ACC 311H - Fall 2012

ACC 311H: Fundamentals of Financial Accounting

The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business

Syllabus – Fall 2012

Unique #	Class Meeting Time		Room	
02620	MW	9:30 - 11:00	GSB 5.153	
02625	MW	11:00 - 12:30	GSB 5.153	
02630	MW	12:30 - 2:00	GSB 5.153	

Professor: Robert Freeman Office: CBA 3.222

Office Hours: Mondays 2:30 – 4:00 pm and by appointment¹

Office Phone: 512-471-5332 Department Phone: 512-471-5215

E-Mail: Robert.Freeman@mccombs.utexas.edu

Teaching Assistant: Angie Deng Office: CBA 3.222

Office Hours: TT 2:00 - 3:30 and by appointment

Phone: 512-736-2222

E-Mail: Angela.Deng@bba08.mccombs.utexas.edu

Course Objectives

This course provides an introduction to the preparation, use, and interpretation of financial reports prepared by U.S and foreign public companies. By the end of the course you will understand many of the disclosures in these companies quarterly and annual reports to shareholders. Specifically, the course introduces the concepts and methods used to prepare financial statements, links economic events and management decisions to financial reports (including events and decisions that are excluded from the reports), and provides preqrequsite knowledge for analysis and interpretation of financial reports.

From time-to-time, I may reschedule office hours in order to attend a committee meeting. If this occurs, I will inform you in class and post new hours on Blackboard.

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Course Conduct

Pre-Class Preparation

Before most class meetings, you should read the assigned chapter and self-test your understanding of the textbook material by completing the related web-based *LearnSmart Study Module* on McGraw-Hill Connect (access to this web site is discussed below). I also suggest that you work some of the related web-based Homework on McGraw-Hill Connect. These pre-class reading and problem-solving activities develop and test your understanding of course topics before coming to class, so that we can use class time to clarifying and expand on issues from the assigned textbook material. Careful pre-class preparation will enable us to focus class discussions on issues that interest you.

Class Meetings

During class meetings, we will discuss the topics covered in Chapters 1 through 13 in the textbook. For each topic, we want to understand the economics of each business transaction (e.g., what rights and obligations are transferred among the parties) and how each transaction fits into the accounting model. Class discussions will provide a framework for analyzing business transactions, but class discussions will not be the primary source for your learning. Applying the framework to detailed transactions will require considerable work outside the classroom. In sum, the textbook and class discussions provide the framework, but homework problems require you to apply the framework to various transactions and events common to many business entities. Class meetings provide an opportunity to reinforce the knowledge you acquired from reading the textbook and solving homework problems. Everyone should be prepared to participate in classroom discussions by asking relevant questions on assigned topics. Evaluating class participation is necessarily a subjective exercise. Exceptional participation will be rewarded when final grades are determined (e.g., if you are in the top of the B+ range, exceptional class participation may elevate you to the A- range). Cell phones should be turned off during class.

Academic Dishonesty

The McCombs School of Business has no tolerance for acts of scholastic dishonesty. The responsibilities of both students and faculty with regard to scholastic dishonesty are described in detail in the Policy Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty for the McCombs School of Business. By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all the faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all the student responsibilities described in that document. If the application of that Policy Statement to this class and its assignments are unclear in any way, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. 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 dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/ or the *General Information Catalog* to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.

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Course Resources

Class Notes	Hard copy of Discussion PowerPoint slides and problems from old exams are available for purchase from Central Duplicating on the 2 nd floor of GSB. The Discussion PowerPoints are designed for efficient note taking during class discussions and you should bring the Discussion PowerPoints for the assigned chapter to class each week. During class, I will project expanded and updated versions of these PowerPoints.
Textbook	Seventh Edition of <i>Financial Accounting</i> authored by Libby, Libby, Short, and published by McGraw-Hill. Ancillary materials for the textbook are available online at www.mhhe.com/libby7e.
Homework	Homework is on the McGraw-Hill Connect website. You will access the Connect website thru Blackboard. See * below. If you purchased a new textbook from the Co-op, a card with your unique access code for McGraw-Hill Connect is included. Use that code to gain access to the Connect website for our course. Do not throw away the card with the access code. A replacement code costs \$36.75 for Connect (\$40.00 for Connect Plus on line textbook access). If you did not buy a new textbook at the Co-op, you must purchase access to McGraw-Hill Connect for \$36.75 (\$40.00 for Connect Plus on line textbook access) with a credit card.
Calculator	The BHP office will issue each student an HP 10BII financial calculator. These calculators will be used in class discussions (especially discussion of Chapters 9, 10, and 12). Only these calculators are allowed during exams.

* How to Access McGraw-Hill Connect via Blackboard

- Locate your Connect Access Code or have a credit card handy to buy online. Or use the "Start Free Trial" option to receive temporary access for up to 3 weeks.
- ➤ Log in to the UT Blackboard site and go to ACC 311H.
- Click one of the following:
 Chapter 1 Practice Exercises or LearnSmart in Course Documents
 Chapter 1 Homework in Assignments
 "McGraw-Hill Higher Education" in "Tools" then "Go to My Connect Section"
- Follow the steps to register (or sign-in if you already have a McGraw-Hill Connect account).
- ➤ Create a username and password that is different from your Blackboard ones. We recommend you use your official UT email address. Once you register, you won't have to sign into Connect again. Once finish an assignment, you can quickly return to our course Blackboard site by clicking on the "return to Blackboard" link.

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Course Grading

Homework 20 % Midterm 1 (Oct. 3) 20 % Midterm 2 (Nov. 7) 20 % Final Exam (TBA) 40 %

Grades will be based on the above weights. There will be no opportunity to raise your course average or grade by doing "extra credit" work during or after the semester.

Homework on McGraw-Hill Connect

Several homework problems are assigned for each chapter. The most efficient and the preferred way to work the assigned problems is McGraw-Hill Connect. First, you can check your work on Connect before you submit it. That is, Connect will tell you whether your answers are correct or incorrect as you work through each problem. Second, Connect provides an assignment score and a comprehensive correct solution immediately following the due date.

Collaboration with classmates on homework is allowed; however, submitted solutions should be your own work. If you are working on homework with several of your classmates, you will notice that correct answers for your assignment will often differ from correct answers of your classmates' assignments.

Homework is due at 8:00 a.m. on the Monday following class discussion of the related textbook chapter. If you start an assignment but forget to submit it, Connect will automatically submit and grade whatever work you have completed at the 8:00 a.m. deadline.

Backup Homework Submission

Each McGraw-Hill Connect assignment is derived from related exercises and problems in the Libby, Libby, Short textbook. The textbook version of those exercises and problems are listed on the last page of the syllabus. If you are not able to access McGraw-Hill Connect for any reason (e.g., traveling without internet connection), you can work the related problems from the textbook and e-mail your solution to the TA (<u>Angela.Deng@bba08.mccombs.utexas.edu</u>). Solutions to the textbook versions of the problems will be posted to Blackboard after the due date.

Examinations

All exams are closed book. Bring your financial calculator to the exams. No make-up exams will be given. Medical emergencies and family emergencies are the only valid reasons for missing an exam. In such instances, you must provide supporting documentation (e.g., signed note from your physician). If you miss a mid-term exam and you have a valid and documented reason for missing it, your grade will be determined by increased weight on the Final Exam. If you do not have a valid and documented reason for missing an exam, you will receive a zero on the exam.

Questions about Assignments

Please post questions about assignments, other course requirements, etc. to Blackboard's Discussion Forum.

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Class Web Site and Privacy Concerns

Course-related materials (e.g., syllabus, handouts, grades) will be posted to Blackboard (http://courses.utexas.edu/). In order to login to Blackboard, you need a current UT EID. After logging in, you will see a list of classes in which you are enrolled. Click on Fundamentals of Financial Accounting. Class e-mail rosters are a component of the Blackboard sites. Students who do not want their names included in electronic class rosters must restrict their directory information in the Office of the Registrar, Main Building, Room 1. For information on privacy issues see http://registrar.utexas.edu/students/records/ferpa/

Students with Disabilities

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/.

Course Schedule

E = Exercise, P = Problem, AP = Alternate Problem, COMP = Comprehensive Problem, CP = Case Problem

Date	Chapter	Торіс	Textbook versions of required exercises and problems*	Points*	Optional Homework from LLS 7e		
8/29 & 9/5	1	Financial Statements & Business Decisions	E: 3, 10, 11; P: 3	50	CP: 2; AP: 1		
9/10 & 12	2	Balance Sheet	E: 5, 6, 8, 12, 15; P: 2, 3	160	CP: 2, 3; AP: 2		
9/17 & 19	3	Income Statement	E: 3, 4, 10, 11; P: 3, 7	160	CP: 4; AP: 6		
9/24 & 26	4	Adjustments	E: 4, 9, 15, 17; P: 2, 4, 6	150	AP: 3; COMP: 1		
	5	Communicating Accounting Information	E: 15; P: 6, 7	40	CP: 3		
10/1	1-5	Review for Exam 1					
10/3	1-5	Exam 1					
10/8 & 10	6	Revenue & Receivables (omit 295-301)	E: 3, 9, 13, 16, 20; P: 4, 6	90	AP: 3, 4		
10/15 & 17	7	Cost of Goods Sold and Inventory	E: 1, 5, 8, 9, 12, 18; P: 2, 8	140	AP: 3, 4		
10/22 & 24	8	PPE; Natural Resources; Intangibles	E: 2, 8, 12, 13, 17; P: 2, 5, 8	100	E: 10; AP: 3; CP: 6; COMP: 1		
10/29 & 31	9	Liabilities [Financial Calculator]	E: 4, 16, 22; P: 2, 11, 12	140	AP: 3; CP: 3		
11/5	1-9	Review for Exam 2					
11/7	1-9	Exam 2					
11/12 & 14	10	Bonds	E: 4, 9, 17, 18, 22; P: 7, 10	160	P: 5; CP: 4		
11/19 & 21	11	Owners' Equity	E: 4, 5, 16, 20, 25; P: 5, 6	130	E: 17; P: 9; CP: 1		
11/26 & 28	12	Investments in Other Corporations	E: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; P: 5, 6	100	AP: 3; P: 7		
12/3 & 5	13	Statement of Cash Flows	E: 6, 8, 11, 19; P: 1, 3, 4, 5	90	AP: 1, 3; CP: 1		
FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM – Common exam time to be announced and posted on Blackboard when determined by the University.						

^{*} These columns list the backup hardcopy version of the web-based homework assignments and the maximum number of points that can be earned on each chapter's homework. There are 1,500 total homework points for the 13 chapters. Full credit is granted for earning 1,200 points (80% of the total possible points).