

## Advanced Diploma in Corporate Financial Reporting (520) – Financial Accounting Theory

Prerequisites: Knowledge of Accounting.	Corequisites: A pass or higher in Diploma in
	Accounting & Finance or equivalence.

**Aim:** An introduction to the development of financial accounting theory; the relationship of accounting theory and research to standard setting; discussion of the current standard setting environment. The course examines several current measurement and disclosure issues in financial reporting; including: measurement models, measuring and reporting pensions, financial reporting of corporate income taxes, etc. The emphasis is on developing both professional judgement in decision making and a defensible approach to using the authoritative and other relevant literature. The looks also looks at general theory and concepts of financial accounting and the generally accepted principles as applied to assets, liabilities, and related income items. Exposure to related official financial accounting pronouncements. It then continues the in-depth examination of the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles guiding the preparation of corporate financial statements. The topics addressed include advanced issues in accounting for Stockholder's Equity, the calculation and disclosure of earnings per share, investments, revenue recognition issues, accounting for income taxes, pensions, leases, and the accounting for and disclosure of accounting changes. The course provides intensive study of financial accounting theory and generally accepted accounting principles. Areas emphasized are income measurement, valuation of tangible and intangible assets, and accounting for liabilities and shareholders' equity. Proper financial statement presentation and disclosure are covered in detail.

Required Materials: Recommended Learning
Resources.

Supplementary Materials: Lecture notes and tutor extra reading recommendations.

**Special Requirements:** The course requires a combination of lectures, demonstrations and discussions.

Intended Learning Outcomes:	Assessment Criteria:	
1. Explore the terms "assumptions",	1.1 Define theory	
"principles", "rules", "concepts", "postulates",	1.2 Outline uses of accounting theories	
"standards" used in approaches to Accounting Theory	1.3 Discuss the purpose of studying accounting theory	
	1.4 Explore accounting theory practices and principles	
	1.5 Describe conceptual framework	
	1.6 Analyse the requirements of critical	
	thinking and effective writing skills	
2. Describe Financial Accounting	2.1 Outline uses of financial statements	
Regulations and examples of Financial Reporting	2.2 Discuss Accounting Standards	
Standards	2.3 Analyse reasons for financial accounting regulations	
	2.4 Discuss the accounting profession	
3. Explore accounting standards setting	3.1 Explore Accounting legislations	
process and outline the characteristic of the	3.2 Analyse public interest theory	
standards-setting process.	3.3 Describe advantages and disadvantages of capture theory	
	3.4 Discuss economic interest group theory	
	3.5 Outline Accounting Standards Board roles	
	3.6 Outline International Accounting	

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	Standards Board activities 3.7 Discuss Financial Reporting Standards
	3.8 Analyse UK Corporate Governance
	Code Corporate Governance
4. Define International Accounting practices and standards.	4.1 Discuss why countries adopt different accounting policies and practices
practices and standards.	4.2 Discuss standardisation vs harmonisation
	4.3 Explore objectives of IASB
	4.4 Outline International Financial
	Accounting models
	4.5 Analyse reasons for International
	Accounting differences
	4.6 Explore Hofstede's Gray model
	4.7 Describe the effects of international
	accounting standards on accounting
	practices of different nations.
5. Define Normative Accounting Theories	5.1 Describe advantages and disadvantages
and be able to compare and contrast positive vs	of historic cost accounting
normative theories.	5.2 Define Current Purchasing Power
	Accounting (CPPA)
	5.3 Describe Current Cost Accounting
	(CCA)
	5.4 Outline Continuously Contemporary
	Accounting (CoCoa)
	5.5 Describe advantages and disadvantages
	of conceptual framework
	5.6 Define Positive Accounting Theory (PAT)
6. Define Systems oriented theory	6.1 Describe Political Economy Theory
architecture and explore the relationship between	6.2 Analyse the role of public disclosure
organisations and government	6.3 Contrast accounting vs accountability
	6.4 Explore theories explaining why report
	6.5 Describe social accounting 6.6 Explore auditing principles
	6.7 Describe forensic accounting
	0.7 Describe forensic accounting
7. Describe Accounting Research topical	7.1 Discuss the importance of income
areas (Accounting Information Systems,	reporting
Auditing, Financial, Managerial and Tax) and	7.2 Describe behavioural research
Accounting Research Methodologies.	7.3 Analyse the role of accounting research
	7.4 Explore research process methodology
	7.5 Analyse forensic computer investigation issues
	7.6 Outline financial accounting research
	tools
	7.7 Explore capital maintenance concepts
	7.8 Analyse tax research goals

## **Recommended Learning Resources: Financial Accounting Theory**

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Text Books	<ul> <li>Financial Accounting Theory by Craig Deegan and Jeffrey Unerman. ISBN-10: 0077126734</li> <li>Financial Accounting Theory by William R. Scott. ISBN-10: 0132072866</li> <li>Introduction to Financial Accounting Theory by S Henderson and Graham Peirson. ISBN-10: 058271026X</li> </ul>
Study Manuals	BCE produced study packs
CD ROM	Power-point slides
Software	None