

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
LEONARD N. STERN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Principles of Financial Accounting
ACCT-UB 1 003
Monday and Wednesday 9:30am – 10:45am
Spring 2024

Professor: John P. Hopkins
Office: KMC 10-79
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Email: jph9504@stern.nyu.edu
Office Hours: Professor Hopkins

- Monday and Wednesday 11:00am–1:00pm
 - While certainly not required, I recommend, whenever possible, making an appointment for office hours. I certainly welcome all students dropping by when convenient for your schedules, but I just want to avoid you having to wait as I will need to give priority to those students who did make an appointment.
- Also available by appointment outside of the above days and times, including evenings and weekends via zoom.

Teaching Fellow: Yash Tibrewal
yash.tibrewal@stern.nyu.edu
Office Hours: Will be posted week one.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the theory, concepts and procedures utilized in the accounting process.
2. Recognize the relationship the four financial statements (balance sheet, statement of operations, statement of stockholder's equity and the statement of cash flows, along with the accompanying footnote disclosures) have to the evaluation of a business transaction. This understanding will assist you in becoming sophisticated users of the financial statements, each of which tell part of the story about the company's performance.
3. Supplement the course material with real world applications to put the financial issues we will cover into context.
4. Using real world examples, understand the financial issue together with the associated accounting disclosures.
5. Study the major corporate financial reporting instruments which will include understanding Form 10-K and Form 10-Q disclosure requirements.
6. Study the interrelationships between financial statements and line items within each financial statement.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Required: Financial Accounting: Libby, Libby & Hodge, 11th edition; McGraw Hill. **With access to Connect.**

Please access Brightspace under the tab titled "Textbook Purchase Instructions" (please see screenshot below) to register for the textbook.

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a Brightspace course page. The browser tabs include 'Stern Life', 'NYU Home', 'Textbook Purchase', 'Launch Meeting', 'Inbox (621) - jph', and 'Inbox (1,471) - jpl'. The address bar shows the URL 'brightspace.nyu.edu/d2l/le/lessons/344468/units/9607431'. The course title is 'ACCT-UB Sections 1 003 and 1 007 - Spring 2024'. The navigation menu includes 'Content', 'Announcements', 'Assignments', 'Discussions', 'Quizzes', 'Grades', 'Zoom', 'More Tools', 'Course Reports', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Textbook Purchase Instructions' and contains the following text:

Class, below is the link to McGraw Hill Connect titled "Frontmatter" that will launch the Connect registration page. (Note: You do not need to read the information in "Frontmatter" at this time, but it is available for your future reference.) Upon launching the Frontmatter tab, please follow the prompts received to complete the textbook registration.

*If you are experiencing any technical issues with Connect, please contact McGraw-Hill Connect directly at 800-331-5094. (Monday to Thursday 24 hours, Friday 12:00 am to 9 pm EST, Saturday 10:00 am to 8:00 pm EST, and Sunday 12:00 pm to 12:00 am EST). McGraw Hill's technical support is fantastic, so please do not hesitate to contact them.

ASSIGNMENTS / GRADING:

There are reading and/or problem assignments for each class. ***The homework assignments are clearly listed in Connect. The assignments need to be completed and will be graded in Connect.*** It is recommended that in addition to the homework assignments, you review the self-study items contained within each chapter in Connect if you are having difficulties with the homework assignments.

The grading in the course will be as follows:

Midterm Exam 1	28%
Midterm Exam 2	30%
Final Exam	34%
Homework	8%
Total	100%

(Homework is graded online through McGraw Hill Connect)

If you believe that an exam has been incorrectly graded, you must submit and hand in to me a written request within 7 days of the announcement of grades, including a brief written statement identifying what may have been incorrectly graded and why you believe that an error in grading has been made. Requests made after that will not be considered. Please note that the entire exam will be re-graded. Exams that have been or are suspected of being altered for the purpose of re-grading will not be re-graded and the Student Disciplinary Committee will be notified.

UNDERGRADUATE GRADING GUIDELINES

Grading Information for Stern Core Courses

At NYU Stern, we strive to create courses that challenge students intellectually and that meet the Stern standards of academic excellence. To ensure fairness and clarity of grading, the Stern faculty have adopted a grading guideline for core courses with enrollments of more than 25 students in which approximately 35% of students will receive an "A" or "A-" grade. In core classes of less than 25 students, the instructor is at liberty to give whatever grades they think the students deserve, while maintaining rigorous academic standards.

LAPTOPS, CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The use of tablets and electronic devices that are laid flat on the desk, for the purpose of note-taking only, is permitted. However, students should make every effort to avoid distracting their classmates or disrupting the class, including arriving early and choosing a seat that is less distracting for peers.

CLASS ATTENDANCE / PARTICIPATION:

You are expected to attend all classes. Your participation, whether through questions or providing your insight on the topics we cover is very valuable as it provides the stimulus for a broader class discussion

As we will cover a great deal of material *in* the class sessions, which will include material not covered in the readings and/or homework, your attendance will be critical to keeping current and being prepared for the exams as all subjects covered, both in the class and in the written materials, will be part of each exam. Past semesters have shown a strong correlation between class attendance and overall course performance. The material we cover in class supplements the material in the book. Therefore, reading the book is a compliment (not a substitute) for attending class. I understand that over the course of 28 sessions, personal and religious conflicts come up and you may need to miss a class. If you miss class, please ensure to stay updated and review the material that you missed.

In addition, to make the in-class lectures more engaging, the lecture notes that are provided in Brightspace prior to class are "EDITED", meaning that certain key words or phrases have been omitted. Accordingly, class attendance is critical to complete the missing items in order to fully understand the subject matter being covered. Therefore, if you are unable to attend a class lecture, it is incumbent on you to review the class recording, review the textbook and/or collaborate with one of your classmates in order to complete the lecture note documents.

BRIGHTSPACE PLATFORM:

This course makes extensive use of the NYU LMS (Brightspace) platform for communications, discussion and grading. Students should consult the course's Brightspace page, especially the Announcements, frequently. Important course information such as updates to the syllabus or changes to the course schedule will be communicated via Brightspace announcements.

EMAIL POLICY:

Please ensure that your email queries are self-contained and detailed and that it can be answered in a reasonably short way. Also, unless your question is specific to a particular problem in the readings or a homework exercise / problem, please pretend that we are with no books or documents in sight when we receive your email or we may not be able to appropriately answer you.

GENERAL CONDUCT & BEHAVIOR

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 for Graduate and Undergraduate students.

(<https://www.stern.nyu.edu/portal-partners/registrar/policies-procedures/general-policies/code-conduct>) (<http://www.stern.nyu.edu/portal-partners/current-students/undergraduate/resources-policies/academic-policies/index.htm>) and the NYU Student Conduct Policy (<https://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/university-student-conduct-policy.html>).

STERN CODE OF CONDUCT

The Stern Code of Conduct and Judiciary Process applies to all students enrolled in Stern courses. For undergraduates, information can be found here: <https://www.stern.nyu.edu/portal-partners/current-students/undergraduate/community/community-expectations>

To help ensure the integrity of our learning community, prose assignments you submit to NYU Brightspace will be submitted to Turnitin. Turnitin will compare your submission to a database of prior submissions to Turnitin, current and archived Web pages, periodicals, journals, and publications. Additionally, your document will become part of the Turnitin database.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Our undergraduate [Academics Pillar](#) states that ***we take pride in our well-rounded education and approach our academics with honesty and integrity.*** Indeed, integrity is critical to all that we do here at NYU Stern. As members of our community, all students agree to abide by the [NYU Academic Integrity Policies](#) as well as 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 the 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.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY

If you 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 Student Accessibility ([212-998-4980](tel:212-998-4980), mosescsa@nyu.edu) verifying your registration and outlining the accommodations they recommend. If you will need to take an exam at the Moses Center for Student Accessibility, you must submit a completed Exam Accommodations Form to them at least one week prior to the scheduled exam time to be guaranteed accommodation. For more information, visit the CSA website: <https://www.nyu.edu/students/communities-and-groups/student-accessibility.html>

STUDENT WELLNESS

Our aim is for students to be as successful academically as they can, and to help them overcome any impediments to that. Bookmark the NYU Stern Well-being Resource Hub (<https://www.stern.nyu.edu/wellbeing>) for existing services at NYU and Stern covering a wide variety of topics including financial well-being, relationship well-being, mental well-being, and more. Any student who may be struggling and believes this may affect their performance in this course is urged to contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (see also the Student Accessibility section of this syllabus) at 212-998-4980 to discuss academic accommodations. If mental health assistance is needed, call the NYU's 24/7 Wellness Exchange hotline 212-443-9999. Furthermore, please approach me if you feel comfortable doing so. This will enable me to provide relevant resources or referrals. There are also drop in hours and appointments. Find out more at <http://www.nyu.edu/students/health-and-wellness/counseling-services.html>

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES AND OTHER ABSENCES

NYU's [Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#) states that members of any religious group may, without penalty, absent themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. You must notify me in advance of religious holidays or observances that might coincide with exams, assignments, or class times to schedule mutually acceptable alternatives. Students may also contact religiousaccommodations@nyu.edu for assistance.

NYU Stern is committed to ensuring an equitable educational experience for all students regardless of identity or circumstances and strives to recognize the obligations its students have outside of Stern. Please review all class dates at the start of the semester and review all course requirements to identify any foreseeable conflicts with exams, course assignments, projects, or other items required for participation and attendance. If you are aware of a potential conflict, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss any potential conflicts to determine whether/how they can be accommodated.

NAME PRONUNCIATION AND PRONOUNS

NYU Stern students now have the ability to include their pronouns and name pronunciation in Albert. I encourage you to share your name pronunciation and preferred pronouns this way. Please utilize this link for additional information: [Pronouns & Name Pronunciation](#)

INCLUSION STATEMENT

This course strives to support and cultivate diversity of thought, perspectives, and experiences. The intent is to present materials and activities that will challenge your current perspectives with a goal of understanding how others might see situations differently. By participating in this course, it is the expectation that everyone commits to making this an inclusive learning environment for all.

{See next page for key dates, topics, and deliverables}

KEY DATES, TOPICS AND DELIVERABLES:

Dates			
Monday	Wednesday	Topic*	Chapter
22-Jan	24-Jan	Financial Statements and Business Decisions	1
29-Jan	31-Jan	Investing and Financial Decisions and the Accounting System	2
5-Feb	7-Feb	Operating Decisions and the Accounting Systems	3
12-Feb	14-Feb	Adjustments, Financial Statements and the Quality of Earnings	4
19-Feb		President's Day - NO CLASS	
	21-Feb	Catch-up and Review	
26-Feb		Midterm Exam 1 (1,2,3,4)	
	28-Feb	Communicating and Interpretating Accounting Information	5
4-Mar	6-Mar	Reporting and Interpreting Sales Revenue, Receivables and Cash	6
11-Mar	13-Mar	Reporting and Interpreting Cost of Goods Sold and Inventory	7
18-Mar	20-Mar	SPRING BREAK	
25-Mar	27-Mar	Reporting and Interpreting Property, Plant & Equipment; Intangibles; and Natural Resources	8
1-Apr		Reporting and Interpreting Stockholders' Equity	11
	3-Apr	Catch-up and Review	
8-Apr		Midterm Exam 2 (5,6,7,8,11)	
	10-Apr	Analyzing Financial Statements	13
15-Apr	17-Apr	Reporting and Interpreting Liabilities	9
22-Apr	24-Apr	Reporting and Interpreting Bond Securities	10
29-Apr	1-May	Statement of Cash Flows	12
6-May		Catch-up and Review	
Date TBD		Final Exam (9,10,12,13)	

* This schedule is subject to change. Changes will be announced in Brightspace.