



School of Accounting and Commercial Law

## ACCY 308 ADVANCED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Trimester 1 2008

### COURSE OUTLINE

#### Contact Details

##### *Course Co-ordinator/Lecturer*

Kevin Simpkins, Senior Fellow	RH	716
Phone:	463 9651	
Email:	kevin.simpkins@vuw.ac.nz	
Office Hours:	Monday, 11.30am – 12.30 pm Tuesday, 9.30am – 10.30 am	

##### *Lecturers*

Dr Wares Karim, Senior Lecturer	RH	713
Phone:	463 5233 Ext 8547	
Email:	wares.karim@vuw.ac.nz	
Office Hours:	Monday, 12.00 – 1.00pm	

David Carter, Lecturer	RH	727
Phone:	463 5233 Ext 7009	
Email:	david.carter@vuw.ac.nz	
Office Hours:	Tuesday, 10.00 – 11.00 am	

##### *Administrative Co-ordinator*

Hayley Cross	RH	708
Phone:	463 5383	
Email:	hayley.cross@vuw.ac.nz	

#### Class Times and Room Numbers

##### Lectures:

Lectures commence Monday 25 February and continue to the week ending Friday 30 May 2008. There is a mid-Trimester break from Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April 2008.

<b>Stream One:</b>	Wednesday	13.40pm-14.30pm	GBLT1
	Thursday	12.40pm-14.30pm	GBLT2
<b>Stream Two:</b>	Tuesday	8.30am-9.20am	GBLT2
	Wednesday	9.30am-11.20am	GBLT2
<b>Stream Three:</b>	Monday	10.30am-11.20pm	GBLT2
	Tuesday	2.40 pm-4.30pm	GBLT2

Test and Examination:

The **term test** will take place in the week beginning 7 April 2008 (Week 7). The date, time & room will be advised.

The **final examination** will take place during the examination period, 6 – 25 June 2008.

Tutorials:

There will be eight tutorials held during the weeks beginning:

10 March	17 March
24 March	31 March
28 April	12 May
19 May	26 May

**Course Objectives**

Students who are successful in this course will, at an advanced level, be able to:

- Explain how the nature of different reporting entities affects the financial reporting by those entities;
- Assess the implications of recent developments in external reporting in respect of both business and the wider context of society (including harmonisation and corporate social responsibility);
- Describe the applications and implications of various financial reporting standards in complex environments;
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the current financial reporting requirements for particular entities, transactions and events against underlying concepts of accounting;
- Develop new approaches to at least one circumstance where a weakness has been identified in the current reporting requirements.

**Course Content**

As an advanced financial accounting paper, this course focuses on developing core theoretical and practical issues in respect of financial accounting. We emphasise key issues that face accountants in practice and the development of an understanding of how different contexts affect accounting. Thus the overarching theme underpinning the course is the different reporting entities in New Zealand. Throughout the course we will seek to illustrate the importance of this issue by considering the impact of the entity on accounting choices, policies and other matters.

In particular we will seek to illustrate this by a series of meso-themes related to the reporting entity. These are:

- The concept of “substance over form” (sometimes referred to as representational faithfulness) – we will trace the implications and challenges of this concept;
- The concept of “reliability”, which encompasses neutrality, prudence, and completeness – we will explore the impact and difficulties associated with the concept; and
- The impacts of harmonisation (both international and across sectors) – we will consider what this means, and the practical implications for accounting for different entities in New Zealand.

<b>Week – Starting</b>	<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook Chapter(s)</b>	<b>Tutorial/ Assignment</b>
<b>Week 1</b> <i>25 February</i>	David Carter	Overview of the NZ Financial Reporting Environment and introduction of Course Meso-themes	D&S 1 & 2 NZ Framework HPH Chapter 8	
<b>Week 2</b> <i>3 March</i>	Kevin Simpkins	The nature of different Reporting Entities and issues relating to them including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Small and Medium Size Entities</li> <li>▪ Public Benefit Entities</li> </ul>	D&S 1 (pages 13-14) New Zealand Preface Framework for Differential Reporting	
<b>Week 3</b> <i>10 March</i>	Wares Karim	Introduction to Accounting for Business Combinations  Concepts and Principles of Consolidation	D&S 24	Tutorial One
<b>Week 4</b> <i>17 March</i>		Consolidated Financial Statements	D&S 24, 25 & 26 NZ IFRS 3, NZ IAS 27	Tutorial Two
<b>Week 5</b> <i>24 March</i>		Consolidated Financial Statements	D&S 24, 25 & 26 NZ IFRS 3, NZ IAS 27	Tutorial Three
<b>Week 6</b> <i>31 March</i>		Accounting for Associates and Joint Ventures	D&S 27&28 NZ IAS 28, 31	Tutorial Four Assignment One
<b>Week 7</b> <i>7 April</i>	Kevin Simpkins	Foreign Currency	D&S 29 and 30 NZ IAS 21	Term Test
<b>MID-TERM BREAK</b>				
<b>Week 8</b> <i>28 April</i>		Leases  Financial Instruments	D&S 10 NZ IAS 17  D&S 15 NZ IAS 32,39 & NZ IFRS 7	Tutorial Five
<b>Week 9</b> <i>5 May</i>		Financial Instruments (continued)  Share-based Payments	D&S 15 NZ IAS 32,39 & NZ IFRS 7  D&S 14 NZ IFRS 2	Assignment Two
<b>Week 10</b> <i>12 May</i>		<u>Other Disclosure Issues:</u> Disaggregated/Segment Reporting  Related party disclosures	D&S 21 NZ IFRS 8  D&S 22 NZ IAS 24	Tutorial Six

<b>Week 11</b> <i>19 May</i>	David Carter	Corporate social responsibility  Re-thinking and Re-Conceptualising Accounting	D&S 31	Tutorial Seven
<b>Week 12</b> <i>26 May</i>		Re-thinking and Re-Conceptualising Accounting (continued)	HPH Chapter 8 NZ Framework	Assignment Three Tutorial Eight

**Note:** The table above indicates the expected order of topics and the estimated time spent on each topic. However, actual times may vary from those stated above.

### Readings

There are two **required texts** for the course:

- Deegan, C. and Samkin, G. (2006) *New Zealand Financial Accounting, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, Auckland: McGrawHill (“D&S”)
- Applicable Financial Reporting Standards (Volumes 1 and 2) - *New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards*. New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants. (2007 or 2008 editions)

Strongly recommended:

- Henderson, S., Peirson, G., and Harris, K. (2005) *Financial Accounting Theory*, French’s Forest: Pearson. (“HPH”)

### Materials and Equipment

Relevant teaching materials, extra readings, tutorials, assignments, worksheets etc. will be provided for students on an ongoing basis.

### Assignments

To facilitate efficient processing, please use the labels provided at the end of this course outline. The labels have been pre-numbered for assignments 1 through 3. On each label, please print legibly **your name, student ID and tutorial group number**. For each assignment, cut out and staple the correct label to your completed assignment. Fold your assignment lengthways so that the label is visible on the outside of your paper. Place your **stapled and labelled** assignment in the relevant box by 12.00 pm on the due dates shown below. **No assignments will be accepted for assessment purposes after the deadline of 12.00 pm, unless accompanied by certification by a doctor or similar. However because it is a mandatory course requirement that a reasonable attempt is made at all 3 assignments, late assignments must be submitted to enable an assessment of whether this mandatory course requirement has been met.**

### Assignments are due by 12.00 pm on the following dates:

Assignment 1: Thursday 3 April

Assignment 2: Thursday 8 May

Assignment 3: Thursday 29 May

Questions for assignments will be distributed. All assignments will be marked and distributed back to you in your home tutorial. If you cannot attend your home tutorial, you can collect your assignment from your home tutorial the next time you attend.

The Administrative Co-ordinator should be contacted in relation to any changes to scheduled tutorial attendance and other inquiries of an administrative nature. Uncollected and misplaced assignment inquiries should be directed to your tutor in the first instance; if unsuccessful please see the Administrative Co-ordinator.

Should your performance in this course in relation to any of the specified mandatory course requirements be impeded by unforeseeable events or circumstances such as sickness, bereavement of a close relative or other such personal difficulties, you should contact the Administrative Co-ordinator as soon as is reasonably possible. You will be required to complete a form, which will need to be approved by the Course Co-ordinator. **Do not delay this until the end of the course or until final results are posted.**

### **Term Test and Final Exam**

Students are expected to take the **bound** volumes of Applicable Financial Reporting Standards (Volumes 1 and 2) - *New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards* (2007 or 2008 versions **only**) into the Term Test and Final Exam.

- You **may** highlight or underline text
- **No** writing is permitted in the books
- You are **not** permitted to index the books by use of tabs or other means.

### **Electronic Calculators**

Silent, non-programmable electronic calculators may be used in the Test and Final Exam. Calculators that have alphanumeric keyboards will not be permitted.

### **Assessment Requirements**

The final grade awarded for this course will be determined on the following basis:

<i>Item of Assessment</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Term Test (100 minutes) (Week beginning 7 April, details to be advised)	30%
Assignments	
3 Assignments at 5% each	15%
Final Examination (3 hours) (Time and date to be advised)	55%

The Terms test will cover material relating to the first 6 weeks. The final examination will cover material from throughout the course. Examinable material will include tutorial material and specified readings and will not be limited to material directly covered in lectures. The Student Administration Office will announce the final examination date.

Suggested solutions to the Assignments and the Terms Test will be posted on Blackboard.

### **Penalties**

No assignments will be accepted **for assessment purposes** after the deadline of 12.00 pm, unless accompanied by certification by a doctor or similar. However because it is a mandatory course requirement that a reasonable attempt is made at all 3 assignments, late assignments must be submitted to enable an assessment of whether this mandatory course requirement has been met.

## **Mandatory Course Requirements**

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50% or more, students must:

- Attend at least 5 out of 8 tutorials; and
- Make a reasonable attempt at all 3 assignments.

## **Communication of Additional Information**

Once you have registered for this course you should be able to connect to Blackboard at <http://blackboard.scs.vuw.ac.nz>. If you are not registered, please contact the FCA office on the ground floor of the Railway West Wing opposite Rutherford House. If you cannot access Blackboard after 48 hours please come to our office at RH708 where we can enrol you on Blackboard.

## **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 on the ground floor (EA005). This counter is the first point of contact for :

- 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 or go to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy/students.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy/students.aspx)

For information on the following topics, go to the Faculty's website [www.victoria.ac.nz/fca](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fca) under Important Information for Students:

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

## **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 students 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 penalized 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:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html)

## **Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme**

Manaaki Pihipihinga is an academic mentoring programme for undergraduate Māori and Pacific students in the Faculties of Commerce and Administration, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Sessions are held at the Kelburn and Pipitea Campuses in the Mentoring Rooms, 14 Kelburn Parade (back courtyard), Room 109D, and Room 210, Level 2, Railway West Wing. There is also a Pacific Support Coordinator who assists Pacific students by linking them to the services and support they need while studying at Victoria. Another feature of the programme is a support network for Postgraduate students with links to Postgraduate workshops and activities around Campus.

For further information, or to register with the programme, email [manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:manaaki-pihipihinga-programme@vuw.ac.nz) or phone (04) 463 6015. To contact the Pacific Support Coordinator, email [pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:pacific-support-coord@vuw.ac.nz) or phone (04) 463 5842.

## Detailed Tutorial Signup Instructions

1. Go to the signup website at: <https://signups.vuw.ac.nz>
2. Enter your SCS username and password to login the system.
3. The “Signup Home” page opens. It displays all courses you are enrolled for and that use the S-Cubed Tutorial & Workshop Signup system. Click on the course you wish to sign up for.
4. The selected course page opens. It will show the course contact and brief details of the signup instructions. A “key” is provided at the bottom that explains all buttons and what they do.
5. The schedule of tutorials includes the day/time, location, maximum group size, and spaces left in the tutorial sessions.
6. If there are spaces left in a particular session, you will see the “ENROL” button next to it. You can click this button to enrol yourself into that tutorial session.
7. If there are NO more spaces left in a particular session, you will see the “JOIN WAITLIST” button, if available. You can click this button to join the waitlist for that tutorial session. Please note that you will be removed from any other waitlist you may have joined earlier. If somebody withdraws from this session, you will automatically be moved up the waitlist or enrolled into the session. In this case you are enrolled in the session; an email will be sent to you if you are enrolled into the session from a waitlist.
8. You can only “JOIN WAITLIST” if you have already enrolled in one of the other available sessions. In other words, “ENROL” in one session and then you can choose to join the waitlist for another preferred session.
9. You can choose to “WITHDRAW” from a session you have already enrolled for. You can also choose to “CANCEL WAITLIST” to remove yourself from a particular waitlist.
10. A “FULL” button indicates all seats and waitlist are full for that tutorial session. You must choose another session.
11. More details on the various buttons are available in the “Key” section at the bottom of the signup page.
12. You should “ENROL” in only ONE tutorial session and may “JOIN WAITLIST” for only ONE other tutorial session.
13. You can login and signup (or change your signup) anytime before the **closing date of the tutorial signup. You will NOT be able to sign up or change your choice after the tutorial signups have closed.**
14. You can view/confirm details of the sessions you are enrolled and waitlisted for, such as day/time and location by clicking on “My Signups” on the left hand menu.
15. Click on “Support” on the left hand menu if you are having problems.

This online signup system is available around the clock over the internet. Any requests after this date will need to be manually handled by the course administrator. You will need to submit a written application stating the reason why you were not able to sign up on time using the online system, along with other relevant documentation such as medical certificate etc.

Finally, **you must always attend the tutorial sessions that you have signed up for.** If you attend a different session, your attendance may not be recorded.



<p><b>Labels for your assignments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please cut these out as required, provide all the required information and <b>staple on</b> to the outside of your assignment <u>folded lengthways</u>.</li> <li>• Place the assignment in the <b>correct box</b> marked for <b>ACCY 308</b> on the required date.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ACCY 308 2008 ASSIGNMENT 3</b></p> <p>Name:</p> <p><b>Tutorial Group Number (NOT TIME):</b></p> <p>Assignment 3: 12 noon, Thursday, 29 May</p>
<p><b>ACCY 308 2008 ASSIGNMENT 2</b></p> <p>Name:</p> <p><b>Tutorial Group Number (NOT TIME):</b></p> <p>Assignment 2: 12 noon, Thursday, 8 May</p>	<p><b>ACCY 308 2008 ASSIGNMENT 1</b></p> <p>Name:</p> <p><b>Tutorial Group Number (NOT TIME):</b></p> <p>Assignment 1: 12 noon, Thursday, 3 April</p>