



## UNSW Course Outline

# ACCT3601 Global Financial Reporting and Analysis - 2024

Published on the 25 Aug 2024

## General Course Information

**Course Code :** ACCT3601

**Year :** 2024

**Term :** Term 3

**Teaching Period :** T3

**Is a multi-term course? :** No

**Faculty :** UNSW Business School

**Academic Unit :** School of Accounting, Auditing and Taxation

**Delivery Mode :** In Person

**Delivery Format :** Standard

**Delivery Location :** Kensington

**Campus :** Sydney

**Study Level :** Undergraduate

**Units of Credit :** 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

Do you want to work for Goldmans in New York, Tencent in Shanghai or Bain in London? Or run a business with international operations? Planning on having investments with international diversification? In each case you will come across financial reports prepared under different

reporting environments. This course will help you understand why there are international differences in financial reporting rules and regulations, and what the key differences are. Most importantly, you will see why these differences matter when you are assessing accounting quality, undertaking valuation tasks, or analysing credit quality. Real-world examples and international databases are key learning tools in this course.

## **Course Aims**

The aim of this Course is to provide a practical understanding of the international dimensions of external business reporting and analysis. Students are introduced to the reporting issues faced by entities with cross-border operations and more than one stock exchange listing. International financial reporting standards are examined along with the diversity at national levels in the adoption of these standards and in the quality of the national assurance and enforcement mechanisms. This Course is offered by the School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation and may form part of an accounting major, double major, or a disciplinary minor within the Bachelor of Commerce or Bachelor of Economics degrees. ACCT2542 Corporate Financial Reporting and Analysis is a prerequisite for this Course.

## **Relationship to Other Courses**

The aim of this Course is to provide an understanding of the international dimensions of external business reporting and analysis. Students will learn why accounting rules vary across country, how they vary, and most importantly, what are the implications of global differences in accounting rules and related regulation. This Course is offered by the School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation and may form part of an accounting major, double major, or a disciplinary minor within the Bachelor of Commerce or Bachelor of Economics degrees. ACCT2542 Corporate Financial Reporting and Analysis is a prerequisite for this Course.

## Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes	Program learning outcomes
CLO1 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge
CLO2 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.	• PL01 : Business Knowledge
CLO3 : Evaluate and critically analyse international variation in non-GAAP reporting and ESG disclosures.	• PL03 : Business Communication
CLO4 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.	• PL03 : Business Communication • PL06 : Global and Cultural Competence
CLO5 : Analyse the impact of international differences in financial reporting and disclosure practices on capital market participants.	• PL02 : Problem Solving

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.	• Assessment 1: Video Presentation Feedback • Assessment 2: Recorded Video Presentation • Assessment 3: Assignment • Assessment 4: Final Assignment
CLO2 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.	• Assessment 1: Video Presentation Feedback • Assessment 2: Recorded Video Presentation • Assessment 3: Assignment • Assessment 4: Final Assignment
CLO3 : Evaluate and critically analyse international variation in non-GAAP reporting and ESG disclosures.	• Assessment 3: Assignment • Assessment 4: Final Assignment
CLO4 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.	• Assessment 1: Video Presentation Feedback • Assessment 2: Recorded Video Presentation • Assessment 3: Assignment • Assessment 4: Final Assignment
CLO5 : Analyse the impact of international differences in financial reporting and disclosure practices on capital market participants.	• Assessment 3: Assignment • Assessment 4: Final Assignment

## Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

## Learning and Teaching in this course

This Course is run as a series of 3-hour in-person seminars. This is an advanced undergraduate accounting elective Course and, as such, independent learning from students is expected. Note that the Course is based on real-world examples and empirical analysis using databases and excel, which require an advanced level of written and oral communication skills as well as technical skills.

It is up to you to choose how much work you do in each part of the Course: preparing for classes; completing discussion questions; completing assessment items; and seeking assistance or extra work to extend and clarify your understanding. You must choose an approach that best suits your learning style and goals in this Course. It is important to keep up-to-date as the material covered in each week builds on the material covered in prior weeks.

## Other Professional Outcomes

.

## Additional Course Information

.

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates	Program learning outcomes
Assessment 1: Video Presentation Feedback Assessment Format: Individual	5%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 11/10/2024 05:00 PM	• PLO3 : Business Communication
Assessment 2: Recorded Video Presentation Assessment Format: Individual	15%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 25/10/2024 05:00 PM Post Date: 01/11/2024 05:00 PM	• PLO3 : Business Communication • PLO2 : Problem Solving
Assessment 3: Assignment Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 08/11/2024 05:00 PM Post Date: 08/11/2024 05:00 PM	• PLO3 : Business Communication • PLO4 : Teamwork • PLO1 : Business Knowledge
Assessment 4: Final Assignment Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: 25/11/2024 08:00 AM Due Date: 28/11/2024 08:00 AM Post Date: 02/12/2024 05:00 PM	• PLO1 : Business Knowledge • PLO6 : Global and Cultural Competence

## Assessment Details

### Assessment 1: Video Presentation Feedback

#### Assessment Overview

This task requires students to demonstrate their understanding of business communications skills as well as understanding of key course concepts.

Assesses: PLO1, PLO3, PLO6

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.
- CL02 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.
- CL04 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.

#### Detailed Assessment Description

Each student will be assigned a trial video presentation and is required to provide feedback on

the video presentation. The feedback is due by 4pm on Friday 11 October (week 5). The feedback will allow you all to improve your presentations due for Assessment 2.

#### **Assessment Length**

2 pages

#### **Submission notes**

Typed or video response

#### **Assessment information**

See Moodle

#### **Assignment submission Turnitin type**

This is not a Turnitin assignment

#### **Generative AI Permission Level**

##### **Planning/Design Assistance**

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

## **Assessment 2: Recorded Video Presentation**

#### **Assessment Overview**

This task requires students to demonstrate their understanding of the key readings and concepts studied throughout the course and their ability to apply those concepts.

Assesses: PLO1, PLO2, PLO3, PLO6

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

- CL01 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.
- CL02 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.
- CL04 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.

### **Detailed Assessment Description**

Each student is asked to create a 5 minute recorded video segment which will explain a key concept in global financial reporting and analysis whilst also demonstrating some fundamental communication skills that could be applied within the business world.

### **Assessment Length**

5-10 minutes

### **Submission notes**

Video submission

### **Assessment information**

See Moodle for detailed task and submission notes

### **Assignment submission Turnitin type**

This is not a Turnitin assignment

### **Generative AI Permission Level**

#### **Planning/Design Assistance**

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

## Assessment 3: Assignment

### Assessment Overview

This task requires students to demonstrate their understanding of the key readings and concepts studied throughout the course and their ability to apply those concepts.

Assesses: PLO1, PLO2, PLO3, PLO5, PLO6

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.
- CL02 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.
- CL03 : Evaluate and critically analyse international variation in non-GAAP reporting and ESG disclosures.
- CL04 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.
- CL05 : Analyse the impact of international differences in financial reporting and disclosure practices on capital market participants.

### Detailed Assessment Description

Students will form teams and undertake a project demonstrating their understanding of key course topics. More details will be provided in the first seminar.

### Assessment Length

15 pages

### Submission notes

Written (typed) submission

### Assessment information

See Moodle for detailed instructions and submission guidelines

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

### Generative AI Permission Level

#### **Assistance with Attribution**

This assessment requires you to write/create a first iteration of your submission yourself. You are then permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your submission in the ways set out below.



Any output of generative AI tools, software or services that is used within your assessment must be attributed with full referencing.

If outputs of generative AI tools, software or services form part of your submission and are not appropriately attributed, your Convenor will determine whether the omission is significant. If so, you may be asked to explain your submission. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

## **Assessment 4: Final Assignment**

### **Assessment Overview**

This task requires students to demonstrate their understanding of the key readings and concepts studied throughout the course and their ability to apply those concepts.

Assesses: PLO2, PLO3, PLO5, PLO6

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

- CL01 : Describe international differences in financial reporting environments.
- CL02 : Explain the classification of accounting systems and the impact of differences in financial reporting.
- CL03 : Evaluate and critically analyse international variation in non-GAAP reporting and ESG disclosures.
- CL04 : Construct written and video recorded work which is logically and professionally presented.
- CL05 : Analyse the impact of international differences in financial reporting and disclosure practices on capital market participants.

### **Detailed Assessment Description**

The final exam will be cover weeks 1-10. It will be an online open-book exam which you will have 2 hours to complete. It will be held during the formal examination period.

### **Assessment Length**

72 hours

### **Submission notes**

Typed submission

### **Assessment information**

See Moodle

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

### Generative AI Permission Level

#### **Planning/Design Assistance**

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

## **General Assessment Information**

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

You are expected to complete all assessment tasks for your courses in the School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation. In some courses, there will be a minimum pass mark required on the final exam due to the need to assure individual mastery of specific course learning outcomes for accounting accreditation requirements. Where applicable this is explained in the assessment section of this course outline.

## AI policy

I expect you to use AI (ChatGPT, Bing and image generation tools, at a minimum) in this class. In fact, some work will require it. Learning to use AI is an emerging skill, and I will provide tutorials on Moodle and examples in class about how to use them.

Be aware of the limitations of ChatGPT and other LLMs:

- If you provide minimum effort prompts, you will get low quality results. You will need to refine your prompts in order to get good outcomes. This will take work.
- Don't trust anything it says. If it gives you a number, or fact, assume it is wrong unless you either know the answer or can check with another source. You will be responsible for any errors or omissions provided by the tool. It works best for topics you understand.
- AI is a tool, but one that you need to acknowledge using. Please include a paragraph at the end of any assignment that uses AI explaining what you used the AI for and what prompts you used to get the results.
- Be thoughtful about when this tool is useful. Don't use it if it isn't appropriate for the circumstance.

### Grading Basis

Standard

### Requirements to pass course

In order to pass this course, you must:

- achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100;
- meet any additional requirements described in the Assessment Summary section.

You are required to provide a reasonable attempt at all assessment requirements in the course.

## Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Seminar	Evolution and trends in accounting standards and enforcement
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Seminar	Role of financial information in capital markets and in contracting
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Seminar	IFRS, US GAAP, and other accounting standards
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Seminar	Non-GAAP performance measures
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Seminar	ESG reporting and analysis
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Other	Flexibility week
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Seminar	Cross-border M&As
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Seminar	International accounting quality
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Seminar	International equity analysis
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Seminar	International credit analysis

## Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

## General Schedule Information

N/A

## Course Resources

### Prescribed Resources

The website for this Course is on UNSW [Moodle](#). On this site, you will find the Course Outline, relevant seminar notes and discussion questions, important announcements, and prescribed weekly readings.

There is no prescribed textbook for this Course; instead, a series of prescribed readings and activities will be available on Course Moodle page each week.

### Recommended Resources

Required and additional readings will be posted on Moodle.

### Additional Costs

Nil.

## Course Evaluation and Development

Following on from major design updates in 2023, this course is taking far more applied approach. A key innovation is the inclusion of topics that will help you understand the implications of global variation in financial (& non-financial) reporting. In other words, why does this matter. It will involve far more database manipulation and analysis using Excel, and other software.

For T3, 2024 additional course notes or videos will be provided in response to feedback that additional explanatory materials would be helpful.

# Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Jeff Coulton		Quadrangle Building Room 3061	x55811	TBA	No	Yes

## Other Useful Information

### Academic Information

#### COURSE POLICIES AND SUPPORT

The Business School expects that you are familiar with the contents of this course outline and the UNSW and Business School learning expectations, rules, policies and support services as listed below:

- Program Learning Outcomes
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Student Responsibilities and Conduct
- Special Consideration
- Protocol for Viewing Final Exam Scripts
- Student Learning Support Services

Further information is provided on the [Policies and Guidelines](#) page.

Students may not circulate or post online any course materials such as handouts, exams, syllabi or similar resources from their courses without the written permission of their instructor.

#### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) – under the Outcomes tab – are what you should be able to demonstrate by the end of this course, if you participate fully in learning activities and successfully complete the assessment items.

CLOs also contribute to your achievement of the Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), which are developed across the duration of a program. PLOs are, in turn, directly linked to [UNSW graduate capabilities](#). More information on Coursework PLOs is available on the [Policies and Guidelines](#) page. For PG Research PLOs, including MPDBS, please refer to [UNSW HDR learning outcomes](#).

## Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Code of Conduct](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Code of Conduct, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

## Submission of Assessment Tasks

### SHORT EXTENSIONS

Short Extension is a new process that allows you to apply for an extended deadline on your assessment without the need to provide supporting documentation, offering immediate approval during brief, life-disrupting events. Requests are automatically approved once submitted.

Short extensions are ONLY available for some assessments. Check your course outline or Moodle to see if this is offered for your assessments. Where a short extension exists, all students enrolled in that course in that term are eligible to apply. Further details are available the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

### SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances beyond your control interfere with your performance in a specific assessment task or tasks, including online exams. Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable.

Applications can only be made online and will NOT be accepted by teaching staff. Applications will be assessed centrally by the Case Review Team, who will update the online application with the outcome and add any relevant comments. The change to the status of the application immediately sends an email to the student and to the assessor with the outcome of the application. The majority of applications will be processed within 3-5 working days.

For further information, and to apply, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

## **LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES**

### **LATE SUBMISSION PENALTIES**

For assessments other than examinations, late submission will incur a penalty of 5% per day or part thereof (including weekends) from the due date and time. An assessment will not be accepted after 5 days (120 hours) of the original deadline unless special consideration has been approved. In the case of an approved Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) provision, special consideration or short extension, the late penalty applies from the date of approved time extension. After five days from the extended deadline, the assessment cannot be submitted.

An assessment is considered late if the requested format, such as hard copy or electronic copy, has not been submitted on time or where the 'wrong' assessment has been submitted.

For assessments which account for 10% or less of the overall course grade, and where answers are immediately discussed or debriefed, the LIC may stipulate a different penalty. Details of such late penalties will be available on the course Moodle page.

## **FEEDBACK ON YOUR ASSESSMENT TASK PERFORMANCE**

Feedback on student performance from formative and summative assessment tasks will be provided to students in a timely manner. Assessment tasks completed within the teaching period of a course, other than a final assessment, will be assessed and students provided with feedback, with or without a provisional result, within 10 working days of submission, under normal circumstances. Feedback on continuous assessment tasks (e.g. laboratory and studio-based, workplace-based, weekly quizzes) will be provided prior to the midpoint of the course.

## **Faculty-specific Information**

### **PROTOCOL FOR VIEWING FINAL EXAM SCRIPTS**

UNSW students have the right to view their final exam scripts, subject to a small number of very specific exemptions. The UNSW Business School has set a [protocol](#) under which students may view their final exam script. Individual schools within the Faculty may also set up additional local processes for viewing final exam scripts, so it is important that you check with your School.

If you are completing courses from the following schools, please note the additional school-specific information:

- Students in the **School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation** who wish to view their final examination script should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Banking & Finance** should also refer to [this page](#).
- Students in the **School of Information Systems & Technology Management** should also refer to [this page](#).

## **COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Feedback is regularly sought from students and continual improvements are made based on this feedback. At the end of this course, you will be asked to complete the [myExperience survey](#), which provides a key source of student evaluative feedback. Your input into this quality enhancement process is extremely valuable in assisting us to meet the needs of our students and provide an effective and enriching learning experience. The results of all surveys are carefully considered and do lead to action towards enhancing educational quality.

## **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The Business School is actively monitoring student learning and quality of the student experience in all its programs. A random selection of completed assessment tasks may be used for quality assurance, such as to determine the extent to which program learning goals are being achieved. The information is required for accreditation purposes, and aggregated findings will be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Business School programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential.

## **TEACHING TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

Please note that teaching times and locations are subject to change. Students are strongly advised to refer to the [Class Timetable website](#) for the most up-to-date teaching times and locations.

## **School Contact Information**

The policies regarding staff contact in the School of Accounting, Auditing and Taxation are as follows:

- All questions regarding course administration should be directed to the Lecturer-in-charge.
- The full-time staff will be available for consultation starting from Weeks 2 to 10 and STUVAC



period.

- Consultation hours will be advised on the course Moodle page in a consolidated timetable.
- Students are encouraged to consult with staff during online consultation sessions. Consultation will not be provided via email or phone.
- Consultation times during STUVAC period will likely vary to the regular consultation during Term and be posted on the course webpage later in the Term.

While emails to staff should be a rare occurrence as noted above, in instances where it is warranted, please make sure that:

- You use your UNSW email address when corresponding with the teaching staff on this course. Emails from other addresses (such as Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo, 126, QQ, etc.) are not accepted and will not be replied to.
- You must use an appropriate communication level with staff. Emails and discussion forum posts that use short-hand and “Texting” language are not acceptable, and communication must be in English. If your email cannot be understood then staff will not reply.
- You must identify yourself by your full name, student ID and tutorial day and time.
- Please be aware that Staff will not necessarily reply to students to inform them if their emails are non-compliant.
- Full-time teaching staff only answer emails during regular working hours of Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Tutoring staff often have other jobs and require 48 hours within regular business office hours to reply to emails.

Complaints about the assessment and other aspects of this course should be directed in the first instance to the Lecturer-in-Charge (or Course Convenor) and if still unsatisfied with the response received then you are directed to contact the School of Accounting, Auditing & Taxation Grievance Officer, details available here: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/business/our-schools/accounting-auditing-taxation/contact-us>