

School of Administrative Studies
Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies
York University

COURSE OUTLINE
Fall 2014 and Winter 2015
AP/ADMS 4520
Advanced Financial Accounting

Section	Day	Time	Location	Instructor	Start Date
A	Monday	4-7pm	ACW 104	Patricia Farrell pfarrell@yorku.ca	08-Sep-14
B	Monday	7-10pm	ACW 003	Patricia Farrell pfarrell@yorku.ca	08-Sep-14
C	Wednesday	7-10pm	ACW 002	Olga Alcalde ocalcalde@yorku.ca	10-Sep-14
D	Thursday	7-10pm	ACE 003	Olga Alcalde ocalcalde@yorku.ca	11-Sep-14
M	Friday	11:30 am – 2:30 pm	ACW 009	Patrice Gélinas gelinas@yorku.ca	09-Jan-15
N	Friday	4-7pm	ACW 003	Patrice Gélinas gelinas@yorku.ca	09-Jan-15
O	Saturday	8:30 - 11:30am	ACW 002	Patrice Gélinas gelinas@yorku.ca	10-Jan-15

Course Websites: <https://moodle.yorku.ca/moodle/>

Description

This final financial accounting course emphasizes accounting for international activities and inter-corporate investments. The application of accounting principles to case situations in specialized industries and non-profit organizations is also considered.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites: 1) For students in an Honours program, 78 credits including AK/ADMS 3595 3.00, AK/ECON 1000 3.00, or 2) for other students, these above-listed courses and an average grade of C+ or better in AK/ADMS 3585 3.00 and AK/ADMS 3595 3.00. Course credit exclusion: AK/ADMS 4520 3.00.

Notes

1. Students with outstanding deferred exams in prerequisite courses can not be enrolled in this course.
2. Students are personally responsible for ensuring that they have the necessary prerequisites for this course. Consequently, the department of administrative studies reserves the right to de-enroll any student when it is determined by the department that a student has requested a course without having the necessary listed prerequisites. Any enquiries regarding prerequisites should be cleared prior to registration.
3. Students are reminded that not all courses that are required for the completion of a given degree can be offered in every semester. Please note, therefore, that students must plan their course sequencing carefully in order to complete their chosen degree within the desired time frame.
4. Requests for late withdrawals from the course for students who did write the first midterm examination shall only be supported for compassionate or work-related reasons.

Course Objectives

In this course we will focus on advanced topics in accounting. Specifically, we will cover three broad areas of accounting: i) intercorporate investments, business combinations and consolidations, ii) foreign currency transactions and operations, and iii) not-for-profits and public sector financial reporting. In addition, we will also briefly discuss the topics of interim reporting and segmental disclosures. By nature such topics are highly theoretical and technical.

This course is of primary interest to students who intend to pursue a career in professional accounting. Indeed, it is inconceivable how a student who has not taken advanced accounting can honestly claim to be an accounting major. In this course, we will aim to hone your ability to recognize and resolve recording and reporting highly technical accounting issues keeping in mind the preparers and many users of accounting. We will emphasize relevant theory which will help you exercise your professional judgment in unique situations and technical application of the current accounting rules for presenting these advanced accounting topics.

Organization of the Course

While the material covered in this class is highly theoretic and technical the solutions are case specific. Further, mere technical knowledge will become fast outdated in the face of the rapid changes mentioned above. Rote learning will not suffice in these circumstances. Therefore, we will continue to build on the critical thinking skills you have developed, and the case approach of learning accounting you have encountered, in your earlier accounting courses at the School of Administrative Studies. Specifically, this course presumes that students have acquired the conceptual base of ADMS 3585 and ADMS 3595 and are prepared to deal with more complex technical issues.

The material that is required to be mastered in this class is vast and therefore impossible to cover completely in the limited class time we have. Therefore, students are expected to be able to study and comprehend most of the material on their own. Class time will be focused on the more complex aspects of the technical material and the discussion of the assigned problems and cases. Examinations, however, will cover all of the assigned material, including the articles assigned for reading and any material handed out in class. Examinations will not be restricted to the material explicitly discussed in class.

Assigned Reading

Readings for this course includes the following books. They are available for purchase from the York University bookstore.

1. Advanced Financial Accounting, Thomas H. Beechy, V. Umashanker Trivedi, and Kenneth MacAulay, 7th Edition, Pearson Canada.
2. Course material placed on the Course Website.

Recommended Reference Materials

IFRS and CICA Handbook (You should be able to access them online via the library).

Note that the textbook publisher provides students with access to a comprehensive Online Learning.

Copyright Infringements

Students are reminded that in terms of Canadian copyright law, the owners of textbooks are only allowed to photocopy ten percent of the material from that textbook provided the photocopied material is for their own use.

Instructional Method

The course shall, as far as is possible, be handled on a discussion/seminar/problem-solving basis. As a result, the prior completion of readings, and other assignments (i.e. the questions, cases, exercises, and problems) to class meetings is essential. Additional readings and assignments will be communicated to students in advance via the course web site or in class. Each week the assigned chapter will be discussed and the related homework will be taken up. Students must come to class prepared by reading the chapter and completing the assigned homework.

Students should also note that the workload for this course is very heavy and schedule their time accordingly.

Grading Scheme:

The grade for the course shall be determined as follows:

Written homework assignments (5 x 2.5%), (in groups of 3)	12.5%
Case write up assignment (in groups of 3)	12.5%
Class contribution	5%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	45%
TOTAL	100%

Assignments

Written assignments are due at the start of the class. Late assignments will not be accepted since we may take these up in class. Please keep a copy for yourself. All assignments must be typed, double-spaced, use 12 point font, written on only one side of the page with 1 inch margins. This is important so that your answers are easy to read and there is room for marker's comments. All assignments will be graded and returned as soon as possible (within one or two weeks usually). Common error sheets will be provided to indicate general errors. Logic and assumptions must be stated where applicable. As a variety of directive and non-directive questions are used, students must use judgment as to the style of response that seems appropriate.

Faxed assignments or e-mailed assignments will not be accepted under any circumstance. If extenuating circumstances prevent you from personally handing in your assignment, please arrange for a

classmate/group mate to hand it in for you. MISSED ASSIGNMENTS CANNOT BE MADE UP NOR CAN THEIR WEIGHT BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER COMPONENTS OF THE COURSE.

Written assignments provide an opportunity to apply the skills being taught in the course and are useful for monitoring progress and for obtaining personal feedback. They are there to prepare you for the midterm and final exams.

Written Homework Assignments

There will be FIVE written assignments counting towards 12.5% of your final grade at 2.5% each. Each assignment can have a maximum length of 8 pages excluding attachments. If the assignment includes a case, the case cannot take up more than 6 of the 8 pages.

Case Write-up

This group assignment, again done in groups of THREE, is to write a multi-competency case that would normally take a student 90-120 minutes to answer. The case must include a minimum of one pervasive skill and a minimum of two specific accounting issues covered in this class. This assignment is due at the beginning of Week 10 class (see course schedule).

Each group must submit the following:

- Written Case
- Written suggested response
- Marking/evaluation guide
- Resource/background material if used e.g. Annual Report, articles

The case write up will make up 12.5% of your grade. Further guidelines for the write-up will be posted to the course website.

Contribution

You are expected to be prepared to discuss the topics and challenge and question the analyses of the lecture material presented. You are also expected to attend all classes for the entire class in order to earn your contribution marks. **YOU NEED TO BRING YOUR NAME CARD TO ENSURE THAT YOU GET YOUR CONTRIBUTION MARKS.**

Contribution is an essential component in the overall education experience of this advanced level course. Contribution takes many forms: asking informed questions in class, making intelligent comments, reading the case or homework problems and being prepared to discuss the issues, actively listening to your peers and working with others. Please remember that quantity is no substitute for quality.

There will be ample opportunity to contribute to the class. The format of the in-class discussions of topics may take a variety of forms including: group analysis of single case issues during class, presentation of issues, leading discussions of the case issues.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you take an active role in the class. The grading for class contribution in each session is as follows:

Mark	Contribution
0%	Does not show up for class

50%	Attends class but contributes nothing or very little
75%	Contributes to the discussion - most of the contributions are not highly original but demonstrate basic understanding of the case or material - i.e. summarizes case facts or asks questions for clarification and is usually prepared, having read the cases before the class
100%	Makes a significant contribution to the class by making important points with a significant element of originality or demonstrating mastery of difficult theoretical issues or concepts; is always prepared having read and analyzed all cases prior to class, shares in class presentations, contributes to in-class group work

ABSENCE FROM CLASS WILL MEAN A ZERO ON YOUR PARTICIPATION POINTS FOR THAT DAY UNLESS SUCH ABSENCE IS BECAUSE OF MEDICAL REASONS (YOU WILL HAVE TO SUBMIT A SUPPORTING DOCTOR'S NOTE), OR BECAUSE OF SCHOOL OF ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES' SPONSORED/RELATED EVENTS (AGAIN YOU NEED TO SUBMIT SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION). NO ALLOWANCE WILL BE MADE FOR ANY OTHER REASON, THEREFORE, PLEASE DO NOT ASK ME FOR IT.

Mid-term and Final Examinations

Materials eligible for examinations include all assigned readings, handout material, class discussions, class discussion questions, lectures, and homework assignments. Examinations may cover material taken up to and including the previous class. No documentation is allowed during exams.

Absences from exams are not acceptable and make up exams will not be provided. You will be awarded zero marks for such absences. Absences FROM EXAMS for medical or serious personal reasons must be documented by a note from a doctor and the instructor must be notified before the exam. Marks relating to SUCH missed exams will be added to the final exam. We enforce York's policy on exams and you can refer to the following website for more information: (<http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/index.htm>)

Course Website

The course website is used as a central bulletin board on which items will be electronically posted. Students have read-only access to the course website. You are expected to check the course website at least twice each week. Any announcements that need to be made to the entire class will be posted, along with all lecture notes, assignments, and solutions.

In the past, students have found it very helpful to have common questions and answers posted to the course website. When your instructor receives a question from a student by e-mail, your instructor will respond to it by e-mail. In addition, if the question is likely to interest other students, your instructor will extract the question from the e-mail (i.e. to make it anonymous) and post both the question and the response to it on the course website. If you send a question and would prefer that it not be posted to the course website, please indicate that clearly in your e-mail.

Contacting the Instructor

The best way to contact your instructor is by e-mail. If you would like to meet with your instructor, you should set up an appointment. Times before or after class times will work as well.

Ground Rules

- This is a challenging course. Therefore, come fully prepared for each class. Specifically, read through the assigned material and work out the assigned questions/cases/problems before each class session. Class time will be reserved for answering students' questions and for going through the assigned material.
- Be prepared to constructively engage in the class discussions. Think about what is being said and feel free to voice your agreement or disagreement with it. However, do so professionally and courteously.
- The course website will be used extensively to distribute handouts. If handouts are distributed in class, they will be done ONLY ONCE. The instructor will NOT keep copies of previous weeks' handouts. If you expect not to be in class on a particular day arrange to have one of your classmates pick up the handouts distributed on that day.
- Please bring your name card and display it for every class.
- Be courteous in class. Arrive on time. Do not leave in the middle of the class, unless you have obtained prior permission to do so. Do not read newspapers or surf the web while in class. Laptops should be used solely for the purpose of this class, Advanced Financial Accounting. Do not disturb others by chatting. Make sure that your cell phones are turned off for the duration of each class.

Course Schedule

The list on the following pages of lecture topics and readings indicates the material to be read, reviewed and/or prepared for the various class sessions. If any changes in this schedule become necessary, notifications will be posted in the course website, and where such changes need to be announced between class sessions, an email will be sent to students' email accounts, notifying them of the change.

ADMS 4520 Course Schedule – Fall 2014 and Winter 2015					
Week	BTM Readings	IFRS Suggested References	Topic and CMD Suggested Readings	Assigned Problems & Cases for class discussion and take up	Assignment Due
1. Sep 8, 10,11 Jan 9,10	Chapters 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFRS 1 • IFRS 9 • IAS 28 • IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements • Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises 	Setting the Stage Intercorporate Equity Investments: An Introduction	Case 2-2, P2-4, P2-8, P2-9	

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2. Sep 15, 17, 18 Jan 16, 17	Chapter 2 continued, and online Appendix 2A Chapter 3	• IFRS 3	Intercompany Equity Investments: An Introduction Business Combinations R1) IFRS 3 Business Combinations R2) A Guide to the Revised IFRS 3 and IAS 27	P2A-3, P2A-5 Case 3-3, P3-2, P3-3, P3-6, P3-7	
3. Sep 22, 24, 25 Jan 23, 24	Chapter 3 continued, and online Appendix 3A Chapter 4	• IFRS 3 • IAS 27 • IFRS 10	Business Combinations Wholly Owned Subsidiaries: Reporting Subsequent to Acquisition R3) ED 10 Consolidated Financial Statements	P4-1, P4-2, P4-3, P4-6, P4-7, P4-8	Assignment #1 Case 2-1, P3-5 (also provide all MEAR steps if instead 100% of Beryl's shares were purchased for the same price)
4. Sep 29, Oct 1, 2 Jan 30, 31	Chapter 4 continued Chapter 5 including appendices 5A and 5B online		Wholly Owned Subsidiaries: Reporting Subsequent to Acquisition Consolidation of Non-Wholly Owned Subsidiaries	P4-1, P4-2, P4-3, P4-6, P4-7, P4-8 P5-1, P5-2, P5-3, P5-7, P5-10	Assignment #2 Case 3-6, P4-4
5. Oct 6, 8, 9 Feb 6, 7	Chapter 5 appendices 5A and 5B online, continued Chapter 6		Consolidation of Non-Wholly Owned Subsidiaries Subsequent-Year Consolidations: General Approach	P5-1, P5-2, P5-3, P5-10, P5-12 P5A-1, P5A-2, P5B-3	Assignment #3 Case 5-1, P5-16

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6. Oct 15,16,20 Feb 13, 14	Chapter 6		Subsequent-Year Consolidations: General Approach Midterm review	Case 6-3, P6-2, P6-6, P6-17, P6-19	
Oct 13, 2014	THANKSGIVING NO CLASS				
7. Sunday October 26 , 2014 2 to 5pm TBA Sunday February 22 , 2015 2 to 5pm TBA	Midterm examination on Chapters 1-6 including appendices				
Oct 29 – Nov 2, 2014 Feb 14 – 20, 2015		Co-Curricular Days – No classes Reading Week – No classes			
Nov 7, 2014 March 6, 2015		Drop date – last date to drop course without receiving a grade			
8. Nov 3, 5,6 Feb 27, 28	Chapter 8	• IAS 21	Foreign Currency Transactions and Hedges Take up of Midterm examination	Case 8-2, P8-4, P8-7, P8-14	Assignment #4 Case 6-1, P6-20
9. Nov 10, 12,13 March 6, 7	Chapter 8 continued Chapter 9	• IAS 21	Foreign Currency Transactions and Hedges Reporting Foreign Operations	Case 8-2, P8-4, P8-7, P8-14 Case 9-2, 9-4, P9-1, 9-3, P9-9	

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Week	BTM Readings	IFRS Suggested References	Topic and CMD Suggested Readings	Assigned Problems & Cases for class discussion and take up	Assignment Due
10. Nov 17, 29, 20 March 13, 14	Chapter 9 continued Chapter 10	• CICA S. 4400- S. 4470	Reporting Foreign Operations Financial Reporting for Non-Profit Organizations R5) Strategic Planning - Not-for-Profit Organizations R6) GAAP for Government Organizations R7) Not-for-profits: The Conclusion R8) Putting Not-for-Profit Standards into Practice	Case 9-2, 9-4, P9-1, 9-3, P9-9 Case 10-2, Case 10-6 P10-3, P10-6, P10-8	Case Write-up Due
11. Nov 24, 26, 27 March 20, 21	Chapter 10 Continued Chapter 11		Financial Reporting for Non-Profit Organizations Public Sector Financial Reporting	Case 10-2, Case 10-6 P10-3, P10-6, P10-8 Case 11-1, Case 11-2	Assignment #5 Case 10-1, P9-8
12. Dec 1,3, 4 March 27, 28	Chapter 11 Continued		Public Sector Financial Reporting Review	Case 11-1, Case 11-2	
To be scheduled	Final Exam				

IMPORTANT YORK POLICIES

Academic Honesty (Senate Policy)

SAS considers breaches of the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty to be serious matters. To quote the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty:

The Policy on Academic Honesty is a reaffirmation and clarification for members of the University of the general obligation to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty. It outlines the general responsibility of faculty to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to be mindful of and abide by such standards.

Faculty members are encouraged to pursue suspected cases of academic honesty with formal charges. Students should, however, review the York Academic Honesty policy for themselves at:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhonesty.htm>

Students might also wish to review the interactive on-line Tutorial for students on academic integrity, at:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/tutorial.htm>

While academic dishonesty can take many forms, there are several forms of which students should be highly aware because they are the ones that are most likely to occur in the context of a specific course.

[1] Plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of information, ideas, or analysis generated by other people as being your own. It includes direct quotations as well as substantive paraphrases where the source of that information or idea is not clearly identified to the reader. Students should be careful to present their written work in a way that makes it completely clear in each and every case where a quotation, a paraphrase, or an analysis is based on the work of other people. (This includes information from all sources, including websites.)

[2] Cheating. Cheating is an attempt to gain an unfair advantage in an evaluation. Examples of such violations include (but are not limited to) consulting prohibited materials during an examination or copying from another student.

[3] Failure to follow limitations on collaborative work with other students in preparing academic assignments. Each class differs in the mix of assignments and group-versus-individual preparation that is allowed. The instructor will make clear the extent of collaboration among students that is acceptable among students on various pieces of assigned work. Students should abide by those limitations and, if they are unsure about whether a certain level or form of collaboration would be acceptable, to clarify that question with the instructor in advance.

[4] Aiding and abetting. A student is guilty of violating academic honesty expectations if he/she acts in a way that enables another student to engage in academic dishonesty. If a student knows (or should reasonably expect) that an action would enable another student to cheat or plagiarize, that student's action constitutes an academic honesty violation. Illustrative examples include making your exam paper easily visible to others in the same exam or providing your own working or finished documents for an 'individual assignment' to another student (even if that other student said that he/she just wanted to 'get an idea of how to approach the assignment' or 'to check whether they had done theirs correctly').

[5] Use of academic work in more than one course. Generally, academic work done for every course is 'new' work, done for that course only. If a student wishes to use some or all of the academic work done for an assigned task in one course in another course, the student must get **explicit, prior** permission

from both instructors so that they agree that the scope and nature of the overlapping use of that work is such that it can fairly be counted toward both courses.

Grade Component Deadline (Senate Policy)

The course assignment structure and grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) must be announced, and be available in writing, to students within the first two weeks of classes. Please see Important Dates at: <http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/importantdates/index.htm>

Graded Feedback Rule (Senate Policy)

Under normal circumstances, some graded feedback worth at least 15% per cent of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer term, and 30% for 'full year' courses in the Fall/Winter term should be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade, with the following exceptions:

- graduate or upper level undergraduate courses where course work typically, or at the instructor's discretion, consists of a single piece of work and/or is based predominantly (or solely) on student presentations;
- practicum courses;
- ungraded courses;
- courses in Faculties where the drop date occurs within the first three weeks of classes;
- courses which run on a compressed schedule (a course which accomplishes its academic credits of work at a rate of one credit hour per two calendar weeks or faster).

Note: Under unusual and/or unforeseeable circumstances which disrupt the academic norm, instructors are expected to provide grading schemes and academic feedback in the spirit of these regulations, as soon as possible.

For more information on the Graded Feedback Rule, please visit:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/gradfeed.htm>

20 % Rule (Senate Rule)

No examination or test worth more than 20 % of the final grade will be given during the last two weeks of classes in a term, with the exception of classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on the weekend (Saturday and/or Sunday at any time). For further information on the 20% Rule, please visit:

<http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/examschedules/examinfo/twentypercent.htm>.

Reappraisals

For reappraisal procedures and information, please visit the Office of the Registrar site at:

<http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/services/policies/grade.htm>

Students with Special Needs (Senate Policy)

York University is committed to making reasonable accommodations and adaptations in order to make equitable the educational experience of students with special needs and to promote their full integration into the campus community. **Please alert the Course Director as soon as possible should you require special accommodations.**

Deferred Standing

Deferred standing may be granted to students who are unable to write their final examination at the scheduled time or to submit their outstanding course work on the last day of classes. In order to apply for deferred standing,

students must complete a Deferred Standing Agreement (DSA) form and submit their request no later than five (5) business days from the date of the exam. The request must be properly submitted with supporting documentation directly to the main office of the School of Administrative Studies (282 Atkinson), NOT to the Course Director. These requests will be considered on their merit and decisions will be communicated to the students by the main office. Students with approved DSA will be able to write their deferred examination during the School's deferred examination period which will be administered usually a few days/weeks after the end of term. No further extensions of deferred exams shall be granted. The format and covered content of the deferred examination may be different from that of the originally scheduled examination. The deferred exam may be closed book, cumulative and comprehensive and may include all subjects/topics of the textbook whether they have been covered in class or not. Any request for deferred standing on medical grounds must include an Attending Physician's Statement form; a "Doctor's Note" will not be accepted.

DSA Form: http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/deferred_standing_agreement.pdf

Attending Physician's Statement form: <http://www.yorku.ca/laps/council/students/documents/APS.pdf>