

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

ACCY 314 ACCOUNTING & SOCIETY

Trimester One 2014

COURSE OUTLINE

Names and Contact Details

Course Coordinator &

Lecturer:

Pala Molisa RH616 463 6154
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Office hours: TBA

Co-Lecturers:

Farzana Tanima RH612 463 5758
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Sendirella George RH612 463 8202
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Course Administrator:

Lucy May RH708 463 5775
Email: lucy.may@vuw.ac.nz
(Office hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am-5pm)
Office is closed: 10.30-10.45am and 3.30-3.45pm.)

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 3 March - Friday 6 June

Study Period: Monday 9 June – Thursday 12 June

Examination Period: Friday 12 June – Wednesday 2 July (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Courses

Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 14 March 2014.

The standard last date for withdrawal from this course Friday 16 May 2014.

After this date, students forced to withdraw by circumstances beyond their control must apply for permission on an 'Application for Associate Dean's Permission to Withdraw Late' including supporting documentation.

The application form is available from either of the Faculty's Student Customer Service Desks.

Class Times and Room Numbers

Tuesday: 9.30 -11.20am

Venue: LT4, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

Thursday: 10.30 – 11.20am

Venue: LT4, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

Course Content

This course provides a critical assessment of the role(s) and nature of accounting and the values and assumptions underlying accounting systems at both the micro and macro levels of society. It examines a number of sociological, political and philosophical studies that challenge more traditional images of accounting. It also explores interrelationships between accounting and the environment, ethics, industrial relations, management and social responsibility.

Course Learning Objectives

- To introduce students to the study of accounting in a socio-political context
- To examine a variety of theoretical perspectives on the nature of accounting and its role(s) in society
- To develop critical reading and thinking skills
- To encourage creative thinking and independent research
- To develop the skills of debate: developing a reasoned argument orally and in writing, presenting a point of view, synthesising different opinions and contrasting opposing points of view
- To develop a normative framework for accounting within which to evaluate existing systems and address practical problems

Course Delivery

Courses are delivered through the two weekly lectures. There are no tutorials or workshops.

Expected Workload

This is a 15 point course. One point equates roughly to 10 hours of work, which means a total of 150 hours spread over a 14 week period (the 12 teaching weeks and mid-trimester break).

Prescription

The study of accounting in a social and political context. Topics include accounting and the environment, ethics, industrial relations, social responsibility and philosophy.

Readings

There is no set text. Selected readings will be provided, amounting to approximately two articles per week. A *Course Materials Fee* will be charged for this. It is expected that the reading for each session will be completed before coming to class as it will often form the basis for class discussion.

Class Participation 10%

Class participation will be assessed on the basis of effort and quality of contribution.

Materials Permitted in the Mid-Trimester and Exam

The mid-trimester test and exam are both open book and you may bring whatever materials you like into the exam room. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have a copy of anything you may wish to refer to during the mid-trimester test and exam.

Lecture Programme

Weeks 1-12 <i>Week beginning:</i>	Topics covered
March 3	Accounting and Education
March 10	Accounting and Critical Social Theory
March 17	Accounting and Corporate Social Responsibility
March 24	Accounting and Corporate Social Responsibility
March 31	Accounting and the Environment MID-TRIMESTER TEST (1 April 2014)
April 7	Accounting and Industrial Relations
April 14	Accounting and War
May 5	Accounting and Gender
May 12	Accounting and Globalization
May 19	Accounting and the Global Financial Crisis
May 26	Accounting, Activism, and Social Change: Prospects and Challenges ASSIGNMENT DUE (29 May 2014 at 2pm)
June 2	Accounting and NGOs

Penalties

In fairness to other students, assignments submitted after the deadline will incur a 5% penalty of the original mark for each day (including weekends) they are late. Assignments handed in more than 10 days after the due date will not be accepted. Extensions may be granted with no penalty to those who meet the University's aegrotat rules (e.g. medical certificate, family bereavement) **only**. You must discuss such extensions with the course coordinator at your first opportunity.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an on-line plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and submitted to Turnitin. A copy of submitted materials will be retained on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

Mandatory Course Requirements

To pass the course it is necessary to

- (a) Complete all assessment items
- (b) Attend at least 75% of the lectures
- (c) Obtain a minimum of 40% in the exam

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details made available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Communication of Additional Information

Additional information concerning this course will be provided in lectures and posted on **Blackboard**.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Link to general information

For general information about course-related matters, go to <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vbs/studenthelp/general-course-information>

Note to Students

Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning objectives as required for accreditation and academic audit. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of VBS programmes. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the course.