The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Accounting for Decision-Making

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACC</td>
<td>1101</td>
<td>40146</td>
<td>1, 2005</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Wide Bay</td>
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**Academic group:** FOBUS
**Academic org:** FOB008
**Student contribution band:** 2
**ASCED code:** 080101

**STAFFING**
Examiner: Mark Silvester

**SYNOPSIS**
This course introduces students to the complex world of commerce. It emphasises the practical and functional nature of business decisions from the perspective of financial accounting; managerial costing and budgetary policies; investing; and financing of business operations. Designed to provide a solid foundation for further study in both accounting and non-accounting disciplines, the course provides a logical introduction to the accounting environment and to the common financial accounting (external) reports and management accounting (internal) tools used for decision-making purposes. As it is important to develop an understanding not only of how the accounting reports are used, but how they are derived, the course also addresses the procedures underlying their preparation. As the course assessment contains online tests, students will require Internet access to USQConnect. Access to a valid email account will also be required.

**OBJECTIVES**
On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. discuss the environment of accounting and finance in Australia;
2. distinguish the key features of the environment of accounting and finance in realistic examples;
3. prepare each of two major financial accounting reports (Statement of Financial Position; Statement of Financial Performance); discuss the key features of the Statement of Cash Flows; and understand and discuss the accounting principles upon which they are based;
4. analyse basic business transactions in relation to their effects on the accounting equation and identified individual accounts;
5. discuss the role and function of the major components in the accounting cycle (source documents; journals; ledger) and demonstrate the transfer and processing of financial information for basic business transactions and events using these devices;
6. contrast the alternative accounting transaction recognition systems (cash; accrual);
7. perform balance day adjustments and prepare final financial accounting statements by making use of worksheets;
8. discuss the effect of merchandising operations on the financial accounting process;
9. for financial statement analysis, (a) discuss and apply common analysis techniques including financial ratios, (b) interpret the results of these analysis techniques and discuss the implications for a business, and (c) discuss the limitations of financial ratio analysis;
10. discuss business cost classifications, and apply this knowledge to undertake Cost-Volume-Profit analysis;
11. discuss the budgeting process, prepare budgets, and demonstrate the relevance of budgeting towards organisational planning and control;
12. explain the business investment decision-making process, and apply common investment appraisal tools;
13. discuss the main sources of finance for a business, and discuss the issues associated with working capital maintenance;
14. discuss the basic objectives of ethics in accounting; and
15. discuss various aspects of social and environmental accountability.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to Accounting and Finance</td>
<td>9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. General Purpose Financial Reports and the Statement of Financial Position</td>
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<td>3. The Statement of Financial Performance</td>
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<td>4. Transaction Analysis</td>
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<td>5. The Recording Process</td>
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<td>6. Adjusting Entries, Financial Statement Preparation and Worksheets</td>
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<td>7. Financial Statement Analysis</td>
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<td>8. CVP Analysis</td>
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<td>9. Budgeting</td>
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<td>10. Investment Appraisal</td>
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<td>11. Finance Sources and the Maintenance of Working Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Ethics and Accountability</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

ACC1101 study package available from the USQ Bookshop.


(The Horngren et al. text is published as a Custombook for USQ purposes and is only available for purchase from the USQ Bookshop. It comprises only relevant chapters from the full edition of the text. Students intending to continue with further accounting studies have the option to purchase the full edition, as it will be used in a subsequent course.)


**REFERENCE MATERIALS**

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONLINE TEST 1</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>15 Apr 2005 (see note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONLINE TEST 2</td>
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<td>29 Apr 2005</td>
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<td>ONLINE TEST 3</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
<td>13 May 2005</td>
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<td>ONLINE TEST 4</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
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<td>EXAM PART A (MULTI-CHOICE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXAM PART B (QUESTIONS)</td>
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<td>64.00</td>
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NOTES
1. Students are required to complete each online test by the due date. Each online test will be available from the USQConnect Study Desk. Students will not be permitted to attempt any online test after its respective due date.

2. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date for Exam (Parts A and B) after the timetable has been finalised. The total working time for Exam (Parts A and B) is 3 hours.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. If you are an international student in Australia you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. Failure to attend may infringe the conditions of your student visa.

2. Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To complete the examination satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for the examination.

3. Penalties for late submission of required work:
   Not applicable.

4. Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% in the examination and at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.

5. Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6. Examination information:
   This is a restricted examination. Candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material...
which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination); calculators which
cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the
make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination); translation
dictionary (but not a technical dictionary) (With the examiner's approval, candidates
may take an appropriate non-electronic translation dictionary into the examination.
This will be subject to perusal and, if it is found to contain annotations or markings
that could give the candidate an unfair advantage, it may be removed from the candidate's
possession until the appropriate disciplinary action is completed). Students are not
permitted to take mobile telephones, pagers or other electronic means of communication
into the examination room.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the
next examination period.

8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10
Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might
contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL
http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm. Students should also read
the Faculty of Business Guide to Policies and Procedures of the Faculty which can be

ASSESSMENT NOTES

1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must
despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the
despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each
assignment submitted for assessment. This must be produced within 24 hours if required
by the Examiner. (iii) The Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an
assignment in extenuating circumstances. If students submit assignments after the due
date and wish to claim extenuating circumstances then they shall provide validated
documentary evidence with the assignment, explaining the circumstances. The Examiner
shall consider the statement accompanying a late assignment and decide on the outcome.
(iv) The Examiner will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed
or printed on paper-based media. (v) The Examiner will not accept submission of
assignments by facsimile. (vi) Assignments are to be submitted with the appropriate
assignment cover.

2 Referencing: Students are required to use the Harvard referencing system in assignment
submissions, where questions are not of a practical nature.

3 Course Weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying
to the number of marks allocated to questions testing those topics in an examination
paper. The examination may test material already tested in assignments.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 E-mail and Internet Access: Students will require access to e-mail and Internet access
to USQConnect for this course, as most course communication is conducted
electronically, and due to the requirement to complete online tests.