

New York University
Stern School of Business
Principles of Financial Accounting
Summer 2017
Class Sessions: Monday and Wednesday
9:00am – 12:10pm
Tisch UC21

Instructor

Svenja Dube

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Office hours:

- KMC Room 10-95
- Mondays 5pm – 6pm
- Wednesdays 1:30pm – 2:30 pm

Teaching Assistant

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Office hours:

- KMC Room 10-181
- Thursdays 4pm-5pm

Course Description

Accounting is the language of business. Accounting is the tool businesses use to measure and communicate their financial results. By understanding accounting, not only will you be able to evaluate the current condition of a business but you will also be able to assess its likely future prospects. The objective of this course is not to train you to become an accountant but rather to help you develop into an informed user of financial statement information. Particularly, students will learn how to read, understand, and analyze financial statements. We will achieve this by understanding the mapping between underlying economic events and financial statements, and by understanding how this mapping affects inferences about future profitability. Essential for achieving this goal is to understand accounting principles, how to record Journal Entries, and how financial statements are prepared.

Several features of the course are used to facilitate these learnings objectives. The textbook provides a conceptual foundation for the course by introducing the accounting framework and by characterizing accounting principles and alternative methods. Classes are a combination of lectures, to familiarize you with new material, real world

examples (e.g. from actual firm's financial statements or news), and practice problems. Regular homework assignments will give you additional practice of the learned material.

Required Text and Material

- Libby, Libby, and Short, "Financial Accounting" 8th Edition Custom Value Edition for New York University (or similar). The textbook covers the basic material in the course, including background information, accounting rules and conventions.
- I will bring a printed set of (partial) slides to each class.
- After each class, I will post the final slides on NYU classes.
- Nonprogrammable calculator.

Grading

Professionalism	10%
Homework Assignments	15%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	45%

Professionalism

Each class builds on the previous sessions; as such, I cannot overemphasize the need for regular attendance, preparation and participation. Please be on time. I encourage you to ask questions.

Research indicates that laptop use in large lecture/discussion courses detracts from student learning. Consequently, I expect you to limit laptop use (as well as use of other electronic devices) to before/after class and/or during scheduled class breaks.

Homework

There will be four homework assignments – generally one per week. Homework assignment due dates are indicated in the course schedule. Please submit your homework through NYU Classes. The purpose of these assignments is to give you an opportunity to keep up with the material on an ongoing basis, practice, and show me - and yourself - that you have understood and learned the material. Please understand that completing the homework assignments is key for success in the course. You may work in groups, but assignments must be solved by YOU. Assignments will not be accepted late, however, I will drop the lowest score of homework assignments.

Exams

There will be one midterm and one final exam. Both exams will be closed book/closed notes. Nonprogrammable calculators are permitted (smartphones, blackberries,

scientific calculators or any device with internet access or memory capacity are **not** permitted).

Academic Integrity

Integrity is critical to the learning process and to all that we do here at NYU Stern. As members of our community, all students agree to abide by the NYU Stern Student Code of Conduct, which includes a commitment to:

- Exercise integrity in all aspects of one's academic work including, but not limited to, the preparation and completion of exams, papers and all other course requirements by not engaging in any method or means that provides an unfair advantage.
- Clearly acknowledge the work and efforts of others when submitting written work as one's own. Ideas, data, direct quotations (which should be designated with quotation marks), paraphrasing, creative expression, or any other incorporation of the work of others should be fully referenced.
- Refrain from behaving in ways that knowingly support, assist, or in any way attempt to enable another person to engage in any violation of this Code of Conduct. Our support also includes reporting any observed violations of this Code of Conduct or other School and University policies that are deemed to adversely affect the NYU Stern community.

Code of Conduct

Students are also expected to maintain and abide by the highest standards of professional conduct and behavior. Please familiarize yourself with Stern's policy in Regard to In-Class Behavior & Expectations and the NYU Disruptive Behavior Policy (<http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/bullying--threatening--and-other-disruptive-behavior-guidelines.html>).

Students with Disabilities

If you have a qualified disability and will require academic accommodation of any kind during this course, you must notify me at the beginning of the course and provide a letter from the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD, (212) 998-4980, www.nyu.edu/csd) verifying your registration and outlining the accommodations they recommend. If you will need to take an exam at the CSD, you must submit a completed Exam Accommodations Form to them at least one week prior to the scheduled exam time to be guaranteed accommodation.

Preliminary Class Schedule

Class	Date	Topic	HW
1	Mon, May 22	Chapter 1: Financial Statements and Business Decisions	
2	Wed, May 24	Chapter 2: Investing and Financing Decisions and the Balance Sheet Chapter 3: Operating Decisions and the Income Statement	
3	Wed, May 31	Chapter 4: Adjustments, Financial Statements, and the Quality of Earnings	HW 1
4	Mon, Jun 5	Chapter 6: Reporting and Interpreting Sales Revenue, Receivables, and Cash	HW 2
5	Wed, Jun 7	Chapter 7: Reporting and Interpreting Cost of Goods Sold and Inventory	
6	Mon, Jun 12	Midterm Exam Chapter 8: Property, Plant & Equipment; Intangibles; Natural Resources	
7	Wed, Jun 14	Chapter 9: Reporting and Interpreting Liabilities	
8	Mon, Jun 19	Chapter 10: Bonds	HW 3
9	Wed, Jun 21	Chapter 12: Statement of Cash flows	
10	Mon, Jun 26	Chapter 11: Reporting and Interpreting Owner's Equity	HW 4
11	Wed, Jun 28	Final Exam	