Business Environment, Governance, & Accountability
ACCT 6240
Spring 2015

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. David Kerr
E-mail: dskerr@uncc.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:50–7:00pm Center City bldg., room 713
Thursday, 4:50—5:20pm and 8:20—9:00pm Center City bldg., room 713
Class Hours: Section U01: Tuesday & Thursday 3:30–4:45, Center City bldg., room 504.
Section U90: Thursday, 5:30pm–8:15pm, Center City bldg., room 602.

Required Materials


Recommended Materials

- You are strongly encouraged to read *The Wall Street Journal* (and/or similar business publications) to increase your awareness and knowledge of current developments in the business environment.

Prerequisites

Must be enrolled as a graduate student.

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.
Moodle2 (UNC Charlotte Learning Management System)

Class Notes: Class notes for each topic are available on Moodle. Please print the notes and bring them with you to class.

Test Scores: You can use Moodle2 to check your exam scores. Click the Grades button in the Administration area on the left side of your screen.

Moodle2 is accessible through 49er Express on the UNC Charlotte web site (www.uncc.edu). You will then need to enter your NinerNet user name and password on the right-hand side of the Moodle2 screen to log in.

Grades

Your grade in the course will be based on six team quizzes and three exams as follows:

Points Available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Available</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team quizzes</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preliminary Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points Earned</th>
<th>Course Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>333 – 370</td>
<td>(90–100%) A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>288 – 332</td>
<td>(78–89.9%) B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240 – 287</td>
<td>(65–77.9%) C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 240</td>
<td>U</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Team Quizzes

Seven team quizzes will be given in class during the semester. Each quiz is worth 10 points and will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, or fill-in-the-blank questions. The primary purpose of the quizzes is to encourage you to keep on schedule with your reading and studying.

Quizzes are closed-book, but each member of your team may use one 3”x5” index card with hand-written notes, front and back.

You must be present to receive credit for team quizzes. There will be no make-up quizzes, nor will any quizzes be given early. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped when determining your grade for the course. Dropping one quiz score allows for the possibility that you may have to miss a quiz due to unavoidable circumstances such as illness, car problems, interviews, weddings, funerals, or other conflicts.
Examinations

You will be given three exams during the semester, including the final exam. Exam scores are not “curved.” You may use one 3"x5" note card with hand-written notes, front and back, when taking each exam.

You should make every effort to take each exam on the scheduled date. Make-up exams will be given only in situations involving an excused absence with appropriate documentation. Make-up exams are typically a combination of multiple-choice, true/false, short answer (fill-in-the-blank), and/or problems. If you miss the final exam due to an excused absence with appropriate documentation, you will be given a make-up final exam during the second week of the following semester.

You must be in class at the proper time to take each exam. 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 that exam.

There will be no “do-over” exams. In other words, if you perform poorly on an exam, you will not have an opportunity to replace your score on the original exam with a makeup exam.

On exam days, bring with you the following items:
- #2 pencil(s)
- Basic, four-function calculator

If you choose to wear a hat with a brim during an exam, the brim must be facing backwards.

Cell Phones and Computers

The use of cell phones, beepers, or other communication devices is disruptive, and is therefore prohibited during class.

You may use computers or tablets during class for note-taking and other class-related work only. Their use during class for activities not related to class is prohibited.

Attendance and Participation

Class attendance is important as it gives you an opportunity to clarify and test your understanding of the material covered. You will be responsible for all material covered in class as well as in the homework assignments and readings.

Promptness is important and is an expected quality of successful individuals in the accounting profession. Students arriving late to class tend to disrupt other students, so please be prompt.

Unless it’s an emergency, please do not leave class before it’s over. Leaving class early is distracting and discourteous to other students and to me. If you know you’re going to have to leave early, please let me know before class starts.
Policies Regarding Grading

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:

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.

For this course, your semester grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn on exams and quizzes — 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; plan accordingly), 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 on page 1 of this syllabus. Finally, please note that there will be no “extra credit” work available, and midterm 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.

Policies Regarding Academic Honesty

A high level of ethical conduct is a critically important attribute of members of the accounting profession. The importance of ethical conduct extends into the academic arena where the profession’s future leaders are being prepared. Thus, accounting students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is above reproach in their academic work.

Academic misconduct includes cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submissions, plagiarism, and complicity. Each of these types of misconduct is discussed in the Code of Student Academic Integrity on the UNC Charlotte website at www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html, along with related penalties and procedures. You are expected to be familiar with, and to follow, this Code.
In addition, the following specific requirements are expected in this class:

1. Strict individual performance on exams, i.e., not copying from or looking at another student’s exam or opscan;
2. Not allowing another student to copy from or look at your exam or opscan;
3. Not passing or receiving information about an exam to students in your section or in other sections of the course;
4. Not consulting notes or books during exams unless specifically permitted to do so;

Plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words, writings, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have that person’s permission.

Cheating on exams is wrong and will not be tolerated. If I determine or suspect you have cheated on an exam, I will follow University procedures for handling cases of academic misconduct (see www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps105.html).

In addition to risking a U in the course and expulsion from the university, there are several other practical reasons not to cheat:
- No grade is worth sacrificing your character.
- You do not have to live with the knowledge that you behaved dishonestly while under pressure.
- You will know that your work is your own.
- Accountants must agree to a code of ethics before they can be licensed. Practicing ethical behavior becomes easier the more it’s practiced. A person does not suddenly become ethical when he or she enters a profession after a lifetime of unethical behavior.

If any of these requirements are unclear to you, please consult with me before you complete any quizzes or exams in the course. I expect every student in my classes to share responsibility for preventing dishonesty of any kind. Academic integrity is considered a prerequisite for admission into the accounting profession.

Description and Objectives of the Course

Course Description

This course examines a wide variety of topics related to the general business environment and business concepts. Topics to be addressed include corporate governance and control, information technology, managerial and cost accounting, economic concepts and analysis, strategic planning, financial management, and operations management.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is for you to learn important concepts related to the internal and external environments in which businesses operate. Upon completion of this course, you should understand:
- concepts of corporate governance, including the rights, duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Board of Directors, officers, and other employees within a business;
- frameworks of internal control and enterprise risk management;
• economic measures and indicators;
• concepts of financial risk management;
• financial modeling, projections, and analysis;
• techniques of asset and investment management;
• information technology control objectives and procedures;
• impacts of electronic commerce on businesses;
• strategic planning techniques, including budgeting and forecasting;
• financial and nonfinancial measures of business performance;
• cost measurement methods and techniques.

Note: I reserve the right to modify the course schedule, deadlines, reading and homework assignments, classroom procedures, and course policies if circumstances warrant.

If I am late in arriving to class, please wait 10 minutes after the scheduled start of class before leaving.

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.
# Course Schedule  (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>In-class Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Jan 8</td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Download class notes from <em>Moodle</em>2. We will discuss and fill in the notes in class, so bring them with you. Introduction to the Course Overview of Management Accounting Job-Order Costing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Read Module 46 A thru F (pp 337 – 342).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 1. Managerial Accounting</em> pp. 9 – 21 (begin with section titled “Managerial Cost Concepts” and stop when you get to the section titled “Corporate Social Responsibility”)*</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Study Multiple-Choice Questions 1 thru 19 (pp 355 – 357; answers are provided on pg 363).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 2. Job-Order Costing</em> pp. 23 – 42 (the correct page numbers are on the bottom of each page)*</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Read Module 46 G thru L (pp 343 – 348).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Study Multiple-Choice Questions 20 thru 53 (pp 357 – 361).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Jan 12</td>
<td>Job-Order Costing (continued)</td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Process Costing</td>
<td><em>Ch 3. Activity-Based Costing</em> pp. 43 – 53 (see page numbers on bottoms of pages)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 4. Process Costing</em> pp. 55 – 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Read Module 47 E, F, and H (pp 386 – 391).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Study Multiple-Choice Questions 42 thru 65 (pp 401 – 404).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 5. Budgetary Control</em> pp. 79 – 90 (stop when you get to the section titled “Responsibility Accounting”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 6. Standard Costs and Balanced Scorecard</em> pp. 91 – 113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Jan 19</td>
<td><strong>QUIZ 1</strong> (Process Costing – Chapter 4 in Wiley Custom Book)</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Read Module 47 E, F, and H (pp 386 – 391).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Process Costing (continued)</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Study Multiple-Choice Questions 42 thru 65 (pp 401 – 404).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budgetary Control and Standard Costs</td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(continued)</td>
<td><em>Ch 7. Cost-Volume-Profit</em> pp. 115 – 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Jan 26</td>
<td>No class this week. Prepare for CPA Exam – Audit section.</td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week of Feb 2</td>
<td><strong>QUIZ 2</strong> (Standard Costs – Chapter 6 in Wiley Custom Book)</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Read Module 47 E, F, and H (pp 386 – 391).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budgetary Control and Standard Costs (continued)</td>
<td><strong>Wiley CPAexcel:</strong> Study Multiple-Choice Questions 42 thru 65 (pp 401 – 404).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Wiley custom book:</strong> Read the following chapters:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Ch 7. Cost-Volume-Profit</em> pp. 115 – 132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Week of Feb 9 | Budgetary Control and Standard Costs (continued) | **Wiley custom book**: Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 8. CVP Analysis – Additional Issues* pp. 133 – 152  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Read Module 47 A (pp 375 – 377).  
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| **QUIZ 3** (Cost-Volume-Profit – Chapter 7 in Wiley Custom Book)  
Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis | **Wiley custom book**: Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 9. Incremental Analysis* pp. 153 – 166  
- *Ch 18. Planning for Capital Investments* pp. 329 – 351  
- *Ch 10. Introduction to Internal Controls* pp. 167 – 186  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Read Module 46 N (pp 352 – 353).  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 58 thru 62 (pg 362).  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 66 thru 70; 75 thru 78 (pp 404 – 406). |
| Week of Feb 16 | Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis (continued)  
Differential (Incremental) Analysis  
Capital Investment Analysis | **Wiley CPAexcel**: Read Module 43 Capital Budgeting A thru E (pp 203 – 207).  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 28 thru 60 (pp 223 – 226).  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Read Modules 40 A, B, and C (pp 37 – 56).  
*Wiley CPAexcel*: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 1 thru 51 (pp 57 – 60). |
| Week of Feb 23 | Capital Investment Analysis (continued)  
**QUIZ 4** (Internal Controls – Chapter 10 in Wiley Custom Book)  
Corporate Governance | **Wiley custom book**: Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 12. Information Technology and AISs* pp. 205 – 230 |
| Week of Mar 2 | Spring Recess – No Classes | |
| Week of Mar 9 | U01 (Tuesday): Corporate Governance (continued)  
**EXAM 1** (Thursday) | **Wiley custom book**: Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 12. Information Technology and AISs* pp. 205 – 230 |
| Week of Mar 16 | Fundamentals of Information Technology  
**QUIZ 5** (Information Technology – Chapter 12 in Wiley custom book)  
Review Exam 1 | **Wiley custom book:** Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 13. Computer Controls for Organizations* pp. 231 – 255  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Read Module 41 A thru D (pp 69 – 89).  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Study Multiple-Choice Questions 1 thru 98 (pp 101 – 108). |
| Week of Mar 23 | Security, Internal Controls, and E-Commerce  
Finance | **Wiley custom book:** Read the following chapter:  
- *Ch 15. Information Technology Auditing* pp. 281 – 291 (begin with section titled “Auditing Computerized Accounting Information Systems”)  
- *Ch 16. Working Capital Management* pp. 293 – 308  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Read Module 41 E and F (pp 90 – 100).  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Study Multiple-Choice Questions 99 thru 149 (pp 108 – 113).  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Read Module 44 pp 241 - 253.  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Study Multiple-Choice Questions 1 thru 80 (pp 269 – 277). |
| Week of Mar 30 | **QUIZ 6** (Working Capital Mgmt – Chapter 16 in Wiley Custom Book)  
Finance (continued)  
Economics | **Wiley custom book:** Read the following chapters:  
- *Ch 17. Cost of Capital* pp. 309 – 327  
- *Ch 19. Introduction to Economics* pp. 353 – 357  
- *Ch 20. Demand, Supply, and Price Determination* pp. 359 – 389  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Read Module 44 pp 253 - 267.  
**Wiley CPAexcel:** Study Multiple-Choice Questions 81 thru 138 (pp 277 – 282). |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of April 6</th>
<th>QUIZ 7 (Demand, Supply, and Price Determination – Chapter 20 in Wiley Custom Book)</th>
<th>Wiley custom book: Read the following chapters:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                | Economics (continued)                                                            | • *Ch 21. Benefits, Costs, and Maximization* pp. 391 – 397 (begin with section titled “Balancing Benefits and Costs: The Business,” and stop when you get to the section titled “Social Benefits and Costs”)
|                |                                                                                  | • *Ch 22. Production and the Costs of Production* pp. 399 – 414 (begin with section titled “Methods of Production”)
|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Read Module 42 Microeconomics A thru G pp 133 - 145.  
|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 1 thru 58 (pp 167 – 171).|
| Week of April 13 | EXAM 2 (Thursday)                                                                | Wiley custom book: Read the following chapters: |
|                |                                                                                  | • *Ch 23. Competition and Market Structures* pp. 415 – 449  
|                |                                                                                  | • *Ch 24. Goals and Problems of the Macroeconomy* pp. 451 – 457  
|                |                                                                                  | • *Ch 25. Foundations of the Macroeconomy* pp. 459 – 461  
|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Read Module 42 Macroeconomics A thru C pp 145 - 149.  
|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 59 thru 70 (pg 172).|
| Week of April 20 | Economics (continued)                                                            | Wiley custom book: Read the following chapters: |
|                |                                                                                  | • *Ch 27. Money Creation, Monetary Theory, and Monetary Policy* pp. 479 – 502  
|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Read Module 42 Macroeconomics D thru G pp 149 - 151.  
<p>|                |                                                                                  | Wiley CPAexcel: Study Multiple-Choice Questions 71 thru 90 (pp 172 – 174).|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday April 28</th>
<th>Economics (continued)</th>
<th>Wiley custom book: Read the following chapters:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section U01 only</td>
<td></td>
<td>• <em>Ch 28. International Trade</em> pp. 503 – 512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• <em>Ch 29. International Finance</em> pp. 513 – 524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(begin with section titled “Exchanging Currencies,” and stop when you get to the section titled “Challenges to the International Financial System”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wiley CPAexcel: Read Module 42 Macroeconomics H thru J pp 152 - 156.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final Exams:**  
Section U01: Thursday, May 7, 2:00 – 4:30  
Section U90: Thursday, May 7, 5:00 – 7:30
Please print, fill out, and bring with you to class on Thursday, January 8, 2015

Student Information Form
ACCT 6240, Spring 2015

1. Section (circle one): 3:30pm 5:30pm

2. Name ____________________________ Phone ____________________________
   Name by which you would like to be called in class (if different from above) ____________________________
   (Circle one) Male Female
   Hometown (where did you grow up?) ____________________________

3. Experience:
   A. Previous accounting-related employment (circle one) None Part-time Internship Full-time
   B. Briefly describe any work experience related to accounting:

4. Have you taken a managerial accounting or cost accounting class? Yes No (circle one)

5. Have you taken an economics class? Yes No (circle one)

6. If you currently have a job, where do you work? ____________________________

7. If you have a job, how many hours per week do you work? ____________________________

8. Career Interests:
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

9. Comments and/or other information:
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________