

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING – ACCT5301

EXECUTIVE MBA | SPRING 2018
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Instructor:

Paulette D. Rodriguez, CMA, MAcc

- Email: pdrodriguez3@utep.edu
- Personal Link <http://linkedin.com/in/pauletteCMA>
- Google Voicemail/Text: (915) 229-5841
- Office: CoBA 255
 - T/Th, 1:30pm-2:50pm, COBA Computer Lab – 3rd floor
 - By appointment: <https://calendly.com/paulette-cma>

Class Sessions

Class Meeting Time:

- Fridays, 8am – 12pm: January 26, February 9, February 23, March 9, March 23
- Saturdays, 1pm – 5pm: January 27, February 10, February 24, March 10, March 24

Location: GBC 520A

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

ACCT 5301 is the first accounting course in the MBA program. The course provides an overview of financial accounting and presentation with an emphasis on the interpretation of financial statements. Financial statements contain information used in various ways by investors, creditors, regulators and other decision makers outside and inside the firm. For most of you, your chosen profession, at a minimum, requires some ability to understand, interpret and use financial statement information.

Because accounting is "the language of business" the concepts and procedures learned in this class are relevant to any business career. This is a rigorous course that covers a great deal of material, at a high level.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To familiarize the student with various concepts related to income and expense recognition, as well as the recording of assets, liabilities, and owner's equity
- To master the basic accounting cycle and understand transaction analysis
- To develop an understanding of the financial statement components – the balance sheet, the income statement, and the statement of cash flows
- To develop an awareness of how financial statement information can be used for effective decision making
- To equip the student with the tools required to perform financial statement analysis

COURSE RESOURCES:

Blackboard

You must have access to BLACKBOARD for this course. You can login to BLACKBOARD at <http://my.UTEP.edu>. Our 'virtual classroom' in BLACKBOARD will include items such as:

- The course syllabus, schedule, and assignments
- ANNOUNCEMENTS to communicate changes to the course and other course information, as appropriate.
- Grades
- All course resources: presentations, videos, and course calendar with due dates

We will spend some time during the first class session reviewing the organization and content of our course on-line.

Textbook

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING: AN INTRODUCTION TO CONCEPTS, METHODS AND USES, 14TH EDITION

Roman L. Weil University of Chicago

Katherine Schipper Duke University

Jennifer Francis Duke University

ISBN-10: 1111823456 | ISBN-13: 9781111823450

Cengage Now

Follow the prompts in Blackboard to register in our CengageNOW course. After registering for our course, you will need to enter the access code that has been purchased for you.

COURSE ACTIVITIES:

Teaching Methodology

A typical class will involve both lecture and discussion. It is expected that interactive learning and teaching will enrich the learning experience of all students, and that each student will work in partnership with the professor to create a positive learning experience for all. Student engagement is a necessary condition for an effective learning experience, and includes contributions to debate and discussion (if any), positive interactive learning with others, and an enthusiastic attitude towards inquiry. Everyone is expected to be a positive contributor to the class learning community, and students are expected to share the responsibility of teaching each other.

The Accounting Cycle Examination

During our first weekend, I will cover financial statements derived from the accounting cycle, summarized in Chapters 1-3. At the end of Saturday's class, I will assign a problem as a take home examination. I expect you to complete the exam during the first two weeks of the semester. You are encouraged, but not required to work with others to complete the exam. **** Late work is not accepted. Don't even ask. Period. ****

In-Class Assessments.

There will be three (3) in-class assessments given on Fridays at 11am. These will be taken in class on an individual basis. They will reflect material discussed in class, in the homework and assigned readings. These are open-book, and open-note. Generally, these exams will consist of multiple choice questions.

Financial Analysis Project

Your final group assignment is to perform financial statement analysis for a company whose securities are traded on the US NYSE Stock Exchange. Each group should perform a ratio analysis of financial information, disclosures in the annual statements and the business press, and interpret this information from the point of view of an outsider. You will find the format for this assignment on the Financial Statement scoring rubric in Blackboard. Assignments must be uploaded and/or completed in Blackboard in order to receive credit.

Each group member **must present** in class (PowerPoint, Google Slides, etc.), and the group **must submit your presentation**. The presentation must include a 'diagnosis' of the financial health of this company, and why. Your presentation should include ratios, graphs and other illustrations. The Financial Statement grading rubric in Blackboard summarizes the content for your presentation. Be sure to use proper English in your presentation. Your group may choose the company, but I must approve it.

Practice Problems

You should remember that your grade would be based upon your ability to DO the work rather than on your ability to follow along as someone else does it. Accounting is learned through practice, practice, and practice.

In order to enhance this learning experience, practice problems have been assigned for each chapter and will be due before the next class meeting. Assessment dates are stated clearly on the course calendar in Blackboard. Since I know that 'life happens', you will be allowed to drop the two lowest scores from this portion of your grade.

Attendance

Attendance will not be taken. However, you should attend every class and participate in class to: a) learn as much as possible, and b) achieve a grade that you will be satisfied with.

Need for Assistance:

If you have any condition, such as a physical or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as I have outlined it, or which will require academic accommodations, please notify me as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

I expect all students to conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. You have the opportunity throughout your business career to demonstrate your own level of integrity. Similarly, in this class you will have an opportunity to demonstrate academic integrity. The two are inextricably linked. And let's not be naïve: just as we will see with accounting standards, issues of integrity are rarely black and white – they are invariably some shade of gray. I encourage you to think about the standard you set for business integrity in your career, and to implement that standard with respect to your academic integrity in this class. In so doing, you might want to keep the following quote from Samuel Johnson in mind: "The chains of habit are too weak to be felt until they are too strong to be broken".

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. For a definition of academic dishonesty and its consequences, see your student handbook.

For the purposes of this course, academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to,

- Copying another student's solution or allowing another student to copy your solution
- Removing or copying pages or problems from exams or quizzes, including those posted on the World Wide Web
- Any other activity that jeopardizes the integrity of this course.

EVALUATION:

Grades are not given; they are **EARNED**. You must work for it. Your grade will be based on results rather than on effort—your performance is an indicator of your ability to master the topic. Decide to work **NOW** for the grade you want. If you diligently work through the material, participate actively in class, and turn in a well researched and executed financial analysis project, you should be able to achieve the course objectives listed earlier.

Your grade will be based on the total number of points that you earn for each assignment group. The weight associated with each of the graded areas, and the total points required to earn the various grades, are shown below.

Assignment Group	Weight
In-Class Individual Assessments (3)	30%
Accounting Cycle Exam	10%
Practice Problems (drop 2 lowest grades)	40%
Financial Analysis Project (1)	20%
Total	100%

You will be able to check the status of your grade at any point during the quarter by accessing 'My Grades' section in Blackboard.

Your grade will be calculated using the following scale:

Grade	Level of Work	Percentage Range
A	Excellent, distinguished	90 – 100%
B	Very good, above average	80 – 89%
C	Average, Normal	70 – 79%
D	Below Average	60 - 69%
F	Failing	<60%

The instructor reserves the right to relax the standards and to make judgment calls at the end of the semester.

A grade of "**I**" (**Incomplete**) will be assigned only in circumstances in agreement with the current UTEP Graduate Catalog.

If you are taking this course under the S/U option, you must earn a "B" or better to receive a grade of "S."

CLASS SCHEDULE:

It is impossible to predict the precise flow of the course and dates may have to be adjusted slightly from time to time. Modifications to the schedule and changes in course requirements will be announced in class and/or through Blackboard. ***Reserve the right to change any assignment if circumstances dictate. Students will be notified of such changes through an announcement in class AND/OR via Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of such change.***