

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Stern School of Business
Principles of Financial Accounting
Spring 2019

Professor Information:

Name: Amal Shehata
Gender Pronouns: She, Her
Email: ashehata@stern.nyu.edu
Daytime Telephone: 212-998-0339
Office: KMC 10-90 (10th floor)
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10:30am – 12:30pm and by appointment

Teaching Assistant (TA) Information: You may visit or email either/both TAs

Name **Alexis Datta**
Email: add413@stern.nyu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays from 4:30 – 6pm
Location: KMC 10-67 (Accounting Department, Ross Library)

Name **Tony Fan**
Email: tf1027@stern.nyu.edu
Office Hours: Thursdays from 3:30 – 5pm
Location: KMC 10-67 (Accounting Department, Ross Library)

Course Description:

Welcome to Principles of Financial Accounting! 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. This course focuses on:

- Teaching the methods, rules and processes used to develop financial accounting reports;
- Preparing financial accounting reports;
- Interpreting and analyzing financial accounting reports and
- Understanding where there is **discretion** in reporting financial results (and the implications).

Our perspective is that of EXTERNAL users of financial information, such as investors, creditors, customers, suppliers, government regulators, and business school students. I will regularly refer to current events that show the impact of accounting in the business world.

A solid understanding of accounting is one of the basic building blocks of the business world. You will use the skills you learn in this class in your future Stern classes and future career.

Required Text and Material:

For this course, the required textbook is Libby, Financial Accounting 9th edition provided by McGraw-Hill Education Connect® access. The Connect platform will provide full access to the eBook and homework assignments, so you are **not required** to have a print text. Please

be aware if you purchase a used textbook, you will still need to purchase Connect access to complete your homework assignments. Additionally, please note that I keep a copy of the hardcover book on file at Bobst Library if you would like to check it out. In our efforts around affordability, we have negotiated a few options for our students as follows:

- **Online - All DIGITAL:** You can purchase Connect (no print book, but includes the complete eBook and access to all course content) directly from the course website for \$99 (<http://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-shehata-fall-2018tues--thurs-330pm>)
- **Print Version at NYU Bookstore:** If you would like a print version of the text to accompany Connect, the bookstore is carrying a discounted bundle, which includes a print text and a Connect access code. ISBN: **1260688658**
- **You can also purchase the print and Connect bundle package directly from McGraw-Hill** through this link for \$131:
<http://shop.mheducation.com/mhshop/productDetails?isbn=1260688658>
- Connect URL- register for the section for which you are enrolled:

2pm: <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-shehata-spring-2019-2pm-mw>

3:30pm: <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-shehata-spring-2019-330pm-mw>

- You will need a **non-programmable 4-function calculator**

Grading:

Learnsmart Assignments	5%
Homework	15%
Midterm I	20%
Midterm II	25%
Final Exam	35%

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.

I reserve the right to adjust your final grade based on your level of participation and your professionalism in class. Each component of the class is discussed in detail below.

Course pack:

I will provide a course pack that will include the relevant Powerpoint slides used during lecture and the problems we will complete together in class. The course packs are interactive worksheets that should be used for note-taking and to solve class problems. The final slides from each class will be posted on NYU Classes after we have finished a topic and it will include all of the solutions that we solved together in class (you will not need to, nor will you have time to, write down everything during class). **You will need to bring your course pack to each class session.**

Articles, Class Participation and Preparation:

Please read each chapter in advance of our class meeting so our class time can be spent developing a deeper understanding of the material you have already read. My lectures will focus on the more challenging concepts presented in your textbook and I will aim to present the “big picture” of how the concepts build upon each other and relate to each other. Class time will be a collaborative working session of problem-solving and interactive discussion. Additionally, I will regularly provide articles for class discussion that tie our academic material back to real world current events.

Since you will be engaged in the most difficult processing of information in class, your success depends critically on your presence in class. This is your chance to get help when you need it most from your peers and me. Please make every effort to arrive to class on time and remain for the entire class period. I would appreciate knowing if you are going to arrive to class late, and, if you are going to be late, please enter as unobtrusively as possible. If you will miss class for exceptional reasons, I would appreciate if you would notify me in advance.

I hope you will be an active participant in class. I will do everything I can to make the classroom a hospitable and respectful environment where you feel comfortable expressing your ideas. I will provide a name tent to display during class; please bring it each class (use it as a bookmark for your coursepack so you know where we ended).

During class, please turn off all audible technology (i.e. phones, pocket PCs, iPod’s iPad’s etc.) as well as laptop computers.

LearnSmart Assignments:

After we begin a new chapter, a Learnsmart assignment will be available via Connect. You should use these assignments to familiarize yourself with the new material we will cover in class. Completing these assignments should also help you (and I) identify any topics you do not understand clearly. Learnsmart is similar to digital flashcards; it is tailored to each individual by using your responses to identify your strengths and weaknesses; thus, it will give you more questions on areas that you get wrong to reinforce the material. These assignments will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. What counts is showing that you have read the text and you are ready to apply the information in a coherent manner. The grading will simply be credit (1) or no credit (0). The assignment due date will be on the Wednesday or Friday after we have started a chapter. This due date is included on Connect and it is your responsibility to ensure that you submit on time for credit. **Assignments will not be accepted late**, however, I will drop the lowest scores of the Learnsmart assignments.

Homework:

We will be making extensive use of the McGraw-Hill Connect online platform which will allow you to complete your homework anytime and anywhere, get feedback on your work and access additional resources. Please ensure that you register for Connect using the same name and the Stern email address as used in NYU Classes. Once you purchase the registration code, you will need this URL to register:

2pm Class: <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-shehata-spring-2019-2pm-mw>

OR

3:30pm Class: <http://connect.mheducation.com/class/a-shehata-spring-2019-330pm-mw>

After we have concluded each class topic, homework assignments will be due that will give you an opportunity to show me, and yourself, that you have understood and learned the material. I have set up the Connect website so that it will give you immediate feedback after you complete each question. My purpose in doing this is so you will see how you are doing on the assignment as you are completing it and be able to identify the areas you need to revisit to improve. After submitting your assignment, you will see your score, the correct answer, and explanation and the solution. Each chapter's homework assignment is worth 10 points and your lowest score will be dropped. You should plan to spend 2-3 hours on homework for each hour of class time on average.

The assignment will be due after we have completed a chapter (generally, this will be Monday evening of each week but there are a few exceptions noted and bolded below). The specific due date and time will be included on Connect and on the syllabus and it is your responsibility to ensure that you submit on time for credit; the assignments will be available for you to begin as soon as we begin a chapter so you are welcome to submit earlier than the due date. **Please understand that completing these homework assignments is the key to success in the course. Assignments will not be accepted late**, however, I will drop the lowest score of homework assignments.

You are welcome and encouraged to discuss and work on homework problems with your classmates. The answers you submit via Connect must be YOUR answers and submitted electronically by YOU; in other words, no one else should have your login credentials and submit answers on your behalf. Please note that Connect presents the same problems but will use different numbers for different students, thus, you can discuss/analyze the problems theoretically as a group but your actual answers will differ from your classmates.

The homework problems listed on your syllabus correspond with the textbook problems at the end of the chapter. You will submit these via Connect digitally but I have included the textbook problem numbers in case you would like to review the problems manually.

Optional Homework:

In addition to the Connect assigned homework, the syllabus will include additional recommended textbook problems. Out of respect for your busy schedules, these problems will not be due or part of your grade, however, you should complete them to ensure sufficient reinforcement of the material. I strongly encourage you to complete the additional problems in small groups of 4-6 students and to do them **on paper**. Although the digital Connect platform is a wonderful and convenient tool, solving problems on paper is very important and will help prepare you for the midterms and final (which are on paper!). Your textbook and Connect include even more practice problems that you can solve for areas that you find particularly challenging.

If you are diligent in attending class, completing the in-class problems and the textbook assignments, you will be well-prepared for the midterms and exam. Solutions to textbook problems will be available on NYU Classes after we complete each chapter.

Midterms and Exams:

There will be 2 mid-term exams and a final exam. All exams will be closed book/closed notes and the final exam will be cumulative. Make-up exams are not permitted. **Nonprogrammable calculators are permitted (computers, smartphones, blackberries, scientific calculators or any device with internet access or memory capacity are not permitted).**

NYU Classes:

I will use NYU Classes regularly to email you, post lecture notes, homework solutions, relevant articles and other course material so please make sure you are registered and checking our sight on a regular basis.

Correspondence:

When emailing, please include your full name and **class time/section** in the email. If you are emailing about a specific homework problem, please include a screenshot as our TA and I may not have access to the textbook.

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 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.
- The entire Stern Student Code of Conduct applies to all students enrolled in Stern courses and can be found here: www.stern.nyu.edu/uc/codeofconduct
- To help ensure the integrity of our learning community, prose assignments you submit to NYU Classes 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.

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 (<http://www.stern.nyu.edu/portal-partners/current-students/undergraduate/resources-policies/academic-policies/index.htm>) 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, you must notify me at the beginning of the course and provide a letter from the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD, 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.

Please note: the dates and assignments listed below are subject to change:

Date	Chapter	Homework: Submit digitally via Connect
Jan 28, 2019	Chap 1: Financial Statements and Business Decisions, including Supp A	Chap 1 Learnsmart due <u>Thurs, 1/31/19</u> by 11pm
Jan 30, 2019	Finish Chap 1 and begin Chap 2: Investing, Financing Decisions & the Balance Sheet	Chapter 1 HW: due <u>Fri, 2/1/19</u> by 11pm E1-2, E1-4, E1-5, E1-7, P1-1
Feb 4, 2019	Chap 2: Investing, Financing Decisions & the Balance Sheet	Chap 2 Learnsmart due Sun, 2/3/19 by 11pm
Feb 6, 2019	Finish Chap 2, begin Chap 3: Operating Decisions & the Income Statement	Chapter 2 HW: due Thurs, 2/7/19 by 11pm E2-3, E2-5, E2-7, P2-5, P2-6
Feb 11, 2019	Chap 3: Operating Decisions & the Income Statement	Chap 3 Learnsmart due Sun, 2/10/19 by 11pm
Feb 13, 2019	Finish Chap 3 & begin Chap 4: Adjustments, Financial Statements & the Quality of Earnings	Chap 3 HW: due Thurs, 2/14/19 by 11pm M3-2, E3-8, P3-4 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): E3-13, E3-14
Feb 20, 2019 (no class Feb 18)	Chap 4: Adjustments, Financial Statements & the Quality of Earnings	Chap 4 Learnsmart due Sun, 2/17/19 by 11pm
Feb 25, 2019	Finish Chap 4	Chap 4 HW: due <u>Mon, 2/25/19</u> by 11pm E4-8, E4-18, E4-19, E4-20, P4-7 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): AP4-1
Feb 27, 2019	Midterm 1	
Mar 4, 2019	Chap 6: Sales Revenue, Receivables & Cash (including supplement on p. 301-2, "Recording Discounts & Returns")	Chap 6 Learnsmart due Sun, 3/3/19 by 11pm
Mar 6, 2019	Chap 6: Sales Revenue, Receivables & Cash	Chap 6 HW: due Thurs, 3/7/19 by 11pm E6-4, E6-5, E6-7, E6-12, E6-18, E6-23, E6-26 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): E6-8, E6-9, E6-14, P6-4
Mar 11, 2019	Chap 7: Cost of Goods Sold & Inventory (including Supplement A, "LIFO Liquidations", but not Supp B or C)	Chap 7 Learnsmart due Sun, 3/10/19 by 11pm
Mar 13, 2019 (no class Mar 18/20)	Chap 7: Cost of Goods Sold & Inventory	Chap 7 HW: due Thurs, 3/14/19 by 11pm E7-2, E7-8, E7-12, P7-9, P7-10 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): E7-5, P7-5
Mar 25, 2019	Finish Chap 7 & begin Chap 8: PPE; Natural Resources; & Intangibles	Chap 8 Learnsmart due <u>Mon, 3/25/19</u> by 11pm

Mar 27, 2019	Chap 8: Property, Plant & Equipment; Natural Resources; & Intangibles (including Supp “Changes in Depreciation Estimates” & read CP8-7 on p. 454)	Chapter 8 HW: due Mon, 4/1/19 by 11pm E8-7, E8-8, E8-10, E8-17, E8-21, E8-22, P8-6 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): M8-1, E8-1, E8-3, E8-13
Apr 1, 2019	Finish Chap 8 and begin Chap 9: Liabilities (including Supplement B)	
Apr 3, 2019	Chap 9: Liabilities (including Supp B)	Chap 9 Learnsmart due Sun, 3/31/19 by 11pm
Apr 8, 2019	Finish Chap 9	Chap 9 HW: due Mon, 4/8/19 by 11pm E9-1, E9-2, E9-13, E9-14, E9-21, P9-10, P9-12 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): P9-4, P9-6
Apr 10, 2019	Midterm 2	
Apr 15, 2019	Chap 10: Bonds (including page 525, “Zero Coupon Bonds” but not Supp A or B)	Chap 10 Learnsmart due Sun, 4/14/19 by 11pm
Apr 17, 2019	Chap 10: Bonds	Chap 10 HW: due Thurs, 4/25/19 by 11pm P10-7, P10-10, P10-11, P10-13 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): P10-3, AP10-2
Apr 22, 2019	Finish Chap 10: Bonds and begin Chap 12: Statement of Cash Flows, including Supp A & B (not C)	
Apr 24, 2019	Chap 12: Statement of Cash Flows, including Supplements A, B & C	Chap 12 Learnsmart due Sun, 4/28/19 by 11pm
Apr 29, 2019	Chap 12: Statement of Cash Flows	Chap 12 HW: due Thurs, 5/2/19 by 11pm E12-13, E12-15, P12-1, P12-3, P12-4 Additional Practice (not to be submitted) E12-4, E12-11, E12-21
May 1, 2019	Finish Chap 12: Statement of Cash Flows and begin Chap 11: Owner’s Equity	
May 6, 2019	Chap 11: Owner’s Equity (including Supplement)	Chap 11 Learnsmart due Sun, 5/5/19 by 11pm
May 8, 2019	Finish Chap 11: Owner’s Equity	Chapter 11 HW: due Thurs, 5/9/19 by 11pm E11-4, E11-8, E11-15, E11-18, P11-8 Additional Practice (not to be submitted): M11-10, E11-10, E11-12, E11-13, E11-17, E11-24
May 13, 2019	Catch up and review	
TBD	Cumulative Final Exam	

