Syllabus

Accounting 312: Fundamentals of Managerial Accounting
Fall 2015

Class Hours:  
MW 11:00-12:30 (Unique #: 02800)  
MW 12:30-2:00 (Unique #: 02810)  
TTh 9:30-11:00 (Unique #: 02795)  
TTh 11:00-12:30 (Unique #: 02805)

Location: UTC 4.122

Instructor: Brian Lendecky  
Office: CBA 4M.210  
E-mail: Brian.Lendecky@mcconms.utexas.edu  
Phone: (512) 232-9343

Office Hrs: M 3:00-4:00 and T 2:00-3:00, and by appointment

TA: Travis Eaton (MPA)  
Office: CBA 4.304  
E-mail: travis07eaton@gmail.com  
Office Hrs: Wednesday 3:00-4:00

TA: Damion Laverne (MPA)  
Office: CBA 4.304  
E-mail: dlaverne13@yahoo.com  
Office Hrs: Thursday 12:30-1:30

Required Materials

2. McGRAW-HILL CONNECT, on-line homework manager
3. ACC 312 CASE PACK, from UT Copy Center (GSB 3.136). Available in early September.

CANVAS will be used for course management and any additional readings or study materials will be posted there. I also will use Canvas for communicating with the class.

During the first week of class, you must ensure that:

- you can access the class site on Canvas and have set up your communication preferences;
- your Connect access is functioning properly.

We recommend the HP 10bII+ financial calculator because it is (1) also used in ACC 311 and FIN 357, (2) relatively inexpensive (about $35), and (3) non-programmable and therefore acceptable for exam use.

PLUS: This course is supported by UT’s Peer-Led Undergraduate Studying (PLUS) program. PLUS study groups provide an opportunity to collaboratively practice skills and knowledge you need for success in this course. Attending study groups regularly is a great way to ensure that you are keeping up with the material so you don’t fall behind; feel free to attend any study group at any point in the semester. Groups will start in September and meet several days of the week; more information on times and locations will be available through Canvas and announced in class, and additional information on PLUS may be found at wikis.utexas.edu/display/PLUS. An introductory video is at http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/slc/support/plus.

E-mail and Canvas

The use of email and Canvas is required for this course. I will frequently communicate with the class with announcements and guidance via email. I will use the email addresses that are supplied to me on Canvas. If you need to update your email address with the University go to your UT Direct page and, under personal info/all my addresses, change your email address. Before each class, I will post on Canvas our class notes. I will send out a class-wide e-mail notifying you when I post the class notes so you can print them out and bring them to class if you prefer to take notes on a paper copy.

Any outside-of-class announcements that I make (e.g., corrections or clarifications of items discussed in class, syllabus changes, assignment changes, etc.) will be sent to you via e-mail through Canvas. It is possible that substantial content will be posted on Canvas or sent via e-mail. It is your responsibility to regularly check your e-mail and the class Canvas site.
Learning Objectives

If you stay engaged with the course by participating in class, reading the assigned text, completing the assigned work, and preparing well for cases and exams, you should obtain the results listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Result</th>
<th>What We’ll Do</th>
<th>How We’ll Measure the Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understand how accounting systems provide data useful for management decisions in all business areas.</td>
<td>..Discuss chapter readings, cases, and current topics together in class.</td>
<td>Interesting and lively discussions in class on problems and potential approaches to solutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get comfortable structuring business problems and analyzing management decisions.</td>
<td>..Work practice problems together in class and discuss them.</td>
<td>Homework, cases, and exam performance (grades).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>..Prepare business cases for class discussion and develop recommendations.</td>
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</table>

This course carries the Quantitative Reasoning Flag. QR courses are designed to equip you with skills that are necessary for understanding the types of quantitative arguments you will regularly encounter in your adult and professional life. You should therefore expect a substantial portion of your grade to come from your use of quantitative skills to analyze real-world problems.

Class Preparation and Success

You are encouraged to ask questions in class, both to seek technical clarification of points discussed and to understand how a particular topic relates to your personal interest in business.

Class attendance and doing the homework are the two keys to success in this class. Students who do well are generally those who attend class regularly and can participate in class discussions because they have done the homework. Although problems may seem fairly intuitive when we do them in class, you will be surprised how hard it is to set them up and solve them on your own. Practice is key.

Classroom Standards

This classroom is subject to “business meeting” etiquette:

- Silence your phones and no texting or on-line activity during class.
- Laptops/tablets are allowed, but only for note-taking or other uses directly related to class, and with internet disabled. Anyone doing on-line activity may be penalized: first offense, 5 point reduction in next exam score; subsequent offenses, half-letter final grade reduction each offense. If you use your laptop or tablet, you must sit in one of the first two rows. Students not sitting in the first two rows – if a student is surfing the web and their Facebook page, ESPN, YouTube, video, or whatever they are viewing is distracting you, it is imperative that you pass that information to me (anonymously is fine too!) I will keep your name in strict confidentiality.
- Bring your financial calculator to class and have it ready to use.
- No extraneous conversation or disruptive behavior.
- You should arrive on time. On the rare occasion when you don’t, please enter and set up quietly and engage with the class as quickly as possible.
- If you must leave early, please notify me in advance.

You MUST come to the class section in which you are officially registered. Class limits are set to ensure a quality experience for everyone. Also, during the semester we might do some activities in class in pre-assigned groups.

Due to a past incident of my lectures being recorded and then sold on-line (which is copyright infringement, not to mention just all-around slimy) the audio or video recording of my lectures is NOT allowed. I apologize.
Assessment

Course grades will be determined using the following deliverables and weights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two (non-cumulative) Midterm Exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (cumulative)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The BBA program recommends a mean GPA of 3.0-3.2 for this course, but the actual grades assigned will be based on what you earn. All sections of ACC 312 follow the same grading policy, and you may assess your performance based on the traditional grade cutoffs of 90% = A-, 80% = B-, 70% = C-, 60% = D-, and below 60% = F. There will be no opportunity to raise your course grade by doing "extra credit" work either before or after the end of the semester. Incompletes will be given only in the rarest of circumstances and according to university policy.

Grade Appeals: If you believe a grading error has occurred, you must appeal within two weeks after the item is returned to the class or the grade posted on Canvas, whichever is earlier. I only handle grade appeals in my office and in person. After two weeks have passed, no appeals will be considered.

Examinations

Examinations are individual work; no collaboration of any kind is allowed. There will be two non-cumulative midterm examinations. Midterm exams will be closed book/notes and will be held on the dates and times indicated in the Class Schedule. All students in all sections of ACC 312 will take the exams at the same time. We will try to return the graded exams one week after the exam date. Calculators that can store text are NOT allowed for exams and will be confiscated.

There will be a common, cumulative final exam given for all sections of ACC 312 at the end of the term. The final exam will be closed book/notes and we will advise you of the date for the final exam as soon as we receive it. Please do not make travel arrangements until you are certain of the exam schedule. No early exams will be given to accommodate travel schedules.

Alternate exams: If you have another UT class or UT exam at the same time as one of the midterm exams, an alternate exam will be given, generally on the day after the scheduled exam. Similarly, if you have another UT final exam that directly conflicts with our scheduled final exam, there is a provision for an alternate exam. However, in all cases permission to take an alternate exam is at my discretion and the request must be made at least one week in advance. Note that conflicts such as classes at other educational institutions, UT Extension classes, and work schedules will not constitute an acceptable reason to take an alternate exam. If you also have a class or exam conflict with the alternate midterm exam, we can, with my prior approval, make arrangements for you to make up the exam. Individual makeup midterm exams must be taken within 48 hours of the original exam date. These exams will be given at the Testing Center located on the third floor of the McCombs School, and I will work with you to schedule it. If you do not take the makeup exam as scheduled, you will receive a 0 on the exam.

If you miss an exam due to an illness or other emergency, you should notify me before the exam, if possible, and you must provide prompt notification and proof of emergency to Student Emergency Services (http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/). They will require proof of emergency and will provide me official acknowledgement of the emergency. However, I have final authority to determine if your absence is excused. If so, and if it is feasible for you to take the scheduled alternate exam or an individual makeup midterm exam (see prior paragraph), you may do so. Otherwise, students with an excused absence from a midterm exam will be required to add the weight of that exam ("lowest midterm" weight) to the weight of the final exam. Unexcused absences will result in an exam grade of 0.
Case Assignments
We will discuss three cases during the course to provide context and additional dimensions to the concepts we are studying. We will spend quite a lot of class time discussing each case on the day indicated in the Course Schedule, so coming to class well prepared is critical. Read the case carefully and prepare answers to the questions in the case (these will not be handed in and I recommend working in groups to answer the questions). Each case class will begin with a 10-minute/10-point closed-book quiz on the case. At the discretion of the professor, your case quiz grade may be adjusted up or down by up to two points based on your participation in the case discussion. No make-up quizzes will be given, however in the event of an excused absence you may avoid a 0 by submitting a five-page paper (double spaced, 12-pt Times Roman font, 1" margins, due within one week) summarizing the key points of the case and addressing the case questions. Collaboration on case preparation is encouraged, but substitute papers must be written up individually and quizzes are individual work, no collaboration allowed.

You MUST come to the section in which you are officially registered in order to get credit for the case quizzes. If you hand in a quiz in a different section than that for which you are officially registered, your grade for that quiz will be zero. If you are late to class, you will not be able to take the quiz at the end of class. If you leave class after taking the quiz but before the end of class, without prior permission, I reserve the right to discard your quiz, resulting in a quiz grade of 0.

Homework (note: homework is generally due twice a week in ACC 312, not once a week as in ACC 311)
Graded homework must be completed individually, however you are permitted to collaborate with classmates on figuring out how to structure the solution to assigned questions. The Course Schedule lists the assigned homework problems. Homework assigned is due by 8AM on the day of class, and late homework will not be accepted. “Review” questions are intended to confirm your understanding of material covered in the preceding class; occasional “Preview” questions are to help you prepare for the coming class. Homework is further divided into problems to be submitted for grading and problems that are neither submitted nor graded. Graded questions are listed in bold-faced, underlined text on the Course Schedule and are managed through the Connect system. On many questions, Connect will change the numbers in the problem for each student, so your data will differ from the textbook and your solution will not be the same as your classmates’ solutions. Connect will grade these problems, provide solutions (after all sections of ACC 312 have submitted their homework), and indicate areas where you need to do additional study. The homework grade is the percent of all answers submitted that are correct.

The problems that are not required to be submitted or graded (not bold-faced/underlined) are intended to guide your study of the material. Solutions to these problems will be provided in Canvas.

Other Assignments
Additional quizzes and other relatively minor graded work may also be assigned, depending on my assessment of class progress and preparation. Examples would include (but are not limited to) quizzes on Canvas, unannounced in-class quizzes, extra problem assignments, extra case work, and chapter outlines. If I choose to make such assignments, their scores will be treated as part of the homework grade.

Important Notifications
The Course Schedule, distributed separately, is an integral part of this Course Syllabus.
Students with Disabilities
Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 512-471-6259, http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/.

Religious Holy Days
By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Policy on Scholastic 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 BBA Program’s Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty at http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/BBA/Code-of-Ethics.aspx. By teaching this course, I have agreed to observe all faculty responsibilities described in that document. By enrolling in this class, you have agreed to observe all student responsibilities described in that document. If the application of the Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty to this class or its assignments is 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. Dishonesty harms the individual, all other students, the integrity of the University, and the value of our academic brand, so policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. You should refer to the Student Judicial Services website at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/ to access the official University policies and procedures on scholastic dishonesty as well as further elaboration on what constitutes scholastic dishonesty.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: copying tests or assignments, representing (copying) the work of another person as one’s own or allowing another person to represent your work as their own, collaborating without authority with another student during an exam or in preparing academic work, using or having on your desk unauthorized material or aids to complete a quiz, group exercise, or exam (e.g., cheat sheets, solutions, graphing or programmable calculators, cell phones, etc.).

In the Assignments section above, you can find specific guidance regarding individual and group work for each of the evaluation elements in this course.

IT’S NOT WORTH IT! ALL acts of academic dishonesty receive significant penalties and are reported to Student Judicial Services and attach to your record. This record is consulted as part of application processes at UT (e.g., study abroad applications) and after (e.g., law school and MBA applications, which generally require you to provide access to this record).

Specific acts of scholastic dishonesty I have reported students to Student Judicial Services for (and some have ultimately been expelled for) include:
- after an exam or quiz has been graded and returned, erasing a wrong answer, writing the correct answer, and then bringing it to me for appeal, claiming the exam or quiz was graded incorrectly. (FYI – we hire students workers who make copies of tests and quizzes before we pass them back.)
- while taking an exam or quiz, looking at your neighbor’s exam or quiz.
- while taking an exam or quiz, allowing your neighbor to look at your exam or quiz (see the underlined and bolded sentence in the paragraph above).
- completing homework for another student or having another student complete your homework.
Campus Safety
Please note the following recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471-5767, http://www.utexas.edu/safety:

- Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.
- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation should inform the instructor in writing during week 1.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors.
- Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office.
- Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232-5050
- Further information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: http://www.utexas.edu/emergency.

Privacy in Canvas: Information in Canvas is protected by your UTEID login. Please be aware that I will use a merged Canvas site for all sections of the course that I am teaching this semester. This will allow students in other sections to see that you are enrolled in the course and send you email from within Canvas. However, they will not actually learn your email address and no other personal data will be revealed through Canvas. If you have any concerns, please contact the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400 for help removing your name from view of other students.
Using Your Calculator for ACC 312 Homework Assignments in Connect

Warning:
Your calculator may, by default, round to too few decimal places.
Do Not Round to Less Than Four Decimal Places (Unless Instructed by Connect)

Please make sure your calculator does not round to less than four decimal places (e.g., 0.2078 does not round to 0.208 or shorter). Four decimal places will be adequate for any homework or exam problems. Here are the instructions for the recommended HP 10bII+ calculator (if you have a different calculator, check your manual or search on-line). The default on this calculator is two decimal places, which is too short.

Instructions for HP 10bII+:

Specifying Displayed Decimal Places
To specify the number of displayed decimal places:

1. Press $\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ followed by $\boxed{0}$ $\boxed{9}$ for the desired decimal setting.

2. $\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ followed by $\boxed{-}$, $\boxed{\text{RCL}}$, or $\boxed{\text{-M}}$ changes the display mode. Pressing $\boxed{\text{RCL}}$ provides the best estimate and displays as many digits as required. $\boxed{\text{-M}}$ is the value for 10, and $\boxed{\text{-M}}$ for 11.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keys</th>
<th>Display</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\boxed{\text{C}}$</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Clears display.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ $\boxed{3}$</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>Displays three decimal places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$4 \ 5 \ \boxed{-} \ 6 \ \boxed{x}$</td>
<td>5.727</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$- \ 1 \ 2 \ 5 \ 6 \ \boxed{=} \ \boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$</td>
<td>5.727360000</td>
<td>Displays nine decimal places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ $\boxed{2}$</td>
<td>5.73</td>
<td>Restores two decimal places.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Displaying the Full Precision of Numbers
To set your calculator to display numbers as precisely as possible, press $\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ $\boxed{\text{-M}}$ (trailing zeros are not displayed.) To temporarily view all 12 digits of the number in the display (regardless of the current display format setting), press $\boxed{\text{2nd}}$ $\boxed{\text{DSP}}$ and hold $\boxed{\text{-M}}$. The number is displayed as long as you continue holding $\boxed{\text{-M}}$. The decimal point is not shown.
Instructor Bio
Brian Lendecky, CPA, MPA - Senior Lecturer, Department of Accounting.

Brian Lendecky is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Accounting. He joined the department in 2006 and teaches Financial Accounting, Cost and Managerial Accounting, and the Tax Practicum course, the latter winning a 2008 Governor’s Volunteer Award from Governor Perry and a 2011 Tower Award. Brian also teaches Accounting for Lawyers in the School of Law, Financial and Managerial Accounting courses in the McCombs Executive Education program, the Mexico City, Houston, and Dallas / Ft. Worth MBA programs, the ESCP-EAP European School of Management in Paris, the VSE School of Economics in Prague, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Brian Lendecky started his career at PricewaterhouseCoopers and has subsequently managed accounting departments in the food manufacturing, energy, and medical supplies manufacturing industries.

Brian has received numerous teaching awards including the 2014 Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Outstanding Accounting Educator Award, Class of 2015 and Class of 2014 Mexico City MBA Outstanding Faculty Award, 2013 Hank and Mary Harkins Foundation Award for Effective Teaching in Undergraduate Classes, 2011 Master in Professional Accounting (MPA) Council’s Outstanding Accounting Faculty Award, Spring 2011 Best Faculty Award from the Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity, and the 2010 CBA Foundation Advisory Council Award for Teaching Innovation. He was nominated by the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Senate of College Councils and the Undergraduate Business Council for the Professor of the Year Award for 2009. He has served on the MPA Program Committee since 2010. Brian is also the McCombs Faculty Advisor for the PriceWaterhouseCoopers xACT and xTAX case competitions and our McCombs team has been a national finalist in 2007, 2008, 2010, and 2011.

Brian is a licensed CPA in the State of Texas and is a proud alumnus of the McCombs School’s #1 ranked MPA program. Brian and his wife Stephanie stay busy chasing their four boys and baby girl around the house. In his spare time Brian is an avid sports fan and poker player. He has played in the World Series of Poker three times and has made a World Poker Tour final table.