

School of Accounting and Commercial Law

## **ACCY 303 Fraud Auditing**

Trimester 2, 2016

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

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#### **Prescription**

The accountability of external auditors within a judgmental framework, including professional guidelines, technology impacts and current auditing research issues.

#### **Course Learning Objectives**

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

- understand what forensic accountants do.
- be familiar with different forms of fraud and the methods used to detect and prevent fraud.
- understand how technology is used to detect fraud and apply this knowledge.
- be better prepared to resist pressures to commit fraud by gaining familiarity with common ethical dilemmas present in the business world.
- evaluate alternative viewpoints regarding how and why frauds occur.

#### **Course Content**

The course topics are presented in the course outline on page 5.

#### **Trimester Dates**

Teaching Period: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Study Period: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Examination Period: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November (inclusive)

#### **Withdrawal from Course**

1. Your fees will be refunded if you withdraw from this course on or before Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016.
2. The standard last date for withdrawal from this course is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016. 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](#).

## Names and Contact Details

	Office	Telephone
<i>Course Coordinator and Lecturer</i>	Professor Jake Rose <a href="mailto:jake.rose@vuw.ac.nz">jake.rose@vuw.ac.nz</a> Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday 2pm – 3pm	RH 618 463 5779

My preferred method of contact is email, rather than telephone. I will respond to emails during business hours and will endeavour to respond within 24 hours. Please include ACCY303 in the subject line of your emails.

<i>Course Administrator</i>	Rachel Qi <a href="mailto:rachel.qi@vuw.ac.nz">rachel.qi@vuw.ac.nz</a> Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8.30am-5pm (Note: Office closed 10.30am-10.45am and 3.30pm-3.45pm)	RH 708 463 7465
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## Class Times and Room Numbers

Wednesday 11:30-12:20, RHMZ06

Friday 12:40-1:30, RHMZ06

## Tutorial Times

Wednesday 12:40-1:30, RWW102

## Attendance

Attendance is expected for all lectures and tutorials.

## Course Delivery

The course is delivered via lectures and tutorials, class discussion, and individual and group activities.

## Readings

Required textbook: *Fraud Examination*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, by W. Steve Albrecht, Chad O. Albrecht, Conan C. Albrecht, and Mark F. Zimbelman, South-Western Cengage Learning.

Supplementary notes and readings: Additional readings and outlines will be posted to the course Blackboard site.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to obtaining an overall course mark of 50 or better, students must achieve a minimum of 40% of the total marks for the test and exam.

If you believe your performance in this course regarding any of the specified mandatory course requirements is impeded by unforeseeable events (or circumstances such as sickness, bereavement of a close relative or other such personal difficulties), you should contact me by email as soon as is reasonably possible. **Do not delay this until the end of the course or until after final results are posted.**

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/)

## Expected Workload

You should expect to spend on average 10 hours per week on the course. This includes attendance at all lectures, reading assigned materials, attending tutorials, completing labs, preparing assessments, and preparing for the test and exam.

Unless you keep up with the course work, you are likely to face considerable problems catching up in order to be adequately prepared for the test and final exam. In order to benefit from lectures you should complete the weekly readings **before** the lecture.

Attending lecture and tutorials is essential because we will cover material that is not in the text, we will engage in discussions, and we will complete problems/cases during lecture/tutorial.

## Assessment Requirements

The Assessment Handbook will apply to all VUW courses: see <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>.

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

Item of assessment	Course Learning Objectives	Weighting	Due Dates
Case Study	All	10%	10 October
Computer Labs	All	15%	See outline
Mid-Term Test	All	35%	17 August
Final Exam	All	40%	See 'Examination' below

## Test

There will be a 75 minute test during class time on **17 August**.

## Labs

The tutorial sessions will involve labs where you will learn to use databases and Excel to analyse data sets in order to seek out and detect fraud. These labs will require the application of database and other technology skills to fraud assessment tasks.

## Fraud Case

The project involves the analysis of a fraud case and preparation of a short paper. Details of the paper and requirements for the case study will be posted on the Blackboard site.

## Examination

The final 3-hour examination will cover the entire course content.

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 held during the final examination period of the University:

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November (inclusive)

## **Penalties**

The assignment must be handed in on or before the due date and time. In fairness to other students, any assignment submitted after the deadline will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the total marks available for every day or part of a day (including Saturdays and Sundays) that the assignment is submitted late. For example, an assignment marked out of 100 due by 2pm on Monday 1 January but submitted at 1pm on Wednesday 3 January, would have 10 marks deducted.

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

## **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.

## **Materials and Equipment**

All material will be available on Blackboard.

## **Student feedback**

The class was updated this trimester to reflect recent changes in fraud auditing practice.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## **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 will be communicated during lectures or via Blackboard. You **must** check Blackboard regularly.

## **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.

## Tentative Lecture Schedule

Discussion items or readings may change depending upon the availability of professionals to visit class. Monitor the Blackboard site for updates.

<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
13, 15 July	Introduction	Text: Chapter 1	
20, 22 July	Why People Commit Fraud	Text: Chapter 2 Database (BB)	
27, 29 July	Fighting Fraud	Text: Chapter 3 Database (BB)	
3, 5 August	Preventing Fraud	Text: Chapters 4 Queries (BB)	<b>Lab 1 (3 Aug)</b>
10, 13 August	Detecting Fraud	Text: Chapter 5,6 Benford Handout (BB)	
17, 19 August	<b>Mid Term Test</b>		<b>Mid Term Test (17 Aug)</b>
<b>MID-TRIMESTER BREAK (22 August to 4 September)</b>			
7, 9 September	Investigating Thefts and Concealments	Text: Chapter 7,8	<b>Lab 2 (7 Sep)</b>
14,16 September	Inquiry Methods	Text: Chapter 10	
21, 23 September	Inquiry Methods	Text: Chapter 10 Articles (BB)	<b>Lab 3 (21 Sep)</b>
28, 30 September	Financial Statement Fraud	Text: Chapter 11 Articles (BB)	
5, 7 October	Financial Statement Fraud	Text: Chapter 12	
12, 14 October	Financial Statement Fraud	Text: Chapter 13	<b>Fraud Case (14 Oct)</b>

**Abbreviations:** BB = Blackboard