 1: Kasvaatan Cookies Part 1 due Sep 29

Quiz 2 on Adjusting Entries due Sep 22

Week 6: September 23 - Zoom Meeting

The Statement of Cash Flows (cont.) (chapter 4)

Analyzing and Interpreting Financial Statements (chapter 5)

Dell CF class discussion

Kasvaatan Cookies Part 2 class discussion

Quiz 3 on indirect Cash Flows due Sep 29

Week 7: September 30-Zoom Meeting

Analyzing and Interpreting Financial Statements (cont.) (chapter 5)

Part III Articles

Class discussion: Walmart financial statement analysis

Quiz 4 on Financial Statement Analysis due Oct 6

Week 8: Oct 7 - Zoom Meeting

Reporting and Analyzing Revenue and Receivables (chapter 6)

Chevron case class discussion

Week 9: Oct 14 - Zoom Meeting

Reporting and Analyzing Revenue and Receivables (cont.) (chapter 6)

Cosco part C case Revenue Recognition class discussion

Group case Assignment 2: Cisco due Nov 10

Quiz 5 & 6 on Accounts Receivable and Revenue due on Oct 20

Week 10: Oct 21 - Zoom Meeting

Reporting and Analyzing Inventory (chapter 7)

Part IV Articles and LIFO Inventory Article

Allegheny case class discussion

Deer & Co case class discussion

Quiz 7 on Inventory due Nov 3

Week 11: Oct 28 – Zoom Meeting

Reporting and analyzing long-term assets (chapter 8)

Harvard Business Case: Depreciation at Delta

Ford PPE case class discussion

Quiz 8 on Assets due Nov 10

Week 12: Nov 4 - Zoom Meeting

Reporting and analyzing Liabilities (chapter 9)

UnitedHealth liabilities case class discussion

Baxter Liabilities case class discussion

Quiz 9 on Liabilities due Nov 24

Week 13: Nov 11 - Zoom Meeting

Reporting and analyzing Shareholders' Equity (chapter 11)

Dupont Equity class discussion

Group Case Assignment 3: Dell Equity due on Nov 24

Week 14: Nov 18- Short Zoom Meeting

Review for final exam

Week 15: Thanksgiving holiday, no class

FINAL EXAM -Dec 2 class time at 6 pm