PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I
ACCT 2121 – Spring 2013
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“If all the students who slept through lectures were laid end to end, they’d be a lot more comfortable.”
~ Anonymous

“Definition of a college professor: someone who talks in other people’s sleep.”
~ W. H. Auden

Welcome to ACCT 2121, Financial Accounting at UNC Charlotte! I hope you will find this course to be one of your best learning (not sleeping) experiences at UNCC. I’m looking forward to getting to know each of you this semester and helping you succeed in this course, in the University, and in your career.

Keep in mind that your primary goal in this course is to enhance your professional career. Don’t approach the course material as if your only goal is to perform well on exams. You should make every effort to attend class. If you skip class, you will find yourself continually struggling to catch up. The best thing to do is plan ahead and budget your time appropriately so you can keep up in every class.

Course Description
Fundamental accounting principles with emphasis on the use of financial accounting data and the analysis of financial statements. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or consent of department.

Course Objectives
The primary objective of the first year of accounting (Principles of Accounting I and II) is for students to learn about accounting as an information development and communication function that supports decision making by investors, loan officers, managers, government agencies, and any party that bases its decisions on accounting information. Upon completion of the first year of accounting, you will:

1. have a better understanding of basic business activities in the service sector, merchandising sector and manufacturing sector,
2. understand the purpose of accounting and the uses and limitations of accounting information in making investment as well as business decisions,
3. possess enhanced analytical, communication, inter-personal, and critical-thinking skills for success in the world of business,
4. increase the awareness of the importance of information technology with regard to financial information, and
5. understand the global perspective of accounting and business.

General Expectations
Do not underestimate the difficulty of this course. Many students struggle with accounting. I hope you won’t have too much trouble with this course. If you do, here are some suggestions:

1. **Study the material in advance** of class coverage. Class time should be used to reinforce what you have already learned and to seek further explanation from the instructor.
2. **Do homework in advance**. Struggling with the material is expected and is a natural part of the learning process in this course.
3. **Do not hesitate to ask questions in class and participate in class discussion.**
4. ** Persist in your attempt to understand** the material and get help immediately if you experience any difficulty.
5. **Practice, practice and more practice.** You cannot “read” accounting. The only way to learn accounting is to spend hours (many hours) completing problems and exercises.

**Textbook & Course Resources**

You are required to purchase:

1. NXT “clicker” by Turning Technologies (please purchase through UNCC bookstore, Miner Books or Gray’s to make sure you get the right one);
2. WileyPLUS (includes the electronic version of the text and software through which you will submit your homework);
3. a textbook (may be the electronic version, a hardcover version, or a binder-ready version)
   - The publisher is Wiley.

The publisher has made the following "bundle" available to you at a greatly reduced cost - it is available at the UNCC bookstore and at Gray’s:


Alternatively, you will need to purchase WileyPLUS separately if you prefer to either

(a) purchase a new or a used hardcover copy; or
(b) use only the included on-line text:

**Note:** Purchasing only WileyPLUS is an acceptable option but we often work problems in class & it’s tough to follow what’s going on unless you have the text with you. The binder-ready version enables you to bring just the relevant chapters to class. The bundle is about the same price as the electronic version by itself.

To register for WileyPLUS, go to this URL:


and click “Register”. The publisher is giving us an open-access grace period until January 30 at noon. You’ll be prompted to enter the code that comes with your bundle (be sure to not lose it!) or pay for access to WileyPLUS at that time.

Repeat customers: Be sure to log into the URL above. Your Wiley code from last semester should still work. Please let me know if you have any issues with it.

**Lecture Handouts**

Lecture handouts for each chapter will be posted in Moodle by the night prior to the lecture. It is your responsibility to print these and bring them to class.

**What’s Due?**

Assignments will be posted in Moodle.

**Attendance**

Research shows that students who attend class regularly perform better on exams. In my experience, there is no attendance-taking method that cannot be cracked by students that are intent upon cutting classes. Therefore, I will not be expending scarce resources in a futile attempt to gather accurate attendance records.

So here’s my policy: You’re expected to attend, to arrive on time and to stay the entire class period. If you don’t plan to stay the entire class period, please be kind enough to let me know that you will need to leave early, and choose a seat near the exit. Otherwise, please don’t disrupt your classmates by leaving the classroom before class is over. No points are explicitly added for attendance nor subtracted for absences; however, you can expect clicker questions each class, and you won’t be able to make up any clicker points. You won’t be able to make up an in-class quiz unless you’re away...
on a required school-sponsored event. You will be responsible for all information and materials presented in class, and you are expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class. In other words, your primary source of information is the classroom. If something is announced in class, I am under no obligation to also post that information online or notify the class via e-mail. You will find options for e-mailing classmates under the 49er Express link for this course. I will also set up forums in Moodle where you can contact your classmates. Please do NOT e-mail me to say, “I cut your class today - Did I miss anything?” Since I won’t be keeping attendance records, you don’t need to notify me when you will be missing class for doctor appointments, court dates, or any other reason. Any extra credit opportunities offered in class cannot be made up.

**Grading Policy**

Your grade will be determined based on your accomplishment in the following areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three midterm examinations</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive final exam</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WileyPLUS homework</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes and other assignments</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clicker points</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following grading scale will be used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numerical Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>630.0+ total points</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>560.0 – 629.99 total points</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490.0 – 559.99 total points</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420.0 – 489.99 total points</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 420.0 total points</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the determination of your final course grade will be based on the total amount of points you earn and not by the percentage of the points you earn to the total amount of points available. For example, if you earn a total of 550 total points, your course grade is a “C”.

It’s your responsibility to keep track of your grades.

The WileyPLUS grade will be determined as follows:

\[
\text{Wiley Online Homework Grade} = 50 \times \left( \frac{\text{Points earned}}{\text{Points Available}} \right)
\]

Clicker points will be determined as follows:

\[
\text{Clicker Points} = 50 \times \left( \frac{\text{Points earned}}{\text{Points available}} \right)
\]

I normally drop some points from the denominator (points available) for clickers to allow for your missing a class or a few questions.

The Quiz grade will be determined as follows:

\[
\text{Quiz Grade} = 100 \times \left( \frac{\text{Points earned}}{\text{Points Available}} \right)
\]

You will be able to drop the lowest quiz grade.
Your semester grade for this course will be determined by the total number of points you earn on exams, quizzes, clickers, and homework assignments during the semester — **period**. Factors and circumstances other than your total points will not be considered. This includes, but is not limited to, factors such as **need** (e.g., if you need a “B” or better to keep a scholarship or to graduate, then you must earn at least enough points to receive a B), **effort** (while effort and exam scores tend to be highly correlated, your grade in this course will be based on your exam scores, not on the number of hours you spend studying), the number of **hours per week you work**, **number of courses** you’re taking this semester, **prior coursework** or **work experience** related to accounting, etc. (i.e., all students will be graded similarly, regardless of current employment status, course load, and prior accounting-related employment or coursework). In addition, students with **disabilities** will be graded in the same manner as all other students; however, students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation of their disabilities as discussed elsewhere in this syllabus. Finally, please note there will be no “extra credit” work available, and exams are not curved. **Do not ask me to grade you differently than other students or to raise your end-of-semester grade—it will not happen.**

(Portions of the following paragraph are from the University’s Policies and Procedures for Appeals of Final Course Grades; for more information, see [http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/GradeAppeal.html](http://legal.uncc.edu/policies/GradeAppeal.html):

**Determination of final course grades and policies and procedures regarding grades is the responsibility of faculty, not students. Thus, the grading policies, procedures, and scales in your courses at UNC Charlotte are not open to debate, negotiation, or appeal. It is inappropriate for a student to contact a faculty member at the end of the semester in an attempt to influence the faculty member’s determination of final course grades. This includes, but is not limited to, asking the faculty member to raise the student’s grade for any reason. However, if you believe your final course grade assigned by the instructor was the result of a clear and material mistake in calculating or recording grades, you should contact the instructor, who will explain how the grade was determined. Your inquiry to the instructor should occur as soon as possible after the formal grade report is received. If you are unable to resolve the grievance through consultation with the instructor, a written request for review of the course grade may be submitted to the Chair of the Department in which the course was taught. Requests for review must be submitted within the first four weeks of the next regular academic semester.**

**Examinations**

The exam schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 5 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 19 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 16 (in class)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thursday, May 2 (8:00 am – 11:00 am)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams will generally be in multiple-choice format.

It’s your responsibility to make arrangements to take the exams at the designated times. **Make-up examinations will be given only for documented exceptions.** These exceptions are at my discretion. An unexcused absence from an examination will result in a grade of zero for that examination. There are only three acceptable excuses for missing an exam: **personal illness**, **death in the immediate family**, and **required school functions**. Students with a conflicting required school functions must furnish documentation prior to the exam. Other excuses must be appropriately documented and presented to me within 24 hours of the missed mid-term exam. If you miss the last exam, you must submit a documented excuse to me within 24 hours of the exam.

A documented illness requires an official signed statement from a doctor or emergency room stating that you were seen on or shortly before the exam date, and that you were unable to take the exam when scheduled. A statement clearing you to return to classes isn’t acceptable. A specific diagnosis must be included on the statement.

Be aware that make-up exams tend to be more difficult than the original, so you should make every effort to take the exams at their scheduled times. Make-up exams are generally short-answer, not multiple-choice.
Please contact me via email if you have an emergency! If you know in advance that it is unavoidable for you to take your exam as scheduled (for one of the above reasons only), please advise me as soon as you become aware of the conflict so that alternate arrangements can be made. Please be aware that, since the exams are scheduled far in advance, work conflicts won’t be considered, as you should have time to make arrangements with your employer well in advance of the exam dates. Please also be aware that family vacations or other social activities will not be considered as valid conflicts.

**Conduct during an Examination**
You’re expected to respect each other at all times. Please behave appropriately during an examination. Refrain from displaying behaviors that may be annoying to other students. Keep your focus on your test booklet. If you wear a hat with a brim, you will be asked to either take it off or to turn it backward! You will be required to leave all of your belongings (including purses and bookbags) in the front of the room.

If you’re late to class on an exam day and any students have finished the exam and already left the classroom, you will not be allowed to take the exam.

You may, of course, leave class after you finish and turn in your exam. However, you may not leave during the exam and then come back to finish it. Once you leave the classroom, that’s it – you’re finished with the exam – so it might be good to visit the restroom right before the exam begins.

**Policy on Retaining Exams**
I will make every effort to return exams to you on a timely basis. Exams will be returned, discussed and then re-collected. This will be your only opportunity to view your exam. All exams will be kept in my office; under no circumstances will exams or quizzes be returned to students. Violation of this policy is considered a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity and will result in an automatic grade of zero for the exam. Academic integrity charges will also be filed.

I will send an email to you as quickly as possible after your exam. The email will include your grade as well as a grid which includes your answers and the correct answer. It will be your responsibility to print your email and bring it to class so that you can see what you’ve missed. That will be your only opportunity to see what you missed on the exam.

**Policy on Re-grading Exams**
Students justifiably sometimes question the grading of their examinations. I will reconsider the grading of a question if you adhere to the following procedure: On the cover page of the examination, write the number of the question to be regraded along with the reasons for the requested re-grading. Reasons are essential! A request for re-grading must be submitted immediately after you get back your exam results.

**Use of Scantron Answer Sheets**
Exams and some quizzes use the machine-graded “Scantron” answer sheet. All answers to objective problems must be included on the Scantron sheet; i.e., you’ll be graded on the answers you bubble in on the Scantron, regardless of anything you may have written in your test booklet. No grade adjustments will be made due to errors in completing the Scantron.

**Policy on “Curves”**
There won’t be any.

**Quizzes**
Short quizzes will be given throughout the semester, some prior to the chapter’s lecture and some after the chapter’s lecture. Most quizzes will be administered via Moodle or WileyPLUS. The quizzes will consist of multiple-choice questions similar to those that will be encountered on exams, and/or short exercises or problems. Late take-home or online quizzes won’t be accepted. Moodle quizzes will require that you use a lock-down tool in your browser. This is sometimes an issue when you’re using a laptop with a WiFi connection. I strongly recommend that you take your quizzes on a school computer. We have computer labs available 24/7. A computer “crash” on a non-UNCC computer will not be
a valid reason for allowing you to retake a quiz.

Quizzes may also be administered using “clickers”. You must be in class to receive credit for a quiz question. You may not submit answers for another student or ask another student to submit answers for you. Violation of this policy is an infraction of the Code of Academic Integrity and WILL be prosecuted. It is your responsibility to remember to bring your clicker to class.

If a quiz is given during your regular class period, please remain for the duration of the quiz. Violation of this policy will result in your receiving a zero for the particular quiz. Make-up quizzes won’t be given.

Homework
Timely completion of homework assignments is CRITICAL to your success in the course. Most homework will be completed using WileyPLUS, through which you will receive immediate feedback as to whether the assignment was completed correctly. Some homework will be submitted via Moodle. It is your responsibility to know the due date for homework assignments throughout the semester. (I’ll post assignment dates in Moodle. You can also check Wiley for due dates for homework and quizzes.) You should print the answers so that you can study the problems later. Some homework may be submitted on paper. Late homework won’t be accepted and no assignments will be dropped when calculating grades.

Clickers
We’ll be using clickers this semester. Clicker questions will be asked randomly throughout each class session. I’m sorry, but I won’t be able to give you credit for clicker questions if you forget to bring your clicker. Please be aware that it’s a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity for you to submit answers to clicker questions for someone else or to ask someone else to submit answers to clicker questions for you. It’s like asking someone to take a quiz for you. I usually drop a few points off the denominator in calculating clicker points earned to allow for a day that you just couldn’t get to class.

Classroom Conduct
You’re on the path to becoming professionals. Appropriate classroom etiquette and conduct are expected. I know that the following is a whole laundry list that most of you don’t need. It’s for the few folks that do need it. Here are some basic conduct DOs and DON’Ts:

- Cell phones, beepers and other electronic devices must be turned off. (This also means no texting, tweeting, and surfing.) If you’re expecting a life-or-death phone call, please let me know before the start of class, and please put your ringer on vibrate.
- Disruptive and/or disrespectful behavior (i.e., sleeping during class for example) is not allowed. Please refrain from any behavior that may be distracting or annoying to me or to your classmates. This includes chatting during lectures. Please don’t read books in class that don’t pertain to the subject matter we’re discussing.
- Tobacco products of any kind are not allowed in class. I can’t believe I need to say this, but this prohibition includes snuff, chewing tobacco, and “spit bottles”.
- Disrespectful and/or vulgar language (including on clothing) is not allowed.
- You are expected to attend, to arrive on time and stay the entire class period. If you don’t plan to stay the entire class period, please be kind enough to let me know that you will need to leave early, and choose a seat near the exit. Otherwise, please don’t disrupt your classmates by leaving before class is over.
- It’s fine to bring a drink and candy bar or some cookies to class. (Nutter Butters and a Coke are a good choice.) That’s the limit. Please don’t bring a meal – especially a meal that smells good. The rest of us are probably hungry, too. Another guideline is to not bring anything that needs a utensil (like a fork or a spoon) to eat. Please eat meals outside the room before you come to class.
- Please take snack and “biology” breaks prior to class. If you decide to take a non-emergency break, take your books with you and don’t return. Come on, folks! It’s only an hour and fifteen minute class! It’s disruptive for students to come and go. (Please let me know if there is a valid reason for a break.)
I will ask you to leave the classroom for inappropriate or annoying conduct. Honestly, folks... don’t you think these policies are reasonable?

Inappropriate behavior will result in a grade reduction, solely at my discretion. Serious or repeated inappropriate behavior may result in your being dismissed from the course, with a potential grade of “F” in the course. Depending on the severity of the behavior, you may be ineligible from receiving a degree in the Belk College. You might also be subject to further disciplinary action from the University, including expulsion.

**Tutoring**

Individual tutoring (by appointment) is provided at no cost at The University Center for Academic Excellence in Fretwell. Contact UCAE (Fretwell 318K - 704-687-2163) for an appointment. You can also log-in online to sign up for a tutoring appointment. Go to www.ucae.uncc.edu and click on Tutorial Services.

Small group tutoring sessions (Supplemental Instruction) will be provided at no cost. No appointments are necessary for these sessions. I’ll post the schedule as soon as I get it.

Masters of Accountancy students will hold regular study sessions. I’ll post that schedule.

Beta Alpha Psi, the Accounting and Finance honor society, will provide tutoring just prior to exams. I’ll post a schedule.

**Academic Integrity**

Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of The UNCC Code of Student Academic Integrity. This code prohibits cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submissions of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Any special requirements or permission regarding academic integrity in this course will be stated by the professor and are binding on the students. Academic evaluations in this course include a judgment that the student’s work is free from academic dishonesty of any type, and grades in this course, therefore, should be and will be adversely affected by academic dishonesty. Students who violate the code can be expelled from UNCC. The normal penalty for a first offense is zero credit on the work involving dishonesty and further substantial reduction of the course grade. In almost all cases the course grade is reduced to F. Copies of the code can be obtained from the Dean of Students Office. **Standards of academic integrity will be enforced in this course.** Students are expected to report cases of academic dishonesty to the course professor.

The following are considered violations of the Code:

1. Use or possession of any calculator except a 4-function calculator during quizzes or exams.
2. Sharing a calculator with another student during quizzes or exams.
3. Use or possession of a cell phone or any programmable device during quizzes or exams or when submitting clicker answers.
4. All notes should be put away, completely out of sight, during all quizzes and exams. If notes are not put away, it will be assumed that the student intentionally kept the notes out with the intent of using them on the quiz or exam.
5. Students should not collaborate on any quizzes, including on-line or take-home quizzes. Collaboration of any sort will result in a zero for the assignment or quiz.
6. Copying another student’s answers on any course assignment.
7. Having another student complete your on-line assignment.
8. Allowing another student to copy your work/quiz answers/exam answers - this is called “complicity” and makes you an accomplice.
9. Allowing another student to take credit for work that you have done – also complicity.
10. Not reporting another student that you know is cheating – another type of complicity.
11. Removing an exam from the classroom is prohibited. You will receive a zero for any exam that you remove, and you will also be charged with violating the Code of Academic Integrity.
12. Submitting “clicker” answers for another student or asking another student submit answers for you.
13. Unless told specifically that you can work with a friend, you must submit your own clicker answers without

Please note: ANY INFRACTION OF THE UNCC CODE OF INTEGRITY WILL BE PROSECUTED!

Forums
I’m creating forums in Moodle where you can connect with your fellow students. There will be one forum for each chapter. You can create or respond to any thread. I’ll ask you to be respectful of your fellow students. You can ask for assistance with homework, but you can’t give or receive the actual answers. Any discussion of an online quiz before its due date will result in a grade of zero for anyone participating in the discussion. Similarly, no exam questions are to be shared – with anyone! I think the forum will be useful to you. Moving forward, I’d really like your feedback as to how to make the forum better.

Adjustments to the Syllabus
This course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. Under certain circumstances, it may be necessary to deviate from the plan as situations dictate.

Statement on Students with Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. This legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please see me within the first week and also contact the Office of Disability Services in Room 230 of the Fretwell building and follow the instructions of that office for obtaining accommodations.

Statement on Diversity
The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and maintained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

Syllabus Quiz
A syllabus quiz will be posted in Moodle. By submitting the quiz, you are stating that you have read this syllabus and understand the requirements of this course.