

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

## **ACCY 407: HISTORY OF ACCOUNTING THOUGHT**

Trimester Two 2006

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

#### **Course Objectives**

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of the historical approach to accounting research, the evolution of accounting principles and practices, and the uses of accounting. Students will be expected to explore and evaluate the environments that have influenced developments in accounting.

Completion of the course includes:

- a. Preparation and presentation of one selected reading;
- b. The handing in and presentation of a proposal for the research project by the stated date, and;
- c. The completion of this research project and presentation of the findings of your research to the class.

In addition, students are expected to participate and prepare fully for all classes.

#### **Contact Details**

- Dr Bhagwan Khanna                      RH 602                      463-5843                      Bhagwan.Khanna@vuw.ac.nz  
(Course Co-ordinator)
- Ms Carolyn Fowler                      RH 603                      463-6506                      Carolyn.Fowler@vuw.ac.nz

#### **Class Times and Room Numbers**

- Tuesday 1.40 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in RLWY 223
- Extra classes in Week 6 and 12 (day and time to be determined) for project presentations.

#### **Expected Workload**

There will be an average of 2 hours per week of scheduled class seminar contact time. In addition to this contact time students are expected to spend at least an additional 14 hours per week on private study and assessment.

## Course Content

	Dates		Topic	Lecturer(s)
1	Jul	11	Introduction	Bhagwan Khanna Carolyn Fowler
2	Jul	18	History and Historical Research	Carolyn Fowler
3	Jul	25	Accounting History - Scope and Purpose	Bhagwan Khanna
4	Aug	01	The Emergence of Double Entry Bookkeeping	Bhagwan Khanna
5	Aug	08	The Development of Management Accounting	Carolyn Fowler
6/1	Aug	15	Alternative Interpretations of Management Accounting History	Bhagwan Khanna
6/2	Aug	TBA	Student Project Proposals (3 hours)	Bhagwan Khanna Carolyn Fowler
<b>Mid Trimester Break</b>				
7	Sept	05	History of the Accounting Profession	Bhagwan Khanna
8	Sept	12	Public Sector Accounting History	Carolyn Fowler
9	Sept	19	New Zealand Accounting History	Carolyn Fowler
10	Sept	26	Project Preparation	No class. Staff available for consultation
11	Oct	03	Project Preparation	No class Staff available for consultation
12/1	Oct	10	Presentation of Projects.	Bhagwan Khanna Carolyn Fowler
12/2	Oct	TBA	Presentation of Projects (3 hours)	Bhagwan Khanna Carolyn Fowler

TBA – to be advised

### Materials and Equipment

Copies of all readings will be provided for students at the beginning of the course.

### Communication of Additional Information

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either in class or via email.

## Assessment Requirements

1. Synopsis preparation and presentation, and class participation	15%	As allocated
2. Research Project Proposal	15%	Due 9.00 a.m. 16 August.
3. Research Project and Presentation	70%	Due Week 12 (presentation) & 5.00 p.m. 18 October (project)

### ***Synopsis Preparation and Presentation, and Class Participation*** **15%**

Class sessions will be primarily in the form of seminars, involving discussion of assigned weekly readings along with other material as determined and presented by the lecturer. For effective discussion on the material in the class, it is very important that you read and understand the assigned articles beforehand. Marks will be awarded for class participation.

Each student is required to present **one** assigned reading during the course. This presentation will be for 20 - 30 minutes, with a further 10 minutes for questions and discussion. Students are to select the readings for their presentation from the list below for weeks 4 to 9. Only **two** readings may be presented in each class. Selection of reading will take place in the first class.

Students presenting assigned readings are to submit to the lecturer(s) a précis of the article (max 2 pages) by noon on the Monday before the class.

### ***Research Project Proposal*** **15%**

Students are required to submit a formal research proposal (max 4 pages) outlining the objective of their research project and identifying proposed sources of information. Students must discuss their choice of topic with the lecturers during the first 5 weeks. These proposals will be presented to the class during week 6 (day and time to be advised).

A copy of the proposal is to be emailed to the lecturers by 9.00 a.m. on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August.

### ***Research Project and Presentation*** **70%**

Each student is required to complete a major research paper reporting his or her investigation of the history of any area of accounting, auditing, taxation or related areas. The report should be no longer than 6500 words. This research paper is a major project, which can be a critical and comprehensive literature review, a detailed research proposal or an empirical study. Topics for the project must be discussed with and approved by your lecturers.

Students are required to present their project to the class during the last week of the course. The research project is due at 5.00 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October. The manuscript is to be submitted in electronic form (e.g. in an email attachment as a Microsoft Word document) and in paper format.

### **Penalties**

In fairness to other students, work submitted after the deadline will incur a 5% penalty (of the mark obtained) for each day late. Extensions may be granted with no penalty to those who meet the University's aegrotat rules (e.g. medical certificate, family bereavement).

## **Seminar Readings**

### ***Week 2: History and Historical Research***

1. Fleischman, R. K., Mills P. A., and Tyson T. N., 1996, A theoretical primer for evaluating and conducting historical research in accounting, *Accounting History*, 1:1, 55 – 75.
2. Parker L.D., 1997, Informing historical research in accounting and management: traditions, philosophies and opportunities, *The Accounting Historians Journal*, 24:2, 111-148.

### ***Week 3: Accounting History: Scope and Purpose***

1. Previts, G.J., Parker, L.D. and Coffman, E.N., 1990, Accounting history: definition and relevance, *Abacus*, 26:1, 1-16.
2. Carnegie, G.D. and Napier, C.J. 1996, Critical and interpretive histories: insights into accounting's present and future through its past, *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal*, 9:3, 7-39.

### ***Week 4: The Emergence of Double Entry Bookkeeping***

1. Bryer, R.A., 1993, Double entry bookkeeping and the birth of capitalism: accounting for the commercial revolution in medieval northern Italy, *Critical Perspectives on Accounting*, 4:2, 113-140.
2. Mills, G.T., 1994, Early accounting in Northern Italy: The role of commercial development and the printing press in the expansion of double entry from Genoa, Florence and Venice, *The Accounting Historians Journal*, 21:1, 81-96.

### ***Week 5: The Development of Management Accounting***

1. Kaplan, R.S., 1984, The evolution of management accounting, *Accounting Review*, July, 390-418.
2. Edwards, J.R. and Newell E., 1991, The development of industrial cost and management accounting before 1850: A survey of evidence, *Business History*, 33:1, 35-57.

### ***Week 6: Alternative Interpretations of Management Accounting History***

1. Miller, P. and O'Leary, T., 1987, Accounting and the construction of the governable person', *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 13:3, 235-265.
2. Hopper, T. and Armstrong, P., 1991, Cost accounting, controlling labour and the rise of conglomerates, *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 16:5/6, 405-438.

### ***Week 7: History of the Accounting Profession***

1. Willmott, H. 1986, Organising the profession: a theoretical and historical examination of the development of the major accountancy bodies in the UK, *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 11:6, 555-580.
2. Walker, S.P., 2004, The genesis of professional organization in English accountancy, *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, 29:2, 127-156.

### ***Week 8: Public Sector Accounting***

1. Hoskin, K.W., and Macve R.H., 1988, The Genesis of Accountability: The West Point Connection, *Accounting Organizations and Society*, 13:2, 37-73.

2. Fleischman, R.K., and Tyson T.N., 1997, Developing Expertise: Two Episodes in Early Nineteenth Century US Management Accounting History, *Business and Economic History*, 26:2, 365-380.
3. Tyson, T, 1993, Keeping the Record Straight: Foucauldian Revisionism and Nineteenth Century US Cost Accounting History, *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal*, 6:2, 4-16. (Not eligible for critique)

### **Week 9: New Zealand Accounting History**

1. Hooper, K., Pratt, M. and Kearins K., 1993, Accounting, auditing and the business establishment in Colonial Auckland 1880- 1895, *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal*, 6:1, 79-98.
2. Napier, C.J, 1995, Secret Accounting in New Zealand: P & O and the Union Steam Ship Company 1917-1936, 135-157, *Studies in Accounting History: Tradition and Innovation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Tsuji, A., & P. Garner (eds), Greenwood Press: London.
3. Cordery C., 2006, Hallowed Treasures: Sacred, Secular and the Wesleyan Methodists in New Zealand, 1819-1840, *Accounting History*, 11:2, 199-220.

### **Additional Readings**

There is no set text for the course. However, the following books may provide supplementary reading for many of the issues examined in the course.

- Edwards, J. R., 1989, *A History of Financial Accounting*, Routledge: London.
- Lee, T. A., A Bishop and Parker R. H. (eds), 1996, *Accounting History from the Renaissance to the Present*, Garland Publishing Inc.: New York & London
- Lee, T.A. (ed.), 1990, *Accounting History and Thought*, Garland Publishing Inc: New York
- Littleton, A. C. and Yamey B. S. (eds), 1956, *Studies in the History of Accounting*, Sweet & Maxwell London:
- Parker, R. H. and Yamey B. S. (eds), 1994 *Accounting History - Some British Contribution*, Clarendon Press: Oxford.
- Yamey, B. S., 1978, *Essays on the History of Accounting*, Arno Press: New York.
- Yamey, B. S., 1982, *Further Essays on the History of Accounting*, Garland Publ Inc: New York.
- Hammond, T A., 2002, *A White-collar profession - African American Certified Public Accountants since 1921*, University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, North Carolina.
- Fleishman R.K., Radcliffe V.S. and Shoemaker P.A. (eds), 2003, *Doing Accounting History*, JAI Press: Greenwich.

As well the following journals may provide additional material:

- *Accounting History*
- *The Accounting Historians Journal*
- *Accounting, Business and Financial History*
- *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal*
- *Accounting, Organizations and Society*
- *Critical Perspectives on Accounting*.

## **Faculty of Commerce and Administration Offices**

### Railway West Wing (RWW) - FCA Student and Academic Services Office

The Faculty's Student and Academic Services Office is located on the ground and first floors of the Railway West Wing. The ground floor counter is the first point of contact for general enquiries and FCA forms. Student Administration Advisers are available to discuss course status and give further advice about FCA qualifications. To check for opening hours call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

### Easterfield (EA) - FCA/Education/Law Kelburn Office

The Kelburn Campus Office for the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, Education and Law is situated in the Easterfield Building - it includes the ground floor reception desk (EA005) and offices 125a to 131 (Level 1). The office is available for the following:

- Duty tutors for student contact and advice.
- Information concerning administrative and academic matters.
- Forms for FCA Student and Academic Services (e.g. application for academic transcripts, requests for degree audit, COP requests).
- Examinations-related information during the examination period.

To check for opening hours call the Student and Academic Services Office on (04) 463 5376.

## **General University Policies and Statutes**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at [www.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.vuw.ac.nz).

## **Student and Staff Conduct**

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at [www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct). The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at [www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct).

## **Academic Grievances**

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievances Policy which is published on the VUW website at [www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances).

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means **no cheating**. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other student or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalised severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website at [www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html).

### **Students with Impairments**

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the Course Coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building, telephone (04) 463 6070, email [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz). The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

### **Student Support**

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each Faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

In addition, the Student Services Group (email [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz)) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at [www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/).

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and Faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 04 463 6983 or 04 463 6984, email [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz)) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.

**Manaaki Pihipihinga - Maori and Pacific Mentoring Programme (Faculty of Commerce and Administration)**

This is a mentoring service for Maori and Pacific students studying at all levels. Weekly one hour sessions are held at the Kelburn and Pipitea Campuses in the Mentoring Rooms, 14 Kelburn Parade, and Room 210 and 211, Level 2, Railway West Wing. Sessions cover drafting and discussing assignments, essay writing, and any questions that may arise from tutorials and/or lectures. A computer suite networked to Cyber Commons is available for student use.

To register with Manaaki Pihipihinga, please contact one of the following:

Puawai Wereta  
Room 210, Level 2  
Railway West Wing  
Tel. (04) 463 8997  
Email: Puawai.Wereta@vuw.ac.nz

Fa'afai Seiuli  
Room 109 B  
14 Kelburn Parade  
Tel. (04) 463 5842  
Email: Faafoi.Seiuli@vuw.ac.nz