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| Section 1: | Tuesday 12:30 PM – 3:20 PM | Pick Hall 016 |
| Section 2: | Tuesday 3:30 PM – 6:20 PM | Pick Hall 016 |
| Section 3: | Wednesday 12:30 – 3:30 PM | Pick Hall 016 |

Professor: Delphine Samuels

Office 439, Harper Center

Office hours: Thursdays 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm or by appointment

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Course description

Accounting is the language used to measure and communicate an entity's economic activity. A solid understanding of this language is important for being an informed user of financial statements. It requires us to consider how financial reporting information can be utilized, which, in turn, requires us to learn how corporate financial reports are prepared. To facilitate your learning, this class combines lectures and discussions of the assigned materials. The assigned cases serve as a basis for class discussion and provide a challenging test of your understanding of the topic. They are based on corporate financial statements and illustrate the issues associated with various accounting methods and the manner in which the related information is disclosed. Additionally, these cases demonstrate the real-world magnitude of income and balance sheet differences under alternative accounting methods, as well as a variety of financial reporting practices.

This course prepares students for more advanced finance and financial statement analysis courses. By the end of the course, you should have a basic understanding of (1) the fundamental concepts underlying financial reporting systems; (2) the role of judgments and estimates in the preparation of financial reports; (3) and how to read, analyze and interpret them.

Course materials

- *Course Website:* Course materials will be posted on <https://canvas.uchicago.edu/>. You will need a CNET ID and password to access Canvas.
- *Class Handouts:* Printed lecture handouts will be distributed before each class.
- *Textbook* (recommended but not required): Hard or electronic versions of 7th edition of Financial Accounting by Dyckman, Magee, and Pfeiffer (published by Cambridge Business Publishers) and access to myBusinessCourse (see instructions below).
- *Calculator for exams.* You can easily get by with a small calculator that just does simple arithmetic.

Last updated September 2023, subject to change.

Course grade

The following weights will be used in calculating your final grade:

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| Midterm exam | 30% |
| Final exam | 50% |
| Homework assignments | 10% |
| Quizzes | 5% |
| Classroom performance | 5% |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>100%</i> |

If your final exam score is higher than your midterm score, the midterm score will be updated by the score on the final exam. In such cases, the final exam is worth 80% of your final grade.

Exams

The midterm and the final exams will be closed book and closed notes. Please bring a calculator that does not have outside access (i.e., no internet, phone, or texting capabilities).

Please have your name card displayed during the examinations.

All students should plan to take both exams at the scheduled time for their section. The midterm exam will be administered in class during Week 6. The final exam date and time will be administered during exam week and is TBD. Make-up exams are not possible.

I do not return final exams, although a student can arrange a time with my faculty assistant to look over his or her final exam at my faculty assistant's office and decide about a request to re-grade. Requests to re-grade an exam must be made *in writing within one week of when the midterm exam is returned or final exam is graded*. The entire exam will be re-graded, which may result in a higher or lower grade.

Classroom performance

Classroom performance is comprised of participation in class discussions, preparation for class, and attendance during class. Your class participation grade will be based on your contribution to class discussion, not based on the amount of time you talk. Note that comments or questions made before or after class, in email correspondence or in phone discussions, while welcome, will not be counted toward class participation.

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Self-study problems

Several self-study problems from the textbook are assigned for each class, but are optional. Solutions to the self-study problems will be posted on Canvas. The self-study problems can be also found on myBusinessCourse (see instructions below).

myBusinessCourse Signup Instructions

| Course Name | Course ID | Student Enrollment Link |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| BUSN 20100 Financial Accounting | 1097-6902-9254 | https://mybusinesscourse.com?code=1097-6902-9254 |

ACCESS OPTIONS

Option 1: Enter Access Code

Locate the access code inside your new textbook OR if you've purchased an eBook check your email

Option 2: Purchase eBook (w/Course Access)

Access to myBusinessCourse is free with the purchase of an eBook.

Option 3 Purchase Course Access Only

If you do not have an access code from a new textbook or eBook purchase, you can purchase access to your course only.

REGISTRATION WITH STUDENT ENROLLMENT LINK

Use the following steps to enroll in your course using an enrollment link.

1. Follow, or copy and paste, the **enrollment link** into your browser.
2. You should be redirected to the **Enroll** page for your course.
3. Click **Enroll**.
4. If logged in, continue. Otherwise, you should be redirected to the **Login or Register** page.
5. **Create an account or login** with an existing account.
6. You should be redirected to the **Payment Options** page.
7. Choose an available **purchase option**.
8. If you used an access code, you will be redirected to your *My Subscriptions* page and should see your new subscription.
Otherwise, you will be redirected to your cart: Confirm the items in your cart are correct and **proceed to checkout**.

STUDENT SUPPORT

To contact support directly, please visit: <https://mybusinesscourse.com/support>

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Graded homework assignments

Graded homework assignments are due *before noon on Tuesdays*. **Assignments submitted late will not be considered.** All assignments must be submitted electronically via Canvas. I will drop your lowest homework score.

Weekly graded homework assignments are often based on real financial statements. These assignments are intended to enhance your understanding of real-world companies' financial statements and transactions. In keeping with the complexity of real-world accounting issues, the material in the graded assignments is more challenging than the textbook self-study problems. Your write-up of the assignment should be *short and concise*, preferably no longer than one page, be computer-generated, and submitted as a PDF when possible. The assignments will be graded based mostly on the effort displayed.

You are allowed to discuss the assignments and prepare the write-ups in groups of **no more than three students**. You may work with students across sections, if you like. Note that to get the most out of these group assignments, I strongly recommend that each member works on each assignment individually *before* discussing it with the group to reconcile differences. **Even if you worked in a group, you must submit your individual copy of a write-up on Canvas to obtain credit.** By submitting the assignment, you confirm that you contributed to the homework assignment. *You may skip one homework assignment without any penalty.* Upload your homework to Canvas and fill in your group member names in the comment section. Make sure to click *submit*. Please do not email me or TA your homework.

Please also have a copy of the write-up to class for the discussion.

Quizzes

Short weekly quizzes will be administered on Canvas. The quizzes are open book/open notes. However, you must work alone. Please note that discussing the contents of a quiz with a student who has not yet taken it constitutes a violation of the Honor Code. Quizzes are due by *noon on Tuesdays*. I will drop your lowest quiz score.

Office hours

Office hours will be offered twice a week. Please consult Canvas for exact times and locations. Attendance is strictly optional; these sessions are designed only to provide additional help to students who are having trouble with the basic material. That is, they provide an opportunity to ask a question about the material covered in class and recommended self-study problems. Feel free to come and go; you are not obligated to stay for the entire session.

Please use Discussions on Canvas to ask TAs specific questions about material we covered in class. Allow for some time before they answer. If you have administrative questions, please email me directly.

Policy on incomplete grades

An incomplete grade "I" will be awarded to students who meet class requirements and demonstrate their efforts in learning the material but are unable to take the final exam due to an unforeseen emergency. An incomplete grade is not a substitute for a failing grade. Additional information is available on the [college website](#). Please request permission from the Registrar if you would like a "Pass/Fail" grade.

Chicago Booth honor code:

Any communication among students during the exam is strictly forbidden. Students are not permitted to discuss any part of an exam (including both questions and answers) with other students until the exam has been taken by all the sections of this course, including the sections of other professors. *"No student shall represent another's work as their own. No person shall receive disallowed assistance of any sort, or provide disallowed assistance to another student, at any time before, during, or after an examination or with respect to other graded work for a course."*

Students will be required to sign the following honor pledge on each exam: *"I pledge my honor that I have not violated the Honor Code during this examination."*

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Accommodations for this course

The University of Chicago is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the University's programs or services, please contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. To receive a reasonable accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with Student Disability Services. Please contact the office at 773-702-6000/TTY 773-795-1186 or disabilities@uchicago.edu, or visit the website at disabilities.uchicago.edu. The Student Disability Services office is located at 5501 S. Ellis Avenue.

If you have an approved accommodation from Student Disability Services that you plan to use in this course, please contact Academic Services (AcademicServices@lists.chicagobooth.edu) as soon as possible. Academic Services will provide support to you and your instructor and coordinate the details of your accommodations on your behalf.

Class courtesy

Students are expected to be in their seats with their cell-phones turned off prior to the start of the class. Laptop computers are allowed in class to make notes or read class related materials. Browsing internet (including social networks websites) and chatting is not allowed. Such activities during the class distract other students.

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Course Outline and Specific Assignments

All self-study questions come from the textbook (questions in **bold** are available on MyBusinessCourse).

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| Week 1 Tuesday Sept 26 Wednesday Sept 27 | Introduction to accounting and statement of financial position <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 1, Chapter 2 <i>Self-study:</i> M1-24, P1-38, C1-49, M2-25, E2-34, E2-47, E2-48 |
| Week 2 Tuesday Oct 3 Wednesday Oct 4 | Understanding income and cash flow statements <i>Week 1 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> DNA Storage, Inc. <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 3, Chapter 4 <i>Self-study:</i> M3-34, M3-35, E3-39, E3-40, P3-57, P3-58, M4-22, E4-42, E4-43 |
| Week 3 Tuesday Oct 10 Wednesday Oct 11 | Interpreting revenue and accounts receivable <i>Week 2 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> Statement of Cash Flows: Three Examples <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 6 <i>Self-study:</i> M6-16, M6-17, M6-18, M6-19, E6-40, E6-41, E6-45, P6-54, P6-55 |
| Week 4 Tuesday Oct 17 Wednesday Oct 18 | Interpreting cost of goods sold and inventories <i>Week 3 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> Spartan Race, Inc. <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 7 <i>Self-study:</i> M7-18, M7-19, E7-29, E7-33, P7-36 |
| Week 5 Tuesday Oct 24 Wednesday Oct 25 | Fixed assets and Midterm review <i>Week 4 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> Kroger: Inventories <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 8 (8-1 – 8-16) <i>Self-study:</i> M8-11, E8-28, E8-29, E8-32, E8-33, P8-44, P8-46 |
| Week 6 Tuesday Oct 31 Wednesday Nov 1 | Midterm Examination (closed book, closed notes) <i>No quiz due</i> <i>No assignment due</i> |

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| Week 7 Tuesday Nov 7 Wednesday Nov 8 | Intangible assets and long-term debt <i>Week 5 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> Coca-Cola Company <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 8 (8-17 – 8-24), Chapter 9 <i>Self-study:</i> M8-19, E8-36, E8-37, E9-41, P8-45 EA-2, EA-15, M9-36, M9-37, E9-47, E9-48, E9-54 P9-55, P9-65, P9-66, P9-67, P9-72, P9-73 |
| Week 8 Tuesday Nov 14 Wednesday Nov 15 | Investments and shareholders' equity <i>Week 7 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignment due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> Allscripts Healthcare Solutions, Inc. HP Long-Term Debt <i>Reading:</i> Chapter 11, Chapter 12 (12-1 – 12-17) <i>Self-study:</i> M12-13, E12-30, E12-31, E12-43, P12-59, M11-42, P11-68, P11-69 |
| Week 9 Tuesday Nov 28 Wednesday Nov 29 | Comprehensive review <i>Week 8 quiz due by 12 pm Tuesday on Canvas</i> <i>Assignments due by 12 pm Tuesday (submit on Canvas by 12 pm):</i> JP Morgan Kansas City Zephyrs Baseball Club, Inc. |