

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

MMPA 501 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Trimester 1, 2015

COURSE OUTLINE

| Names and Contact Details | Office | Telephone |
|---|---------------|------------------|
| <i>Course Coordinator & Lecturer</i> Prof Rachel Baskerville rachel.baskerville@vuw.ac.nz Office hours: TBA | RH 625 | 463 6951 |
| <i>Course Administrator</i> Rebekah Sage rebekah.sage@vuw.ac.nz Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8.30 am-5.00 pm | RH 728 | 463 6921 |

Trimester Dates

Teaching Period: Monday 2nd March – Friday 5th June

Study Period: Monday 8th June – Thursday 11th June

Examination Period: Friday 12th June – Wednesday 1st July (inclusive)

Withdrawal from Course

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 13th March 2015.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 15th May. 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 or [online](#).

Class Times and Room Numbers

Lectures

Mondays: 5.40-8.30pm

Venue: GB LT3 (Government Buildings Lecture Theatre 3), Pipitea Campus

Week 7 lecture will be held on Friday 1 May 5.40-8.30pm in GB LT3

Week 13 lecture will be held on Monday 8 June 5.40-8.30pm in (TBC)

Students are required to attend all lectures. Classes involve a mixture of lecture material, individual responses, and group discussion.

Bookkeeping Test and Exam

The Bookkeeping Test will take place in week 8.

The Examination will take place during the examination period.

Course Delivery

The course is delivered in one two-hour lecture a week and one hour of workshop within a three hour period. The Lecturer will assign readings and out-of-class work that is expected to be completed. A thorough understanding of all assigned material is essential. The lecture will involve a range of activities from workshop discussion or Go Soapbox responses, to more conventional lecturing. The course lecturer will post material on Blackboard. It is suggested that students regularly check Blackboard for updates, announcements and materials.

Group Work

Group work (pairs) are allowed on the assignments with each group member receiving the same mark.

Expected Workload

As MMPA 501 is a 15-point paper, it is expected that students will work for 150 hours across the course. Lectures and workshops account for 34 hours of this time. Accordingly, students are expected to allocate seven hours per week during the teaching weeks (outside of class) to chapter preparation, lecture review, on-line bookkeeping exercises, readings and assignments, and a further 30 hours on preparing for the test and exam.

Prescription

A comprehensive perspective on financial reporting, including current New Zealand GAAP for both the private and public sectors, and recognition of revenue, assets and liabilities.

Course Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- a) Demonstrate proficiency in bookkeeping.
- b) Explain and evaluate the nature of financial accounting in relation to the variety of contexts for accounting information, the users and uses of accounting information, and the limitations of accounting information.
- c) Explain the primary financial statements (including the Balance Sheet and Income Statement) and describe their link to the accounting equation.
- d) Explain the nature of regulatory frameworks shaping private and public sector accounting in New Zealand.
- e) Explain the centrality of assets and liabilities to the accounting system.
- f) Describe, explain and evaluate the application of revenue- and asset-specific NZ IFRS and IPSAS relating to identification, recognition and measurement.
- g) Describe, explain and evaluate the application of liability specific NZ IFRS relating to identification, recognition and measurement e.g. contingent liabilities.

Course Content

This financial accounting course focuses on introducing and developing core theoretical and practical issues in respect of financial accounting. The course emphasises key issues that face accountants in practice and will help develop an understanding of how different contexts affect accounting and financial reporting. This involves a thorough grounding in the foundations of financial accounting knowledge including the role of regulation, the integrated nature of the primary financial statements, and the variety of contexts, users, uses and limitations of financial accounting information.

Readings

There is one **required text** for the course: Financial Accounting: An International Introduction, 5th edition, David Alexander, and Christopher Nobes
ISBN-10: 0273773437 • ISBN-13: 9780273773436, Pearson

In addition a course materials book *Selected International Financial Reporting Standards* will be compiled by the Lecturer. Copies will be given to students before the first lecture.

Please see below for information about taking this course materials book into the examination.

Bookkeeping course

AME Learning's Pre-MBA Online Financial Accounting Course is an online, self-paced, accelerated program that typically takes students 15 to 20 hours to complete. The course gives students a thorough primer on basic and advanced financial accounting concepts. Upon completion, students will learn to understand, prepare and analyse financial statements. Throughout the course, the Course Coordinator will monitor and track student progress and performance on tests and quizzes. Students are required to commit to steady progress in the homework on a weekly basis in weeks 3 – 6.

Materials and Equipment

Relevant teaching materials, extra readings, practice examples, assignments, etc. will be provided for students on an ongoing basis, primarily on Blackboard. The *Selected International Financial Reporting Standards* is permitted to be taken into the examination. This must not be marked in any way with any hand-writing. Any copies found with any writing may not be used in such assessments. Silent non-programmable calculators will be required in class, tests and the exam.

Assessment

The Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

| Assessment Item | Specification | % | Date/Time/Location | Course Learning Objectives Covered |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|--|------------------------------------|
| Academic Integrity Quiz* | tbc | - | Monday March 9 th 1pm on-line (Blackboard) | - |
| Assignment One | 3 questions | 7.5 | Due 2 pm March 25 th Mezzanine floor of Rutherford House | b,d |
| In-class Test | 50 minutes | 15 | Monday April 20 th 5.40 pm in GB LT 3 | b,c,d |
| Bookkeeping Test | 50 minutes | 10 | Monday May 4 th 5.40 pm, in GB LT 3 | a |
| Assignment Two | 3 questions | 7.5 | Due 2 pm May 27 th Mezzanine floor of Rutherford House. | e,f |
| Final Exam | 180 minutes, Closed Book | 60 | During the examination period | a, b,c,d,e,f,g |

*Please refer to the following link on academic integrity and plagiarism:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

The scope of the final exam may cover all material in the course including double entry bookkeeping.

All students must complete the *Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Tutorial* available on the Blackboard site **MPA Student Information>Academic Integrity**. This tutorial will be available from Monday 2nd March and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. The Academic Integrity Quiz will be available in the same location on Monday 9th March from 1pm. The Quiz is set to be completed within 10 minutes, and you can refer to any material you want, including the *Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Tutorial*. You must obtain a minimum of 70% in this Quiz. There will be a re-sit opportunity at the end of week 2.

All students must sit the Bookkeeping Test in Week 8 at 5.40 pm in GB LT3. Re-sit in week 9 at 4.30, room tba. If a student passes the Bookkeeping Test on the first sitting, that student is not permitted to sit the Bookkeeping Test a second time to get an improved mark.

Your two assignments may be completed in pairs, but by no more than two people. Please make sure you provide both names, share the load, and share your learnings/understandings, for such assessments. Any alternative sources that you use must be appropriately referenced. Refer to the academic staff if you are uncertain on appropriate referencing styles.

Please refer to the following link on academic integrity and plagiarism:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Penalties

- ***Assignments***

Assignments must be handed in on or before the due date and time into the marked collection box on the Mezzanine floor of Rutherford House. No assignment will be accepted **for assessment purposes** after the deadline. However, because it is a mandatory course requirement that a reasonable attempt is made in this assessment item, late items must be submitted to enable an assessment of whether the mandatory course requirement has been met.

An extension or waiver (with no penalty) will be considered on the grounds of exceptional personal circumstances. Students must complete the 'Assignment Extension/Waiver Application Form' available on Blackboard and submit the form (with the relevant supporting documentation) to MPA Administrator, preferably before the assignment due date.

Note: The submission of an application does not mean that the extension has been approved. Penalties, as detailed above, will apply if the extension is not granted.

- ***Tests***

Unjustifiable absences from tests will result in a mark of 'zero' for that test and may result in a student not meeting mandatory course requirements.

Students unable to take scheduled tests due to exceptional circumstances, must complete the 'Consideration of Exceptional Personal Circumstances for Tests Application Form' available on Blackboard. Submit this form to MPA Administrator as early as possible, preferably before the test date.

Note: The submission of an application does not mean that the test requirement has been changed or waived. Penalties, as detailed above, will apply if it is not successful.

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.

Examinations

Students who enrol in courses with examinations are obliged to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period. The final examination for this course will be scheduled at some time during the following period:

Friday 12th June – Wednesday 1st July (inclusive)

Mandatory Course Requirements

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

- Complete the Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Tutorial; and
- Pass the online Academic Integrity Quiz with a mark of 70% or more; and
- Pass the Bookkeeping test with a mark of 75% or more; and
- Make a reasonable attempt at all assignments

If you do not pass the first Academic Integrity Quiz with a mark of 70% or more, there will be a second opportunity to sit the test in the following week (details to be confirmed).

If you do not pass the first Bookkeeping Test with a mark of 75% or more, there will be a second opportunity to sit the test in the following week. However, the maximum mark that can be given for a second attempt is 75%.

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: <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Urgent notices will be circulated by email.

Student feedback

Any feedback is considered and followed up.

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.

Teaching Programme

| | Date | Topic | Chapter | IFRS or IPSAS | Workshop |
|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | March 2 | Introduction Some Fundamentals | Chpt 1 and Chpt 2 | | SPIRAL and the IFAC CoE |
| 2 | March 9 | Academic Integrity Workshop Framework and Concepts | Chpt 3 | IFRS and IASB Conceptual Framework | Ethics questions; Tweedie on IFRS |
| Week 2: Academic Integrity Test March 9th 1pm | | | | | |
| 3 | March 16 | Introduction to bookkeeping Regulation of accounting; public sector issues, the IASB and IPSASB | Chpt 4, part of Chpt 5 | Handbook of the NZ Regulatory Environment | Culture and financial reporting: “109 Voices” |
| 4 | March 23 | Content of Financial statements | Chpt 6 | IAS 1 | Corporate Governance codes and ethics |
| Week 4: Assignment one due 2 pm March 25th | | | | | |
| 5 | March 30 | Financial statement analysis | Chpt 7 | | Ratios for your own company |
| Mid-trimester break Friday 3 April – Sunday 19 April | | | | | |
| 6 | April 20 | Elements in Financial statements, Revenue recognition (Public sector) | Chpt 8 | As above plus PBE IPSAS 23 | FASB cases of Revenue Recognition |
| Week 6: April 20th In-class Mid-trimester test 5.40 pm for 50 minutes | | | | | |
| 7 | April 27 | Anzac Day Holiday | No class | | |
| | May 1 Friday | Cash Flow statements | Chpt 13 | IAS 7 | Cash Flows and Profit: the link |
| 8 | May 4 | Tangible assets | Chpt 9 | IAS 16 | Heritage Assets in NZ |
| Week 8: May 4th Bookkeeping test 5.40 pm for 50 minutes | | | | | |
| 9 | May 11 | Tangible assets (cont'd) & Impairment (Public sector) | Chpt 9 cont'd | IAS 16, PBE IPSAS 26 | A case study: Museums in NZ |
| 10 | May 18 | Inventories | Chpt 10 | IAS 2 | Fortex and Tesco: the issues |
| 11 | May 25 | Liabilities | Chpt 11 | IAS 37 | The James Hardie Case |
| Week 11: Assignment two due 2 pm May 27th | | | | | |
| 12 | June 1 | Queen's Birthday holiday | No class | | |
| 13 | June 8 | Earnings Management, and Revision | | | Critical estimates and uncertainties |