Rutgers University
School of Business-Camden
52:010:101:90:19935  Intro to Financial Accounting - online
Spring 2016
Online
Instructor: Nathan Levinson

Office location: BSB 212
Office hours: 3-5:30 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and by appointment
Phone number: (856) 225-6291
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PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND
Educational/other:
- Bachelor of Science, Accounting – University of Denver
- Masters of Public Policy and Administration – Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- Certified Public Accountant – State of Colorado

Professional Experience:
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
  - School of Business-Camden - Associate Dean for Finance & Administration,
  - Director, Student Experience Center
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey – Senior Internal Audit
  - University of Denver – Assistant Dean for Finance & Administration
- 15 years with Deloitte & Touche in the United States and the United Kingdom. Clients included Denver Broncos, Denver Nuggets, Westin Hotels, Coastal Oil and Gas (public company), banks, savings & loans, etc. Performed the assurance services of auditing, reviews, due diligence and litigation support.

Other experience: owner/operator of a catering company, controller for a small service company.
Served as Supervisory Committee (audit committee) chair for the Rutgers Federal Credit Union. Board member on several different non-profits.
Teaching: Small Business Development Center – Intro to Accounting, Concepts of Auditing, Intermediate Accounting I, Ethics and CSR (online)

Platform - eCollege
All course materials will be on the eCollege platform. To access the platform go to:
https://onlinelearning.rutgers.edu/ecollege-student-login
If you need technical assistance email help@ecollege.rutgers.edu
Also let me know that you are having issues immediately.

Rutgers email
All communications to students will be done using the Rutgers email address provided to you.
Please forward your Rutgers email to your personal email if necessary. Not checking your Rutgers email is not an excuse for missing any communications.
Course Objectives:

After completing this course, participants should be able to:

1. Understand the purpose of and how accounting works through the:
   a. Identification of business transactions
   b. Recording accounting items
2. Understand the components of financial reports through preparation and analysis
3. Understanding the importance of how ethics affects business decisions.

Required:

MyAccounting Lab (REQUIRED)
You will be required to set-up your access to MyAccountingLab. I suggest you go to the Course Overview in the eCollege shell for this course and go to the video linked at that location.

IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOU SET-UP ACCESS TO THIS TOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. All homework, quizzes and tests will be done through this tool. 100% online students will get their access from Ms. Linda Traub.

My AccountingLab comes with the e-Text. Buying the hard copy text (below) is at your discretion.

Financial Accounting; Tenth edition; Harrison, Horngren, Thomas; Pearson publishing
ISBN 10: 0-13-342753-6
Book will be available online through the course shell.

Other readings may be assigned by the professor from sources such as the Wall Street Journal, Fortune, Business Week, business section of the NY Times and other online resources. It is recommended that students read from these resources on a regular basis.

Teaching methodology

The material presented in the textbook will be the foundation of the course, thus it is important that you do the homework questions and other practice material as assigned. We will also go over specific examples in the book and outside the book to illustrate the material and its application. It is important that you read all the material assigned before the class it is assigned to. Your participation in the discussions will help you better understand the concepts of accounting. Reading all the assigned material before class, doing all the assigned homework/assignments on-time, proper discussion thread participation and consulting with the professor immediately when you need help, are strongly recommended actions for a student to do well on exams and thus well in this course.

Changes to the syllabus are at the discretion of the instructor.
**Academic Integrity and Student Code of Conduct:**

This class will ask you to work independently. In all cases, you are responsible for preparing your own work and documenting the work of others. Cheating, plagiarism, and other types of misconduct are not acceptable. Penalties can include expulsion from the University. The policies on Academic Integrity and the Code of Student Conduct can be found at: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/). If there are questions on how to comply, please contact me immediately. The link to the above site has been placed in a separate module of the eCollege site for this class. You must test out of the academic integrity orientation quiz by the 3rd week of class.

**Administrative Issues**

- It is your responsibility in this learning environment for you to check the course site on a regular basis for updates and announcements.
- Last day to drop with a W – November 10, 2014
- Thanksgiving recess – identified on the course shell
- Last day of classes – December 10th

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines).

If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form).

Rutgers-Camden Disability Services:
Rutgers-Camden Learning Center
Armitage Hall, Room 240
311 North Fifth Street
Camden, NJ 08102-1405
Web page: [http://learn.camden.rutgers.edu/disability-services](http://learn.camden.rutgers.edu/disability-services)
Phone: 856.225.6442
Fax: 856.225.6443
STANDARDS FOR EVALUATION

General: you will be asked to demonstrate what you are learning in the course. This involves drawing from course reading, lectures, discussions, simulations and other learning opportunities.

Incompletes and Problems: If you find that you are having trouble completing course work or need further explanation of class topics, please schedule an appointment with me immediately. "Incompletes" will only be given through prior consultation, under extreme circumstances. Incomplete grades must be made up prior to the start of the next semester.

Specific assignments:

Chapter questions:

Questions from the MyAccountingLab online tool will be used to assign questions/problems. You will have three chances at getting each question correct. I would use all the tools (videos, chapter link, etc) to learn the subject matter as you are doing the questions.

Quizzes – Four quizzes will be given during the semester. These will all be on MyAccountingLab

Tests - There will be one midterm and a final.

Participation and Late Work: Lack of participation will be reflected in the final grade. All assignments must be handed in on time; late work will receive reduced or no credit. No makeup exams will be scheduled without prior notification and a physician’s excuse.

Grading Policy:

Points and weighting is as follows

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion thread participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes#</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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# Quizzes scheduled at the discretion of the faculty
Extra credit (at the professor’s discretion)
Chapter # refers to the text.
Module and topics to change based on progress of class and instructors discretion

| Module 1 | Chapter 1 – The Financial Statements | 1.1 Acctg is the language of business  
1.2 Underlying accounting concepts, assumptions and principles  
1.3 Apply the acctg equation  
1.4 Evaluate business operations through the financial statements (F/S)  
1.5 Construct F/S and analyze the relationships among them. |
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| Module 2 | Chapter 1 continued | 1.3 Continue the acctg equation  
1.4 Evaluate business operations through the financial statements (F/S)  
1.5 Construct F/S and analyze the relationship among them. |
| Module 3 | Chapter 2 - Transaction analysis | 2.1 Explain what a transaction is  
2.5 Record transactions in the books |
| Module 4 | Chapter 2 - continued | 2.2 Define “account” and examine differences  
2.3 The impact of business transactions on the accounting equation  
2.6 Construct and use a trial balance |
| Module 5 | Chapter 3 Accrual accounting and Income | 3.1 Accrual accounting vs. cash basis  
3.2 Revenue and expense recognition  
3.4 Construct financial statements  
3.5 Close the books  
3.6 Analyze and evaluate a company’s debt-paying ability. |
| MIDTERM |  | |
| Module 6 | Chapter 5 Short term investments & receivables | 5.1 Account for short-term investments  
5.3 Account for accounts receivable  
5.5 Account for notes receivable  
5.7 Liquidity ratios |
| Module 7 | Chapter 6 - Inventory & Cost of Goods Sold | 6.1 Inventory  
6.2 Inventory cost (valuation) methods  
6.4 Gross profit margin and inventory turnover  
6.5 Using Cost of Goods sold to make management decisions |
| Module 8 | Chapter 7 – Plant assets | 7.1 Measure and account for plant assets |
| Module 9 | Chapter 9 - Liabilities | 9.1 Account for contingent and current liabilities  
9.2 Bonds payable, notes payable, interest expense  
9.4 Other long-term liabilities |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Module 10 | Chapter 10 Stockholder’s Equity | 10.1 Explain the features of a corporation  
10.2 Issuance of stock |
| Module 11 | Chapter 12 – Statement of Cash Flows | 12.1 The purpose of the statement of cash flows  
12.2 sections of the cash flow statement |
| Module 12 | Chapter 13 – Financial Statement Analysis | 13.5 –Ratios  
13.6 Other measures to make investment decisions |

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT INSTRUCTOR’S DISCRETION