

Management Accounting for MBAs

MBAD 6131 – Section U90

Fall 2018

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. David Kerr

E-mail: dkerr@uncc.edu

Office Hours: Feel free to stop by anytime.
You can also contact me 24/7 via e-mail.

Regular office hours in the **Center City Building room 713**:
Tuesday 4:50 – 5:20pm, 8:15 – 8:45pm, Center City bldg., room 713
Wednesday (on class days) before class (3:30 – 5:20), and after class as needed.

Class Hours: Wednesday (beginning August 22) 5:30 – 8:15, Center City bldg. room 905.

Textbook

Accounting Principles: A Business Perspective, 10th Edition. Authors: Hermanson, Edwards, and Hermanson. Published by Textbook Media Press. ISBN: 978-1-930789-85-2. Available at the bookstore in the UNC Center City building.

Course Description

MBAD 6131 focuses on how accounting information is derived and how business managers use that information in making decisions and evaluating the activities and performance of employees of the business. A portion of this course will involve review of **financial accounting** topics, including an accelerated and in-depth study of conceptual foundations and applications of financial accounting and financial management with emphasis on building accounting and finance information bases for external decision making and analysis of financial statements. Most of this course will involve study of **managerial accounting** topics, including the use of accounting information for operating decisions with a focus on strategic cost management, how to use cost and other management accounting information in making sound and ethical decisions, and issues of design and operation of management control systems including the intended and unintended consequences of performance measurement.

This course is structured in a hybrid format. We will meet as a face-to-face class on Wednesday August 22 and Wednesday August 29 and **every other Wednesday** thereafter. Between those meetings, you will need to log onto **Canvas** to view online lecture videos on selected topics and complete other activities online to prepare for each subsequent face-to-face class.

I believe that the best way to learn the course material is to gain experience through problem solving. During the course, we will spend a considerable amount of time applying the material covered in this class to real world managerial decisions. The conceptual materials for the course are provided in the textbook, *Accounting Principles: A Business Perspective* (10th edition) by Hermanson, Edwards, and Hermanson. Readings and problems from this book are assigned for most class sessions. An important goal of the readings is to help you to develop a framework with which you can analyze business problems in a variety of management contexts.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is for you to learn important concepts of financial and managerial accounting, financial management, and internal and external reporting that influence and support decision making by managers. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. explain basic **accounting concepts** and terms;
2. describe the differences between **financial and managerial accounting**;
3. describe the purpose and contents of different types of **financial statements** and interpret the information found on those financial statements;
4. calculate the **cost of manufacturing a product** or providing a service;
5. calculate and interpret **variances** in manufacturing costs by comparing actual with expected results;
6. evaluate **special decision-making situations** such as those involving capital investments;
7. describe the behavior of various types of costs and how they affect **cost-volume-profit** relationships.

General Comments

Welcome to Management Accounting for MBAs at UNC Charlotte! I am looking forward to getting to know each of you during 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. Do not approach the course as if your only goal is to perform well on exams. You should make every effort to stay on schedule and not fall behind. The best thing to do is plan ahead and budget your time suitably so you can keep up in every class.

Please stop by my office whenever you feel you need help. In addition, I welcome your suggestions about how the course could be improved.

Performance Evaluation

Your grade in the course will be based on three team quizzes and three exams. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. Your best two exam scores will be doubled as follows:

	<i>Points Available</i>
Lowest exam score (100 points possible)	100
Other exam score 100 x 2	200
Other exam score 100 x 2	200
Team quizzes (best 2 of 3 @ 9 points each).....	<u>18</u>
Total possible points	<u>518</u>

Preliminary Grading Scale

<u>Total Points Earned</u>	<u>Course Grade</u>
466.2 – 518.0	A
388.5 – 466.1	B
310.8 – 388.4	C
Less than 310.8	U

Teams and Team Quizzes

During the first day of class, you will form a team with three or four other members of the class. In subsequent class meetings, you will interact with your team members, with other members of the class, and with me as we work through questions and problems and take quizzes. A significant portion of the learning process will occur during these interactions as you work closely with one another and with me discussing and clarifying issues that you find difficult to understand.

Three **team quizzes** will be given in class during the semester. Each quiz is worth 9 points and will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and/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, including the course's online activities.

Quizzes are closed-book, but each member of your team may use one **4" x 6" note card** with notes on both the front and the back. **Note cards must be hand-written** (not typed or photocopied).

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, work, 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 4" x 6" note card** with notes on the front and back when taking each exam. **Your note card must be hand-written** (not typed or photocopied).

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.

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)
- Calculator (must not be a calculator app on a cellphone)

As stated previously, you may use a handwritten notecard during exams. You may also use, but not share, a calculator during exams. However, all books, computers, tablets, cell phones, and scratch paper must be put completely away before the test. In addition, you may not wear any type of "smartwatch."

During exams and when reviewing exams, you may not copy any of the questions. This includes, but is not limited to, writing down, taking pictures of, or verbal dictation of the questions.

Canvas (UNC Charlotte Learning Management System)

Online Videos: You will need a computer and reliable Internet access to view course videos throughout the semester. These videos are available on *Canvas*. In addition, links to several YouTube videos and Investopedia articles on selected topics are provided on *Canvas*. The dates on which you should view each video and article are indicated on *Canvas*.

Class Notes: Class notes for each topic we will cover in this course are available on *Canvas*. You will work through those notes while viewing the online videos and during face-to-face class meetings. The notes are in PDF format; I recommend you print the notes prior to viewing the related video. You should also bring the notes with you to class meetings.

Exam Scores: You can use *Canvas* to check your exam scores. Click the **GRADES** button in the Navigation area on the left side of your screen.

To access *Canvas*, open your browser and go to **canvas.uncc.edu**.

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 and the online videos as well as in the homework assignments and readings. If you are unable to attend a class, please let me know in advance.

Verbal communication skills and the ability to “think on your feet” are important for professionals. You should be prepared each day to respond to questions from other members of the class and from me. I will conduct this class in an atmosphere of mutual respect. I encourage your active participation in class discussions. The sharing of differing ideas is encouraged and welcome. However, I will exercise my responsibility to manage the discussions so that ideas and argument can proceed in an orderly fashion.

Promptness is important and is an expected quality of MBA students. 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 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; 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 6 of this syllabus. Finally, please note that there will be **no “extra credit” work** available, no “do-over” exams, and exams are not curved. **I will not grade you differently than other students or raise your end-of-semester grade – please don’t ask.**

Policies Regarding Academic Honesty

A high level of ethical conduct is a critically important attribute of members of the business profession. The importance of ethical conduct extends into the academic arena where the profession’s future leaders are being prepared. Thus, **MBA 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 following website: 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 consulting notes or books during exams or quizzes unless explicitly permitted.
- (4) Not passing or receiving information about an exam or quiz to other students;
- (5) The questions used on exams and quizzes are copyrighted. Therefore, you are not permitted to write down or take pictures of any of the questions. This applies not only during exams or quizzes but also when reviewing exams or quizzes.

Cell Phones and Computers

The use of cell phones, beepers, or other communication devices is disruptive and is therefore prohibited during class. Please **turn your cell phone off** before entering the classroom.

You are permitted to use computers or tablets during class for note-taking and other class-related work. The use of computers or tablets during class for activities not related to the class is distracting to other students (and to you) and is not allowed.

Statement on Students with Disabilities

UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please provide me with a letter of accommodation from Disability Services early in the semester. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or visit their office at Fretwell 230 on main campus.

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.

Course Schedule

(Subject to revision)

Date	Format	Chapters in Textbook
Week 1 Wednesday August 22	Classroom	Note: Download class notes from Canvas . We will discuss and fill in some of the notes in class, so bring them with you. Introduction to the Course. Review of Financial Accounting Concepts and Terms.
Week 2 Wednesday August 29	Classroom	(continued) Review of Financial Accounting Concepts and Terms.
Week 3 September 5	Online	<i>Chapter 7: Measuring and Reporting Inventories</i> (In the textbook, you may skip the section titled "Estimating Inventory" on pages 291 through 295.)
Week 4 Wednesday September 12	Classroom	Quiz 1 – Chapter 7. <i>Chapter 26: Analysis Using the Statement of Cash Flows</i> (focus on the indirect method, not the direct method). (Skip the Appendix.)
Week 5 September 19	Online	No online assignment this week; study for Exam 1.
Week 6 Wednesday September 26	Classroom	Exam 1 (Review of Financial Accounting, Chapter 7, and Chapter 26).
Week 7 October 3	Online	<i>Chapter 25: Capital Budgeting: Long-Range Planning</i>
Week 8 Wednesday October 10	Classroom	Quiz 2 – Chapter 25. <i>Chapter 17: Managerial Accounting Concepts / Job Cost Systems.</i>
Week 9 Wednesday October 17	Online	<i>Chapter 17 Appendix: Variable versus Absorption Costing.</i>
Week 10 Wednesday October 24	Classroom	Quiz 3 – Chapter 17 Appendix. (continued) <i>Chapter 17: Managerial Accounting Concepts / Job Cost Systems.</i>
Week 11 Wednesday October 31	Online	<i>Chapter 20: Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis.</i>
Week 12 Wednesday November 7	Classroom	Exam 2 (Chapter 17, Chapter 17 Appendix, Chapter 20, and Chapter 25).

Week 13 Wednesday November 14	Online	<i>Chapter 22: Budgeting for Planning and Control.</i>
Week 14 Wednesday November 21		No Classes – Thanksgiving Break
Week 15 Wednesday November 28	Classroom	<i>Chapter 23: Control through Standard Costs.</i>
Week 16 Wednesday December 5	Online	<i>(continued) Chapter 23: Control through Standard Costs.</i>

Exam 3 (Chapter 22 and Chapter 23): Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 – 8:15

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.

