

Spring 2016 Course Syllabus

Course Number: BA 300B II
Course Title: Financial Accounting Foundations
Credit: 3 units (45 hours of lecture)
Day and Time: Wed 12:30pm to 3:15pm
Office Hours: Wed 11:45am to 12:30pm or By appointment
Instructor: Prof. Albert Loh

Course Materials

Textbook: Financial Accounting, by Harrison, Horngren & Thomas, 10th edition (January 2016). ISBN-10: 0133427536; ISBN-13: 978-0133427530.

Tools: A basic calculator is required. Other mobile device calculator (e.g. smart phone, tablet, etc.) will not be allowed. Supplemental materials (such as periodical, article, or case study) will be provided in class.

Course Description

The course is an intensive study of the fundamental areas of accounting. It begins with examinations of basic accounting theory and procedures, proceeds to the application of these concepts, and includes planning of profits, costs, and financial control. Credit: 3 units (45 hours of lecture).

Learning Objectives

Financial accounting is a foundation course that deals with collection, organization, classification, and compilation of financial information to support decision-making. The accounting process begins with an analysis of business transactions, and continues by recording changes in five types of accounts (assets, liabilities, equity, revenue or expenses). The preparation of financial statements is an integral part of this course. The interpretation of these statements will also be discussed.

At the end of the course, you should be able to record accounting transactions, demonstrate an understanding of the elements of financial statements and the challenges of measurement issues, and communicate operational results and financial conditions of an enterprise in GAAP language.

Instructional Methodology

The course will be conducted in the form of lectures and discussions on each topic shown in the class schedule below.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

While in class, students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Professionalism includes regular attendance, participation in class discussions, civil conduct, and ethical behavior, etc. If a student is observed coming to class late often, being disrespectful to peers, texting or using mobile devices, or carrying on personal conversations during lecture, the professionalism portion of the grade will be reduced based on a demerit system. The course begins with each student having the full 50 points. Tardiness without valid reasons greater than 1 time will result in 5 points deduction. Behavioral offenses such as texting, using of mobile devices, or engaging in disorderly conduct in spite of reminder or warning will result in 10 points deduction.

Higher education is about learning how to learn. So in acquiring new knowledge, always pay attention to the learning objectives of each chapter or topic. In addition, you will enhance your understanding by solving the chapter problems to be assigned in class. Of course, you are welcome to bring questions to class for discussion by reading ahead of each classroom lecture. Achievement is assured when done repetitively.

Your performance in this course will be evaluated under the following model:

Mid-Exam 150 points	A = 361 - 400
Final Exam 200 points	B = 301 - 360
Professionalism: 50 points	C = 241 - 300
Total 400 points	D = 201 - 240

The exam will consist true-false, multiple-choice, and problem-type questions that test both theoretical concepts and knowledge application. There will be no "extra credit" work during or after the semester.

The key to success in this course is communication and interaction. Thus, we will have to work as a team. First, we will create a positive learning environment where everyone can participate without fear. Second, relevant reading and problem assignments will be presented and discussed in class. When in doubt, ask.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students who violate rules of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including failure in the course and/or other actions from the University.

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Topics
Jan 20	Chapter 1: Course Introduction and Financial Statements
Jan 27	Chapter 2: Transaction Analysis
Feb 3	Chapter 3: Accrual Accounting & Income
Feb 10	Chapters 4: Internal Control & Cash
Feb 17	Chapter 5: Short-term Investments & Receivables
Feb 24	Chapter 6: Inventory and Cost of Goods Sold
Mar 2	2-hour Mid-term Exam (Closed Books)
Mar 9	Exam review & Chapter 7: Plant Assets and Intangibles
Mar 23	Chapter 8: Long-term Investment & Time Value of Money
<i>Mar 30</i>	<i>Chapter 9: Liabilities</i>
Apr 6	Chapter 10: Stockholders' Equity
Apr 13	Chapters 11 & 12: Earnings quality and Cash flow statement
Apr 20	Chapters 13: Financial statement analysis
Apr 27	Final exam review
May 7	2-hour Comprehensive Exam (Closed Books)

Addendum: Supplemental Course Materials

The PowerPoint slides are designed to give students a head start in learning course materials in a concise and coherent fashion. They are not intended to substitute, but complement, the textbook and classroom lectures. Don't just read; you need to absorb and understand the body of knowledge through a synthesis of critical thinking and problem solving skills. Thus attending classroom lectures and completing exercises and assignments are critical to your success.

Syllabus reviewed: Jan 10, 2016