

**Accounting 501 – Section A2, M 2:00-4:50pm**  
**Fall 2017, BUS 3-5**  
**Introduction to Financial Reporting and Analysis**  
*University of Alberta*  
*Department of Accounting, Operations and Information Systems*

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Course Web Site: <https://ulearn.ualberta.ca>  
**Office Hours:** TR (10:00am-10:50am)

**Objective:**

The goal of this course is to promote informed interpretation and analysis of the financial information disseminated by business enterprises. The course provides a framework for understanding contemporary financial reporting practices in Canada, the United States and other developed economies, the diverse forces that shape those practices, and how those practices influence the usefulness of financial information in applied decision settings.

Coverage is organized around two distinct components.

Accounting Fundamentals – provides a basic introduction to the accounting framework and “the language of business”

Financial Reporting and Financial Statement Analysis – an evaluation of ASPE, IFRS and financial disclosures for purposes of performance analysis. Class assignments and discussions emphasize the use of financial information in developing an accurate profile of the firm's economic performance.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

- 1) Describe both the role and relationship of the major financial reporting statements
- 2) Describe the accounting principles and regulations that frame financial statements
- 3) Appropriately classify and journalize transactions and identify their impact on financial statements
- 4) Use financial statement ratios to evaluate organizational performance
- 5) Obtain and interpret information from an annual report

**Course Materials:**

Text: *Understanding Financial Accounting* by Christopher D. Burnley (Canadian Edition).

Lecture notes are placed on the course web site prior to topics being discussed in class. It is the student's responsibility to bring copies of the lecture notes to class, either as hard copy or accessible from the student's laptop or tablet. Note that the lecture notes are **not** an adequate substitute for class attendance.

### **Organization:**

Class is devoted to lectures, cases and discussions that supplement the assigned readings. This is a fast-paced course and you will find it helpful to complete all the relevant reading prior to class time. Detailed in the schedule below are selected problems for each topic.

Part I: In part I of the course we will develop a wide base of accounting fundamentals. We will systematically go through the financial statements, including the Statement of Financial Position (balance sheet) and Statement of Income (income statement). Most material will be delivered in lecture format and will include a large amount of small group discussion / in class discussion.

Part II: After the midterm we will focus on applying the base of knowledge acquired in part I. We will apply this knowledge to topics such as cash flow, financial statement analysis and disclosure. Materials will be provided ahead of class and it is expected that students will come to class well prepared. Formal lecture will at times, be limited and the majority of class time will be spent on application / activities in assigned groups.

### **Method of Evaluation:**

Course grades are determined by the following components:

Assignments	15%
Project	20%
Midterm examination	30%
Final examination	<u>35%</u>
Total	100%

At the end of the term marks will be converted to the letter grade system using guidelines established by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. Grade assignment will be based on the marks you obtain on both the individual and group components.

### **Assignments:**

The assignments can be submitted individually or in groups of 2-3. The course schedule indicates the dates of the assignments. Three assignments will be assigned and submitted after completing the exercises in-class or outside of class. Your mark for this component will be based on your performance on all three assignments. **If you miss an in-class assignment you MUST obtain permission prior to the class and then the 5 % for the missed assignment will be added to your final exam grade. Again, to receive credit for missed assignments you MUST inform the instructor of your absence at a minimum the day before or the day of the assignment (but before the assignment takes place or is due). Make up assignments are not granted and if you contact the instructor after the assignment date has passed, a mark of zero will be assigned.** Assignments will only be remarked in the case of a marking error or other

extenuating circumstances. Any issues with grading must be raised by the class following the class in which the assignments were returned.

### **Group Project:**

The group project and requirements will be posted on the course website by October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The case analysis **MUST** be done in groups of 3-5. Individual submissions and submissions from groups of two will not be accepted. You must not consult any of your other classmates or anyone else. Consulting others will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. The case due dates are outlined in the schedule. All late assignments will have the mark reduced by 33%. No assignments will be accepted 24 hours after the original due date. All hand in assignments must be **hard copy** – no e-mails or electronic submission of assignments. Group projects submitted outside of class time should be submitted to the General Office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the business building.

### **Examinations:**

You will be allowed to bring two **single sided** pages of 8x10 sheets of paper (or ONE double sided sheet) for the midterm and two additional single sided 8x10 sheets of paper for the final exam (or ONE additional double sided sheet). You will also be allowed a calculator to assist you with basic computations. All other electronic devices (including but not limited to cell phones, MP3 players, tablets, and electronic foreign language dictionaries) are prohibited. Foreign language dictionaries in print form are allowed; however, they must be checked by the proctor prior to the exam. No sharing of books, notes or other materials is allowed during the exam (this includes talking and discussions with your teammate or neighbor).

The Midterm Exam will be three hours and will be held in class on October 30th. The Final Exam will be held according to the schedule provided by the Registrar and will be three hours in length. The tentative date for the final exam is December 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

### **Course Absence Policy**

If a student is absent and is unable to complete the group project/exam within the given guidelines due to illness, the following procedures shall apply. In the case of group work, no extension will be provided to the group unless there are indications that all group members were incapacitated by illness. If the mid-term exam is missed, no alternate exam will be available; instead, the weight of the mid-term will be transferred to the final exam. If the final exam is missed, then the student must apply to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research for permission to write the deferred exam. Permission to write the exam is not automatic – the FGSR policy is to consult with the instructor to obtain information regarding the student when making a determination. If a deferred examination is granted, the deferred examination will be written on January 12th, 2018 at 8:30 am. If permission is not granted or the deferred examination is not written on the appointed date, then a mark of 0 shall be entered for the final exam.

### **Contacting the Instructor:**

The best way to contact me is via e-mail sent to [emarshal@ualberta.ca](mailto:emarshal@ualberta.ca). Please include the text “ACCTG 501” somewhere in your subject line depending on your registered section. The general goal is to respond to your e-mail within 24 hours.

**Web Site General Information:**

The address of the web site is <https://ulearn.ualberta.ca>

You can access the course web site with your CCID and password. Please contact AICT (780-492-9400) or the [helpdesk@ualberta.ca](mailto:helpdesk@ualberta.ca) for assistance if you do not have your CCID or password.

Most files on the web site are PowerPoint, Word or PDF files. To access those files, you will need at a minimum Office 2010 and Adobe Acrobat XI Reader. Acrobat Reader is free and can be downloaded from the internet. You are eligible to purchase Office 2010 at a significantly discounted price through the University of Alberta.

**Web Site Information:**

The course website is organized into various sections. Lectures are organized by topic. I endeavor to post everything we discuss in class to the website, but if something is missing please let me know ASAP.

**Accommodating Disabilities:**

Please contact me as soon as possible if you have a disability or condition that may require some modification of seating, testing, or any other class requirement, so that we can make appropriate arrangements. If you need special arrangements in the event the classroom must be evacuated, please let me know.

**Conduct:**

Because we regard this class as we would any job responsibility, it seems prudent to clarify, in advance, the policy on academic integrity. Given the professional nature of the MBA program, it is unlikely that a student in this class would turn in work which is not his or her own. However, if we determine that the work is not entirely that of the student(s) whose name(s) appear on the work, the student(s) involved may not pass this course and be further subject to program-level discipline. Specifically, in order to protect the integrity of the MBA degree, the University may expel, suspend, reprimand, or reduce a course mark of any student who breaches the Code of Student Behavior in one of the following ways:

- (1) Assisting another student in the commission of an academic offence;
- (2) Plagiarism;
- (3) Cheating;
- (4) Distributing confidential academic material;
- (5) Misrepresenting facts for the purpose of obtaining academic advantage.

The following web site provides a summary of what constitutes an academic offense and the possible penalties. [http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/StudentAppeals/~/\\_media/Governance/Documents/GO05/CAM/Dont%20Cheatsheet/Updated.pdf](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/StudentAppeals/~/_media/Governance/Documents/GO05/CAM/Dont%20Cheatsheet/Updated.pdf)

Please note that as defined above, it is an academic offence for group members to include the name of a group member on an assignment when that member has not contributed to assigned group work.

The University requires the following statement be included with the course syllabus:

The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx>) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

Policy about course outlines can be found in §[23.4](#)(2) of the University Calendar

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Note: This is a general guideline for the semester. To accommodate student interests we may find it necessary to make alterations to the schedule as the semester progresses. Topics will be covered in sequence; however, it may be necessary to go faster or slower than indicated. Also note that the textbook is a guide. There will be strong emphasis on the notes provided in class, which may have material not covered in the text.

**\*\*WE WILL BE LOOKING AT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DURING CLASS AND WILL BE DOING SEVERAL ACTIVITIES WHERE YOU WOULD BENEFIT FROM A COMPUTER OR TABLET. YOU WILL OFTEN GET MORE OUT OF CLASS IF YOU BRING A LAPTOP OR OTHER PORTABLE DEVICE (other than a phone)\*\***

Date	Topic	Readings & Recommended Problems^^	Deliverables / Notes
September 11	Class Introduction	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 1</b> (skim cash flow information)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ1-9, 1-15, 1-17, 1-18 AP1-1 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-0, 1-10, 1-16, 1-18, 1-19, 1-24 UP1-2 RI1-1</p>	
September 18	Transaction Analysis	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 2</b> (pg. 50-75, pg. 76 margin)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ2-6, 2-12, 2-19 AP2-7, 2-11, 2-17, 2-18, 2-24, 31 UP 2-2 RI 2-2</p>	
September 25	Double Entry Accounting	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ 3-3, 3-4, 3-11, 3-12 AP 3-2, 3-4, 3-8, 3-15, 3-21, 3-23, 3-25, 3-28, 3-31 RI 3-3 C 3-4</p>	
October 2	Revenue Recognition, Statement of Income	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ4-1, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6, 4-7, 4-8 AP4-1, 4-4, 4-7 UP4-3, 4-5 RI 4-2 (a, b, e) RI 4-5 C 4-1</p>	<b><u>Assignment #1</u></b> <b><u>(In-class)</u></b>

October 9	No Class THANKSGIVING		
October 16	Cash & AR Inventory	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 6</b> (pg. 269, 270 - no internal controls – pg. 275 AR – 287)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ6-10, 6-11, 6-12, 6-13, 6-15 AP6-10, 6-15, 6-16 UP6-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 7</b> (pg. 316-329 1<sup>st</sup> para, pg. 332-333) *no chapter end review problem DQ7-5, 7-6, 7-18, 7-19 AP7-9</p>	
October 23	Long-term Assets Current Liabilities Long-term Liabilities	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 8</b> (pg. 360-385 goodwill)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ8-1, 8-3, 8-9, 8-15, 8-16, 8-20, 8-22 AP8-11, 8-13, 8-20, 8-23 UP8-4, 8-6, 8-7, 8-8, 8-11 C8-2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 9</b> (pg. 404-421 dividends payable) *no chapter end review problem</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ9-1, 9-10, 9-11, 9-19 AP9-4, 9-7 UP9-2 RI9-4 C9-3</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter 10</b> (pg. 442-444 1<sup>st</sup> para, pg. 452-454 LO3, pg. 459-461 LO6) *no chapter end review problem</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DQ10-3, 10-16, 10-25, 10-26 AP10-10 UP10-7, 10-8, 10-9 RI10-11, 10-12</p>	<b><u>Assignment #2</u></b> <b><u>DUE by 2pm</u></b> <b><u>(take home)</u></b>
October 30	MIDTERM (2:00-4:50pm) Topics Covered from September 11 – October 23		

November 6	Midterm Review (as needed)  Catch up class  Shareholder's Equity	<b>Chapter 11</b> (pg. 496-504, 507-508, 515 LO7) *no chapter end review problem  DQ11-9, 11-11, 11-17 UP11-1, 11-7	
November 13	No Class READING WEEK		
November 20	Cash Flow	<b>Chapter 5</b> (ignore direct method)  DQ5-1, 5-5, 5-8, 5-9, 5-11, 5-12, 5-13, 5-14, 5-16, 5-18, 5-20 AP5-3, 5-4, 5-21 UP5-4, 5-5(a-e), 5-9 RI5-1, RI5-3 (a-d, g), RI5-4 C5-1  Other Notes Posted	
November 27	Cash Flow (Continued)  Financial Statement Analysis	<b>Chapter 12</b> **make sure you do the chapter end review problem**  see also F/S analysis-related pages 76+, 287+, 335+, 385+, 421+, 461+, 513+  DQ12-5, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13, 12-14, 12-18, 12-21, 12-22 AP12-3, 12-6, 12-7, 12-10, 12-15, 12-16, 12-20 UP12-3, 12-7, 12-8 RI12-2, 12-4 C12-2, 12-3	<b><u>Assignment #3</u></b> <b><u>(format TBD)</u></b>
December 4	Financial Statement Analysis (Continued)  Disclosure / Selected Topics (time permitting)	Class Notes	<b>Projects Due</b> <b>(2pm)</b>

^^Recommended problems are provided to assist in your learning and application of the in-class and textbook material. Problems chosen emphasize the key concepts, but are not comprehensive (we will often cover different types of problems in class, etc.). You can choose to do as many or as few of the problems as you like. Textbook problems are often most helpful for students who learn by doing, need additional problems / reinforcement over and above what is done in class and have less familiarity with accounting in general.