

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF BUSINESS (AOIS)

ACCOUNTING 481: Accounting Honors Seminar II
COURSE OUTLINE

Course Webpage: on Blackboard System

Instructor: Karim Jamal
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Term 2, January 2017
Class Time: Tuesday 13.00 – 15.50 (BUS 4-5)

Required Text:

Required material will be handed out in class or be available on ulearn.

Course objectives and organization

The objectives of this course are:

1. To review and apply some fundamental accounting concepts.
2. To develop your communications skills by means of discussion, presentations, and case reports.
3. To introduce you to accounting research and its approaches.

During the term, most class days will be devoted to discussion. **You are expected to be fully prepared for each case; everyone will be expected to be actively involved in all classes.**

Learning outcomes

The following are the expected learning outcomes of this course. Students by the end of the course will have learned and demonstrate the ability to perform the following:

Analysis and Critical thinking

- Read, summarize and critically evaluate issues relating to accounting and auditing.
- Use a research oriented approach to analyze issues.

Communication

- Engage in within-class discussions, providing effective input.
- Effectively communicate ideas in case reports.

Integrity/values

- Act with academic integrity.
- Understand ethical issues and their importance in accounting and management.
- Respect for others (and their ideas) in case discussions.

Project management

- Self-regulation and team work skills

Evaluation

Your grade for the course will be based on:

- a) Select five of the 8 “hand in assignments” (10% each, or 50% total); You can do all 8 if you like and choose the top 5 for your grade
- b) A paper on one of the following topics (50%):
 - i. CSR Reporting
 - ii. Which current accounting standards are good, and which are bad? Explain
 - iii. Can auditing be re-professionalized? Explain
 - iv. Should auditors assume more responsibility for detecting fraud? If Yes, what additional skills would they need?
 - v. Should we change the way accounting standards are set? Explain.

The paper is due on April 18.

Absolute and complete academic honesty is expected of you in this course. It is important for you as a student to behave in an ethical manner. Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses. If you are unsure about what constitutes cheating / plagiarism please review the Code of Student Behavior in the University Calendar or review the Code of student behavior at www.ualberta.ca/~unisecr/appeals.htm. Note that the code also considers aiding and abetting others in the commission of an academic offense to be an offense. If any cheating is suspected, the student involved, and any other student(s) who assisted him (her) will face disciplinary procedures.

Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENT
Jan. 10	Introduction		
Jan. 17***	What should the scope of accounting be?	Deegan and Unerman (2011) ch 9	Farah Araj (Deloitte) visit Should understand terms such as a. CSR Report b. Integrated report c. GRI
Jan. 24	The conceptual framework and materiality	Deegan and Unerman (2011) ch 6 Ariely (2012)	What is the implication of Ariely 2012 for Our response to fraud and materiality? Hand In Question #1: Is a Conceptual framework useful for accounting? Explain
Jan. 31	What is a good accounting standard in a world of transaction structuring?	Oilsands case Revenue recognition case Lehman Brothers Godsell and Welker 2012 Cormier Magnan Burgstahler and Dichev 1997	Hand In Question #2: Does the new Revenue Recognition Standard Show that Standard Setters learned key lessons from the Leasing Debacle?
Feb. 7	Fraud, misstatements and going concern	Majors 2015	Was Conrad Black's non-compete payment fraud? Why did Anil Kumar divulge confidential information to a Hedge fund trader? Steve Jobs did options backdating- is that fraud?
Feb 14	Professionalism / Ethics	IESBA Code 2015 Zeff Part I and II Gaynor et al 2006 Jamal et al 2015	Consolidata Case Livent Case Hand In Question #3: What alternative Should the auditor choose for each client on the Fund of Funds case? Explain
Feb 21	READING WEEK		
Feb 28	Risk Management	Kaplan & Mikes (2012). Power 2004	Philip Stack (U of A VP) Visit

March 7	Auditing	Mayhew and Pike 2004 Fiolleau et al 2013 Kinney et al 2004 Jamal and Sunder 2011 California Restaurants	Bob Young (KPMG - Toronto) Visit Hand in Question #4: For the New Audit Report – should we a. Report KAMs? b. Grade Financial Statements? c. Create version of AAA Beef?
March 14	Leadership / Accounting Classics: Part 1	MS Book Part 1: Becoming a Leader Ch 3,4,5	Classics Book 1, 2 Hand in Question #5
March 21	Leadership / Accounting Classics: Part 2	MS Book Part 2: Leaders and Followers Ch 6,7	Classics Book 3, 4 Hand in Question #6
March 28	Leadership / Accounting Classics: Part 3	MS Book Part 3: Leaders and Society Ch 8,9	Classics Book 5, 6 Hand in Question #7
April 4	Leadership / Accounting Classics: Part 4	MS Book Part 4: On Becoming Oneself Ch 10, 11, 12	Classics Book 7.8 Hand in Question #8
April 11	Standardization/ Regulation	Deegan and Unerman (2011) ch 3 Jamal, Maier and Sunder 2003	How should Accounting Standards be set?