

2012

ACCT 201-03-04-05 Introductroy Managerial Accounting

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ACCT 201
Introductory Managerial Accounting
Course Syllabus
Section 03: 8:30 – 9:20 M/W/F..... 346 Smith
Section 04: 9:30 – 10:20 M/W/F..... 346 Smith
Section 05: 10:30 – 11:20 M/W/F..... 346 Smith

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Office Hours: 12:00 – 3:00 pm M/W and by appointment

Purpose: Per the University Catalog – This course is “Identifying, measuring, analyzing, and interpreting accounting data that is used to support managerial decision-making.”

ALSO:

- 1) provide you with an intuitive understanding of how management accounting provides information for managerial decision making
- 2) supply you with an understanding of the tools available to the managerial accountant in providing this information
- 3) stimulate your critical thinking skills toward analyzing what are the benefits and the inherent limitations of applying these tools in various situations
- 4) soft skills, soft skills, soft skills.....

Textbook: Garrison & Noreen, *Management Accounting*, 14th Edition, McGraw Hill Publishing 2012.

Other Material – Connect Account for online homework. URL for the course is at:

http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/t_miller_fall_2012_mwf

Format: The course will be designed as a mixture of lecture, problems, and questions. We will work on problems in various ways--as a class, in small groups, and individually. The amount of time spent lecturing and working on problems will depend on how the class best learns the assigned material.

Values: The following is a list of values that I suggest in and out of the classroom. These are meant as guidelines, not as an exhaustive list of suggested behavior:

- *Academic Honesty* – One definition of cheating includes, but is not limited to, the wrongfully giving, taking, or presenting any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding himself/herself or another on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade. I absolutely will not tolerate cheating. I demand myself to be as fair as possible. Part of that fairness is creating a level playing field. If somebody cheats, they gain an unfair edge relative to other students in this course, and that simply will not be tolerated. I will protect the integrity of both this class and Xavier University above anything else. Any student caught cheating will face severe consequences, which may include (but certainly not limited to) an E in the course.
- *Respect* – I will treat each student with respect, and expect all students to treat myself and their peers with respect. This is not meant to stifle disagreement. How boring would it be if everybody agreed on everything! We will promote discussion in the classroom, and alternative points of view are allowable for discussion, but keep disagreement to the issues – do not get personal.
- *Contribute* – Some courses are more suited to discussion, and others to lecture. I try to mix it up so that Acct 201 does not become a lecture only course. To this end, I need your help. I expect students to contribute their thoughts and opinions. I have learned in my academic and professional career that you actually learn more when you contribute.

- *Open Communication with me* – If my teaching style, the course material, or some other facet of the course has you feeling down, tell me. I cannot fix what I do not know is broken. While I will not take some measures (i.e. making evaluation easy), I may be able to adapt or explain something in a different way that helps you; particularly during office hours. I will do my best to be available to you outside as well as inside office hours.
- *Do the Work* – Presumably you bought the textbook for some reason other than just feeling like giving away some money (if not, see me after class). One might go so far as to say you bought it to read. So make sure your investment pays off by doing so. As for homework, it is an integral part of the course. A recipe for Acct 201 success = Reading + doing problems + coming to class prepared and contributing.
- *Attend* – Be with us in both body and mind. It is tough to pass my course when you miss classes. While attendance is not strictly part of the grading system, it tends to show up in indirect ways, such as lower exam grades.

Grading

Interim Exams (3 @ 15% each)	45%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes/ Class Work	10%
Homework	20%
Professionalism	5%
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Total	100%

- A** – At least 90% of total points
- B** – 80% to 90%
- C** – 70% to 80%
- D** – 60% to 70%
- E** – Below 60%

Individual grades are not subject to a curve, however total course points may be curved based on the difficulty of quizzes/exams and so forth. Only under circumstances of academic dishonesty, or absence of work would any grade ever be adjusted downward (i.e. any subjective curve is to your benefit).

Professionalism: I strive to run and format this class in a professional business manner. This leads to, hopefully, a meeting led by the supervising organizer (Dr. Miller), but with a great deal of participation from all attending. A portion of this may be referred to as “soft skills”

Soft skills are extraordinarily important to professional success. These include everyday communication skills (writing, speaking etc.), treating your peers and supervisors with respect, showing up, and handing material in on time. While you do not earn points for these skills, you may lose points for their continued absence from class. For example:

- Having your nametag in plain view in every class (if you forget yours, I will have replacements on sale after the first day for a dollar).
- Emails – these are to be completed in a professional manner. Failure to do so or the inclusion of grammatical errors will lower your professionalism score. Enough errors will bring your score to the negative range (i.e. it can move below 0%)
- If are going to miss a class (meeting), for work or personal reasons, notifying me prior to the class – not after. It is expected that you are very busy – but also that you also possess the wherewithal to take care of class responsibilities before a missed class – not ask for forgiveness for missed assignments after.

Interim Exams: There will be three interim examinations over the course of the semester. Any reading assignments and lectures given are fair game to be covered on an exam, unless I specifically indicate that you will not be held responsible for certain material. While the exams are not cumulative, the material is related. In other words, the initial course material provides a foundation on which the remainder of the course builds on. However, if given an exam over chapters 5-8, you will not be tested over chapter 4.

Quizzes and class work: We will have announced quizzes and unannounced class assignments throughout the semester. I will modify the frequency of these items depending on how I feel comprehension is going. Quizzes will most likely take the form of problem types from the chapter. Some of these will be open book, and some will not; some will be in a group and some will not. Class assignments will take the form of problems done in class and handed in and likewise may be done with or without a group. If you dissent from the consensus of your group, you may hand in your own version describing the unresolved issue and why it could not be resolved.

What will not happen here is an unexpected 'pop quiz'. These assignments are meant as learning tools – not evaluation. Evaluation is taken care of on the examinations.

Homework: The graded homework for each chapter will be assigned via McGraw Hill's website. All homework is due the week after it is covered. For instance, Chapter 2 is completed on 8/31. The homework for Chapter 2 is therefore due one week later on 9/7. This due date is a suggestion. But it is a very, very good suggestion. Your grade will not be reduced if you do the homework later. All homework grades will be downloaded at the time of your final exam. However, your behavior regarding homework will likely impact your grade as better, or worse, test scores.

Homework is the best way to master the material in this class. I will work through any problems a student has with homework during office hours, or if common enough and time permitting, in class. However, this is time permitting and it would be great folly to count on this as your primary route of help. Finally, mastery of these problems does by no means guarantee or even suggest an 'A'. Concepts and definitions from the text are also required knowledge. However, I view assigning homework online where you would copy these definitions or concepts from one spot to another to be a waste of your time. This does not excuse you from this knowledge though. Read and understand all assigned chapters.

Late work (tests, homework, quizzes, class work): Every business hour any outside work is late will result in losing 1% on the assignment down to a maximum penalty of 40% (i.e. if you are more than 40 work hours late, you start at 60% on that assignment). This rule applies to tests, quizzes, cases, etc. unless you are otherwise excused prior to the assignment. You can, and are encouraged to make up any work you miss, however there will be a penalty in the way of points. Exceptions will be granted for university approved excuses with documentation. This rule is two-fold – (1) make sure the playing field remains level for all students and (2) provide an incentive for timely completion of all assignments.

Participation: Participation does NOT mean giving a correct answer every time you speak in class. It means giving a genuine effort to this class, whether it is class discussion, problem solving, or completing homework. When you are asked a question, show that you are engaged in the class discussion. It's ok to not know the answer, but give me an educated guess so I can work with you and help you to better understand the material. Participation also means not sleeping in class and not being a distraction to other students.

Attendance: If you have an excused absence that you know about in advance (i.e. official academics or athletics, etc...) you must notify me ahead of the absence. Do not expect arrangements to be made for which I am not officially obligated by the University. If you have an officially excused absence for which you did not know you would miss class, let me know as soon as possible.

Disclaimer: All policies discussed herein are subject to the official University Regulations. If there is a discrepancy between any of my policies and the official Xavier University policies, then the official Xavier University policies shall reign. Also, I reserve the right to modify any part of this syllabus to your advantage during the semester after giving you adequate notice of such changes.

Relevant Degree Learning Goals Per WCB as Chosen by Dr. Miller:

- **Critical Thinking**

Learning Goal: WCB graduates will be able to think logically, reason quantitatively, and utilize appropriate analytical techniques and technology when evaluating and making decisions.

Corresponding Objectives:

- (1) WCB students will collect, evaluate and synthesize information to offer solutions and support decision making.
- (2) WCB students will evaluate and articulate implications of business decisions and their impact on organizational stakeholders, both individually and in teams.

Tentative Schedule – 14th edition

Week	Day	Chapter	Task
Managerial Accounting Basics and Cost Behavior			
1	Wednesday, August 22, 2012 Friday, August 24, 2012	1	
2	Monday, August 27, 2012 Wednesday, August 29, 2012 Friday, August 31, 2012	2	
Monday, September 03, 2012			No Class - Labor Day
3	Wednesday, September 05, 2012 Friday, September 07, 2012	6	Chp 2 Hmwk Due
4	Monday, September 10, 2012 Wednesday, September 12, 2012 Friday, September 14, 2012	5	Chp 6 Hmwk Due
5	Monday, September 17, 2012 Wednesday, September 19, 2012 Friday, September 21, 2012	Review / Flex / Test 1/ Speaker	Chp 5 Hmwk Due
Cost Allocation and Capital Budgeting (i.e. long term planning)			
6	Monday, September 24, 2012 Wednesday, September 26, 2012 Friday, September 28, 2012	3	
7	Monday, October 01, 2012 Wednesday, October 03, 2012 Friday, October 05, 2012	4	Chp 3 Hmwk Due
8	Monday, October 08, 2012 Wednesday, October 10, 2012 Friday, October 12, 2012	7	Chp 4 Hmwk Due No Class - Fall Holiday
9	Monday, October 15, 2012 Wednesday, October 17, 2012 Friday, October 19, 2012	13	Chp 7 Hmwk Due
10	Monday, October 22, 2012 Wednesday, October 24, 2012 Friday, October 26, 2012	Review / Flex / Test 2/ Speaker	Chp 13 Hmwk Due

Tentative Schedule – 14th edition (cont)

Week	Day	Chapter	Task
Profit Planning (i.e. short term budgeting), Standard Costs and Variances			
11	Monday, October 29, 2012	8	
	Wednesday, October 31, 2012		
	Friday, November 02, 2012		
12	Monday, November 05, 2012	9	Chp 8 Hmwk Due
	Wednesday, November 07, 2012		
	Friday, November 09, 2012		
13	Monday, November 12, 2012	10	Chp 9 Hmwk Due
	Wednesday, November 14, 2012		
	Friday, November 16, 2012		
14	Monday, November 19, 2012	10A	Final Day to Withdraw
	Wednesday, November 21, 2012		No Class - Thanksgiving
	Friday, November 23, 2012		No Class - Thanksgiving
15	Monday, November 26, 2012	Review / Flex / Test 3 / Speaker	Chp 10 Hmwk Due
	Wednesday, November 28, 2012		
	Friday, November 30, 2012		
Decision Making and Review			
16	Monday, December 03, 2012	12	
	Wednesday, December 05, 2012		
	Friday, December 07, 2012		

Final Exam Schedule

	Class Meeting Time	Exam Time	Exam Day
Finals Week	8:30 - 9:20	8:30 - 10:20	Wednesday, December 12, 2012
	9:30 -10:20	8:30 - 10:20	Friday, December 14, 2012
	10:30 -11:20	10:30 - 12:20	Wednesday, December 12, 2012