2017

ACCT 415-01 Nonprofit and Governmental Accounting

Tim Miller
millert17@xavier.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/accountancy_syllabi_fall_2017

Recommended Citation
https://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/accountancy_syllabi_fall_2017/38
ACCT 415-01 / MACC 515-01  
Nonprofit & Governmental Accounting  
Course Syllabus  
6:00-8:30 Wednesday - Smith G29

Dr. Tim Miller CGMA, CPA, MBA, PhD  
Office: Williams College of Business – Room 236  
E-mail: Millert17@Xavier.edu  
Office Hours: 5-6W in G29; TBD  
& by appointment

**Purpose:** Per the University Catalog – “This course is designed to introduce students to financial reporting for nonprofit organizations as well as governmental entities at the municipal, state and federal level.”

**Prerequisite:** B or better in Financial Reporting and Analysis I (ACCT 300 or ACCT 305 or ACCT 307)


**Format:** The course will be designed as a mixture of lecture, problems, cases 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. In the big picture sense, the class is set up in quarters with the first three focusing on municipal and state accounting and the final on NFP and federal accounting.

**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 above anything else. Any student caught cheating will face severe consequences, which may include (but certainly not limited to) an F 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 BAD 63038 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 reading it! As for homework, it is an integral part of the course. A recipe for ACC 415 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Masters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test 1 - Chp 1-3</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 2 - Chp 4-6</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 3 - Chp 7-9</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governmental Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFP Speaker attendance &amp; Question</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Book Summary and Presentation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 the 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).

Tests: There will be three 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. Guidance will be provided as
to the format and content of each exam

Governmental Homework: Homework will consist of assigned problems throughout the
semester. These will be assigned problems from the book or may, rarely, be problems for other
texts handed out. Homework will be turned in via Canvas and will be graded based on
completion and earnest effort.

NFP Speaker attendance & Question: As of the start of the semester we have an outside
speakers (1) Christine O. Roncaglione – the Controller here at Xavier. The parts of this grade are
attendance at the class meetings, submitting a question before hand and participating in the
discussion the night of the talk.

Outside Book: Read a book focused on the financing / monetary / accounting side of the federal
government (or a NFP with permission). This assignment is required for MACC students and is
optional for undergrad for extra credit. MACC students can also complete multiple versions of
the assignment for extra credit – but the first is a traditional portion of the grade. The assignment
is somewhat of an old-school book report. A chapter by chapter summary/reflection of the book
you choose. This will be handed in on December 7th and should be approximately 10 single
spaced pages depending on your chosen text. The text you intend to read should be turned in by
9/13/17 (our first test). These projects will also be presented during class – tentatively during the
final depending on our outside speaker’s schedules. Attendance is expected of all students. Not
attending – without a valid excuse- will result in losing points in the overall grade calculation.

Disability Services: It is my goal that this class be an accessible and welcoming experience for
all students. If you are a student with a disability who may have trouble participating or
effectively demonstrating learning in this course, contact me to arrange an appointment to share
your Accommodation Letters from Disability Services and to discuss your needs. Disability
related information is confidential. If you have not contacted Disability Services (located in the
Learning Assistance Center) to arrange accommodations, I encourage you to do so by contacting
Cassandra Jones, by phone at 513-745-3280, in person on the Fifth Floor of the Conaton
Learning Commons, Room 514, or via e-mail at jonesc20@xavier.edu as soon as possible as
accommodations are not retroactive.
Late work (tests, homework, quizzes, class work): Every business hour any 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 (i.e. one week), you start at 60% on that assignment). This rule applies to mainly to the homework collections. 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.

University Learning Outcomes The faculty has constructed learning outcomes to be met throughout the semester.

- ULO 1) Reason critically and think creatively
  - In order to complete journal entries, memorization is not enough. Concepts must be applied to the specific situation. These skills will be evaluated on exams.

- ULO 4) Be morally sensitive to the needs of our times and in career choices and
- ULO 5) Promote justice and serve society, especially the poor and the marginalized.
  - Through discussions with the outside speakers, and submitting a paper based on an outside text - the final quarter of the class, and some quizzes online, will further our understanding of organizations that serve these communities.
# Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 23, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 30, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 6, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 3 / Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 13, 2017</td>
<td><strong>Test 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 20, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 27, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 4 / 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 4, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 5 / 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 11, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 6 / Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 18, 2017</td>
<td><strong>Test 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 25, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 1, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 8, 2017</td>
<td>Chp 9 / Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 15, 2017</td>
<td><strong>Test 3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 22, 2017</td>
<td>No Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 29, 2017</td>
<td>NFP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 6, 2017</td>
<td>NFP Speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Wednesday, December 13, 2017</td>
<td>Final Session - Presentations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final – Outside book presentations (attendance expected of all students)**