**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**

**Whitman School of Management**

**Lubin School of Accounting**

**ACC 252 Managerial Accounting**

**Fall 2012**

**Professor:** Xiaohong Harris

**Email:** xfharris@syr.edu

**Office:** WSOM 013

**Office Hours:**  Tuesdays/Thursdays 3:00 – 4:00pm;

and by appointment or whenever I am in my office

**Prerequisite:** ACC 151

**Text:** **Introduction to Managerial Accounting, Brewer, Garrison, Noreen, 6th ed.,**

McGraw-Hill/Irwin ISBN 978-0-07-802541-9 or MHID 0-07-802541-9

The text is available at the SU Bookstore (at Schine Student Center). Soft cover edition of the text is also available. **Please bring your textbook to every class as we will refer to it often. You are expected to read assigned text chapters before class.**

A basic FOUR FUNCTION NON-PROGRAMMABLE calculator is necessary during class and for all exams. TI-83’s (and related models), cell phones with a calculator and/or camera function or any other calculator that can be programmed with text or formulas are strictly prohibited for exams. If this presents undue hardship, then an allowable calculator will be provided. If necessary, TI-83’s (and related models) will be subject to random inspections. NO sharing of calculators will be allowed during exams.

**Course Description:**

The purpose of this course is to exam how managers make decisions using accounting information. Even though we will focus on manufacturing organizations, the same or similar managerial accounting tools/information are used by all types of businesses in conducting their daily operations. In your future professional career you will see both financial and managerial accounting systems in your organizations. This class is built upon the financial accounting knowledge you learned in your introductory financial accounting class and goes beyond that to examine the internal management’s side of how they use accounting information to run day to day operations, make effective decisions and evaluate these decisions.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Understand the role accounting information plays in decision making across all functional areas of management.
2. Identify the various cost classifications and understand in what circumstances each is appropriate.
3. Employ cost allocation methods and cost-volume-profit techniques appropriately.
4. Understand the importance of the budgeting process and performance measures in an organization.
5. Improve critical thinking and problem solving skills.

**After finishing this course, students should be able to:**

1. Classify a specific cost in terms of financial reporting, cost behavior, and decision-making
2. Summarize the transaction activity for a manufacturing business using journal entries, T-accounts, and financial statements
3. Calculate the unit cost of a manufactured product incorporating traditional and activity-based costing overhead allocation methods
4. Calculate a business’ break-even point, return on investment, and residual income, and interpret this information along with the implications associated with their use
5. Prepare a set of operating and financial budgets for a manufacturing organization
6. Make business decisions by relying on appropriate accounting information

**Blackboard:** Related course materials will be posted on Blackboard at <http://blackboard.whitman.syr.edu>. **You should review blackboard and your email frequently for the following types of information:**

1. Email **–** primary communication to all students regarding schedule changes, corrections, posting of new material, reminders, etc. **Please read your email!**
2. Documents – primary location of course materials
   1. Course Syllabus and Calendar
   2. Lecture Slides and other related materials– all slides are provided to you prior to class so you can focus on the content, not waste ink and paper copying down the words
   3. Sample Exams (not “Practice Exams”) – examples of previous exams that you are welcome to use as practice, but exact and/or specific questions are never repeated. Understanding content is far more important than memorizing answers to past questions.
3. Assignments – all assignments including **reading material to be quizzed** and **homework** will be posted with **due dates**. **Complete solutions will not be posted until assignments are handed in and reviewed in class or graded.**

**Optional Help Sessions/ Bonus Points:**

Unlike ACC 151, there is no required recitation section for this course. However, the academic rigor of the course lends itself to supplemental sessions being an asset to your success in this course. One help session will be offered on Fridays taught by a teaching assistant. Time and room locations are to be announced. You are encouraged to regularly attend these sessions to review material that is unclear. **To award those who make an effort to go to the help sessions, I will give out bonus points: for each help session you attend, you will receive two points of a perfect quiz score.**

Your teaching assistant information:

Name**:** Serena Hu

Email: xhu07@syr.edu, Office: 338

Office hours: TBA

**Course Requirements and Weights:**

Exam 1 20%

Exam 2 20%

Homework 10%

Quizzes 20%

Comprehensive Final 30%

* Quizzes – there will be quizzes throughout the semester **on material to be discussed that day** - **that is, material we have not yet discussed in class.** This will give you a great opportunity **to preview the material** to be covered in class, and I want to reward you for all your hard work. All quizzes are at the beginning of class and closed book. NO makeup quizzes will be given. If you have to miss a quiz for an appropriate reason and you let me know **before** class, I will substitute the average of the other quizzes. All quiz scores will be counted in deciding your final grade.
* Homework assignments - homework will be assigned for each chapter. **On the due date, I will select one assigned problem to be collected at the beginning of class. No late turning in or making up assigned problems. If you do not turn in the assignments on or before the due date, you will receive a zero for that assignment.** However, if you have an appropriate reason for being absent from a class and not turning in your homework on time, provided letting me know in advance, I will substitute the average of other homework assignments.
* Students are responsible for all material in an assigned chapter whether covered in class or not. Any material to be omitted from the exam will be announced in class.
* Two in-class exams will be given during the semester. NO makeup exams will be given except in extraordinary circumstances as determined by the instructor (supported by documentation from the Undergraduate Office, where necessary).
* The Comprehensive Final will be given as scheduled by the university during Finals Week.

**Attendance and Classroom Behavior:**

Attending class and actively participating in the course will improve your success in the course. Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Students are expected to be on time and to respect the ideas and opinions of other students. Disruptive behavior (e.g. arriving late, leaving early, conducting side conversations – electronically or verbally, web surfing) will not be tolerated. If you must leave the room during class, please discretely leave the classroom and return in like fashion (i.e. do not walk across the front of the room). The instructor reserves the right to reduce a student’s course grade for consistent behavior problems.

**Cell phones and computers:**

Any cell phone will be turned off for the duration of the class. If you must receive/make a call (or text), please discretely leave the classroom and return in like fashion. All computers must be turned off during class unless you are otherwise instructed, or you must take class notes using a computer. NO web surfing is allowed during class as it is a distracting behavior to yourself and people around you. Again, I reserve the right to reduce your course grade for consistent behavior problems.

**Special Needs:**

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services(ODS), <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 begin\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting              (315) 443-4498      end\_of\_the\_skype\_highlighting for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented Disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.

You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs although I cannot arrange for disability-related accommodations.

**If you take exams at ODS, your exam must be scheduled at the same time as the in-class exam.** Your extended time can occur either before or after the scheduled exam time, but still run during the scheduled exam time. Taking the exam at a scheduled time before or after administration to the class is not allowed. Make sure that you schedule your appointment for the final now so that there are no problems later in the semester.

**Academic Integrity:**

Syracuse University sets high standards for academic integrity. Those standards are supported and enforced by students, including those who serve as academic integrity hearing panel members and hearing officers. The presumptive sanction for a first offense is course failure, accompanied by the transcript notation “Violation of the Academic Integrity Policy.” The standard sanction for a first offense by graduate students is suspension or expulsion. Students should review the Office of Academic Integrity online resource “[Twenty Questions and Answers About the Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy”](http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/faculty-resources) and confer with instructors about course-specific citation methods, permitted collaboration (if any), and rules for examinations. [The Policy](http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/) also governs the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verification of participation in class activities. Additional guidance for students can be found in the Office of Academic Integrity resource: ‘[What does academic integrity mean?](http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/what-does-academic-integrity-mean/)’”

The Whitman School of Management requires all students who take Whitman courses to certify in writing that they have read, understand, and agree to comply with the University's Academic Integrity Policy. Whitman students should have already completed a certification statement. All other students enrolled in this course are also required to complete a certification statement available in the Undergraduate Office (Suite 215) for undergraduate students, and MBA and MS Programs Office (Suite 315) for graduate students. Completed statements will be kept on file in these offices.

**Academic Integrity Rules for this Course:**

All work submitted for grading is expected to be the work of the individual. No similar submissions will be tolerated.

Any instance of an academic integrity violation in this class is deemed serious and will be dealt with severely. If you are observed/caught violating the policy, depending on the severity, your consequences will range from a zero for the assignment to an automatic “F” for the course (regardless of performance on other assignments). All instances will be reported to the undergraduate office for official documentation in your file and additional disciplinary action by the school if warranted at their discretion per the academic integrity policy. This additional disciplinary action could include suspension or expulsion from the school.

If you are awarded an automatic “F” by me for violating the policy, and if the official academic withdraw or drop deadline has not yet passed, I will not sign the necessary petition to let you out of the class and remove the “F” from your transcript.

Not knowing that an action was considered a violation of the school academic integrity policy (ignorance) is no excuse once caught and will not cause me to reduce or eliminate the punishment in the previous paragraph. If you have any questions as to whether or not an action would be considered a violation, please see me prior to completing the assignment and engaging in the questionable action. After the fact explanation is too late!

**Religious Obervances:**

SU’s religious observances policy, found at [http://supolicies.syr.edu/emp\_ben/religious\_observance.htm](https://exchange.syr.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=5ba7e0be0dea4423aac031ac6d2bd62f&URL=http%3a%2f%2fsupolicies.syr.edu%2femp_ben%2freligious_observance.htm" \t "_blank), recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holy days according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes. For fall and spring semesters, an online notification process is available through MySlice/Student Services/Enrollment/My Religious Observances from the first day of class until the end of the second week of class.

**Grading:**

The Accounting Department has specific grading guidelines that set the same average for all of the entry-level courses, which is 2.7-3.0. Thus, I don’t set your particular grade. Rather, I set the distribution of the overall class to meet this, and then your grade is determined by how well you’ve done compared to everyone else in the class. Simply put, you have to beat the people around you to do well. I plan to curve every grading item to this same distribution, except the points awarded for extra credit, if that is offered. At the end, I just average all of the items to arrive at a final grade.

**Course Structure (See Attached Calendars for more detail):**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Part I Introduction to Managerial Accounting and Accounting for Manufacturing Organizations** | | |
| Weeks 1 - 6 | | |
|  | Chapter 1 | Introduction to Managerial Accounting |
|  | Chapter 2 | Job-Order Costing |
|  | Chapter 3 | Activity-Based Costing |
| **Part II Planning** | | |
| Weeks 7 - 10 | | |
|  | Chapter 5 | Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis |
|  | Chapter 6 | Variable Costing and Segment Reporting |
|  | Chapter 7 | Profit Planning |
| **Part III Controlling** | | |
| Weeks 11 - 13 | | |
|  | Chapter 7 | Profit Planning |
|  | Chapter 9 | Decentralization |
| **Part IV Decision Making** | | |
| Weeks 14 - 15 | | |
|  | Chapter 10 | Differential Analysis for Decision Making |

| ◄ [Jul 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/July-Calendar/July-2012-Calendar.html) | **~ August 2012 ~** | | | | | [Sep 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/September-Calendar/September-2012-Calendar.html) ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28  **Course Intro :**  **Syllabus Review /**  **Prologue** | 29 | 30  **Ch 1** | 31  **Friday Help Sessions: time and location TBD; will be updated on bb** |  |

| ◄ [Aug 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/August-Calendar/August-2012-Calendar.html) | **~ September 2012 ~** | | | | | [Oct 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/October-Calendar/October-2012-Calendar.html) ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | 3  Labor Day – No class | 4  **Ch 1** | 5 | 6  Ch 1 / Ch 2 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11  **Ch 2** | 12 | 13  Ch 2 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18  **Ch 2** | 19 | 20  Ch 3 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25  **Ch 3** | 26 | 27  **Review:**  **Ch 1, 2 & 3** | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |  | | | | | |

| ◄ [Sep 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/September-Calendar/September-2012-Calendar.html) | **~ October 2012 ~** | | | | | [Nov 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/November-Calendar/November-2012-Calendar.html) ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  | 1 | 2  **Exam I:**  **Ch 1, 2 & 3** | 3 | 4  **Ch 5** | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9  Ch 5 /  Exam I Discussion | 10 | 11  **Ch 5** | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16  **Ch 5 / Ch 6** | 17 | 18  **Ch 6** | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23  **Ch 6 /**  Review:  Ch 5 & 6 | 24 | 25  **Exam II:**  **Ch 5 & 6** | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30  **Ch 7 /**  **Exam II Discussion** | 31 |  | | |

| ◄ [Oct 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/October-Calendar/October-2012-Calendar.html) | **~ November 2012 ~** | | | | | [Dec 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/December-Calendar/December-2012-Calendar.html) ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  |  | 1  **Ch 7** | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6  Ch 7 / Ch 9 | 7 | 8  **Ch 9** | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13  Ch 9 | 14 | 15  **Ch 10** | 16 | 17 |
| 18  Thanksgiving break | 19  Thanksgiving break | 20  Thanksgiving break | 21  Thanksgiving break | 22  Thanksgiving break | 23  Thanksgiving break | 24  Thanksgiving break |
| 25  Thanksgiving break | 26 | 27  **Ch 10** | 28 | 29  Ch 10 | 30 |  |

| ◄ [Nov 2012](http://www.wincalendar.com/November-Calendar/November-2012-Calendar.html) | **~ December 2012 ~** | | | | | [Jan 2013](http://www.wincalendar.com/January-Calendar/January-2013-Calendar.html) ► |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4  **Course Review** | 5 | 6  **TBD** | 7  Last day of class | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |  | | | | |