



ADVANCED MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING Spring 2021

Professor:

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Course Overview and Objectives

This course explores the use of accounting information for *internal* planning, analysis, and decision-making. The *main objective* of the course is to equip you with the knowledge to understand, evaluate, and act upon the many financial and non-financial reports used in managing modern firms.

Managing any modern firm requires information about the firm's products, processes, assets, and customers. This information is a key input into a wide range of decisions: analyzing profitability of various products, managing product-line portfolios, setting prices, measuring and managing profitability of customers, making operational and strategic decisions, evaluating investments, guiding improvement efforts, and so on.

The *focus* of this course is on modern internal-reporting systems. We will discover that many firms do not provide their managers with useful information; we will see numerous examples of value destruction and bankruptcies caused by this. We will also investigate some modern ideas in how an organization's internal information system should be designed to enhance value creation; and we will see how world-class firms take advantage of their competitors' internal reporting mistakes.

To attain the right level of understanding, we will briefly explore the mechanics of the many techniques used to prepare internal reports. But the emphasis in this course is very much on interpretation, evaluation, and decision-making.

Teaching Materials

The *recommended* textbook is *Managerial Accounting*, by Garrison, Noreen, and Brewer, 16th edition.

Roughly half the course sessions will rely on pre-readings from this text. Also, for most course topics, I will suggest several problems from the text for self-study and self-evaluation.

There are two copyrighted cases we will use: *Seligram ETO* and *Infinity Bank (A)*. You will need to purchase these cases from Harvard Business School Publishing; This is the link to the course pack: https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/780596

I will post reading materials not requiring copyrights and lecture slides on NYU Classes.

I will also post any important announcements on NYU Classes.

Feedback

I encourage you to provide feedback on class topics, content, and cases. I appreciate any concerns, questions, or opinions regarding the course. I would like to continue to improve this course; participants' feedback is critical.

Class Meetings

In each class, we focus on the management aspects of the topic. To prepare for class, you should go through the readings and prepare case questions (for classes where we discuss cases).

Case discussion will take up approximately half of the course. I have found that a mix of lectures, cases, and discussions provides an ideal interactive learning environment.

Students will be active participants in case discussions, providing summaries of issues, analyses, and recommendations. This involves the preparation of the case and reading assignments before class and the active sharing of your insights during class.

Note that many of the managerial problems I will address through cases will not have clearcut or "correct" solutions; do not let this discourage you.

Each student should carefully prepare the assigned case and be ready to be called on to present their analysis or to comment on others' analyses. You are encouraged to prepare for cases in teams. I will randomly call on students when discussing cases.

Grading

The course grade will be based on class participation, one closed-book midterm, a case writeup, and a closed-book final examination:

Class participation 10%;
 Write-up of Roomrunner Security Solutions and Falco scooter (A) 20%;
 Midterm exam 25% or 45%;
 Final exam 25% or 45%.

Class participation. The grade for class participation will depend on the quality of your interaction and participation in class discussions. The following factors will be considered:

- Case preparation. You should prepare answers to the case questions. I encourage you to prepare for cases in small groups. I will randomly call on students to contribute to case discussion.
- Contributing to the in-class case analysis by making comments to move the discussion toward an understanding of the company and its issues.

Write-up of Roomrunner Security Solutions and Falco Scooters (A) case. These write-up will be graded **based on effort only**. Submit the assignment using NYU Classes by due date.

Midterm. We will have an open-book, open-notes midterm.

Final exam. The final exam will be online for both session, open-book, open-notes. The final exam is *not* cumulative, but the material in the second half of the course builds on the knowledge acquired in the first half, before the midterm.

Your total grade will weigh the final exam more heavily if you do better on the final than on the midterm exam. That is, your final score in the class will be determined using the following formula:

Final score = $0.10 \times$ (score class participation) + $0.10 \times$ (*Roomrunner* case reports) + $0.10 \times$ (*Falco* case reports) + Max { $0.25 \times$ midterm exam score + $0.45 \times$ final exam score, $0.45 \times$ midterm exam score + $0.25 \times$ final exam score}

Please note the following grading-related policies:

- There will be no make-up midterm examinations under any circumstances. If you miss the midterm because of a medical or family emergency, you will need to provide me with documentation; in this case, the weight of the midterm will be added to the weight of the final.
- The weights, in "Grading" above, are identical for everyone. It is not possible to make up for poor performance by doing extra work.
- After the midterm, you have *one week* from the time your exam paper is returned to you to review the exam for any errors in grading. After that period, I will not re-grade any part of your exam. *All requests for re-grading must be submitted in writing*.

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/currentstudents/undergraduate/resources-policies/academic-policies/index.htm) and the NYU Disruptive Behavior Policy (http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-andguidelines/

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, 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.

Course Calendar At-A-Glance

Course Calend	Course Calendar At-A-Glance				
Date	Session	Topic	Case to prepare		
Friday 2/05/2021	1	Introduction to the course. Managerial information systems: theory and practice.			
Friday 2/12/2021	2	Normal absorption costing Cost estimation and process complexity	Seligram ETO		
Friday 2/19/2021	3	Measuring and managing the costs of capacity	Adapconn		
Friday 2/26/2021	4	Activity-based costing	Coffee Services		
Friday 3/05/2021	5	Estimating and managing customer profitability.	Infinity Bank (A)		
Turn in on NYU Classes by Thursday March 11		Prepare and turn in the Roomrunner Security Solutions case write-up.	Roomrunner Security Solutions		
Friday 3/12/2021	6	Decentralization and performance evaluation Review for midterm			
Friday 3/26/2021	7	Midterm			
Friday 4/02/2021	8	Wrap-up of course Part 1 Incentive effects of absorption costing	Western Chipsets		
Friday 4/9/2021	9	Decision analysis: Introduction			
Friday 4/16/2021	10	Guest speaker: CFO Gucci America Decision analysis: Special orders and opportunity costs			
Turn in on NYU Classes Thursday April 22		Prepare and turn in the Falco Scooters (A) case write-up.			
Friday 4/23/2021	11	Decision analysis: Sourcing and pricing decisions: Falco Scooters (A) case.	Falco Scooters (A)		
Friday 4/30/2021	12	Decision analysis: Asset-related costs and strategic issues: Falco Scooters (B) case Course takeaways. Review for final	Falco Scooters (B)		
Friday 5/07/2021	13	Online Final 9am-12pm			

Course Outline

Part I. Estimating and managing costs and revenues.

Session 1. Introduction to the course.

February 5

Managerial information systems: theory and practice.

Topics

- Course objectives yours and mine.
- What is management accounting and why do we need it?
- Management accounting, strategy, and value.
- Multiple objectives of managerial-information systems.
- The flow of costs in service and manufacturing companies.
- Direct and absorption costing; normal costing.

Textbook

Chapter 1, pages 24-40. Make sure you understand the terminology introduced in this chapter. You have seen many of these terms before; we will use many of them throughout the course.

Chapter 2, pages 67-82. You can skip low-level details such as: "Measuring Direct Materials Cost", "Job Cost Sheet", and "Measuring Direct Labor Cost" on pages 70-71.

Self-study Problems

Review problem on pages 82-83. Exercises 2-1; 2-2; 2-3; 2-4; 2-6; 2-13.

Session Plan

Unlike financial accounting, managerial accounting is not subject to governmental or legal requirements. Firms design their information systems to suit very specific purposes. Consequently, there are as many information systems as there are firms.

Complexity of the modern firm requires managers to rely on aggregated reports, both to make decisions and to manage costs. You must understand how these reports are prepared in order to use them. This requires you to comprehend how information is aggregated and presented. This is the main topic of the session.

We will also discuss the "big picture" of the course, course objectives (both yours and mine), and key dates in the course.

Session 2. Normal absorption costing.

Cost estimation and process complexity. Seligram case.

February 12

Topics

- Overhead cost allocations.
- Cost estimation and cost management.
- Two-stage structure of costing systems.
- Selection of allocation bases.
- Failure of "traditional" costing systems.

Textbook

Chapter 3, pages 110-128.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 3-3, 3-4, 3-7; Problem 3-12 (parts 1 and 2 only).

Case study Seligram, Inc.: ETO. Address the following questions:

Prepare

- 1. How has ETO's competitive environment changed?
- 2. What caused the existing system at ETO to fail?
- 3. Calculate the reported costs of the five components described as computed by
 - a. the existing system;
 - b. the system proposed by the accounting manager;
 - c. the system proposed by the consultant.
- 4. Which system is preferable? Why?
- 5. Would you treat the new machine as a separate cost center or as part of the main test room? Why? Compute the first-year overhead rate for the new machine if it were treated as a separate cost center.

Session Plan

The most common modern approach to estimate unit costs is *normal absorption* costing. We will investigate the key components of this approach.

We will then begin examining the issues of information-system design affecting an organization's strategy and performance. The information system at *Seligram* is an extremely common one in practice. As many as 60% of publicly-traded firms rely on similar systems in the majority of their operations. Smaller firms are far more likely to use these "traditional" systems.

We will take a look at what is wrong with the information system, what dysfunctional behavior it can induce, and some proposed solutions.

Session 3. Adapconn case. Measuring and managing the costs of capacity. Costs of capacity resources. Allocating capacity costs using practical and budgeted capacity utilization. The "death spiral" – dangerous reporting-system-induced phenomenon in cyclical industries. Prepare Case study Adapconn. Address the questions in the case We will spend the majority of the sessions discussing the Adapconn case and

some modern enhancements to Adapconn's reporting system.

Plan

Topics

- Activity-based costing.
- Differences from and advantages over "traditional" costing systems.
- Hierarchy of activities.
- Translating activity-based costing into improved profitability.
- Implementation of modern cost-management systems.

Textbook

Chapter 7, pages 310-335. *Do not get overwhelmed by the details*; we will clarify the main ideas in the class session.

Read

Coffee Services Company case. This is pretty light reading. Get to know the facts and think through the two questions in the case.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 7-4, 7-5, 7-9, 7-13; Problem 7-16 (parts 1 and 2 only); and the review problem on pages 336-337.

Session Plan

We will begin our discussion of activity-based costing (ABC) and activity-based management (ABM). These information-system tools have become generally accepted as solutions to many of the problems of "traditional" costing systems.

However, there is no general agreement about how ABC and ABM should be designed and implemented for a given firm. Even more problematically, there is no general agreement about what an economic model of the firm must include to qualify for the title activity-based.

We will investigate exactly how ABC and ABM differ from "traditional" systems. We will also look at what the activity-based models have to offer firms. Along the way, we will focus on several disadvantages of the "modern" systems.

We will do most of this in the context of the Coffee Services Company case.

Topics	Customer profitability analysis
Read	I will post several readings on NYU Classes. A good background is in "Retail Renaissance", a special report in <i>The Economist</i> , May 19, 2012. The library has full text from <i>The Economist</i> in numerous e-journal sources.

Prepare

Case study *Infinity Bank (A)*. Address the following questions:

- 1. Summarize Infinity Bank's competitive environment. What are the major issues facing the bank? How has the bank performed in 1998-2003?
- 2. What were the conclusions of the product-profitability project? What were the surprises?
- 3. What are the potential advantages of the "supermarket" strategy? What are the potential disadvantages of the strategy?
- 4. What are the objectives of customer-profitability analysis (at Infinity and in general)? What does it add to the product-profitability system? Is it important? How should Philippa Smith's customer-profitability pilot study be improved / extended?
- 5. What were the conclusions of Philippa Smith's customer-profitability pilot study? What were the major sources of variation in customer profitability?
- 6. Examine the customer-profitability database. Construct a graph to communicate the profitability of the 2,205 customers in the *Weighted Sample* sheet, ranked from best to worst.
- 7. Given the customer-profitability analysis, does the "supermarket" strategy make sense?
- 8. How should the customer-profitability information be used? What should we do about the large number of unprofitable customers?
- 9. Overall, what are your recommendations for Infinity Bank's managers?

NOTE: See NYU class for Excel spreadsheet with case data.

Session Plan

We will spend the majority of our time discussing customer-profitability analysis and the *Infinity Bank* case.

	Decentralization and performance evaluation. March 12 Review for midterm.
Topics	 Decentralization. Evaluating investment centers: ROI, Residual Income (RI), Economic Value Added (EVATM).
Textbook	Chapter 11, pages 506-515.
Self-study Problems	Exercises 11-2, 11-5, 11-9. Problem 11-15.
Session Plan	We will begin our discussion of decentralization and performance evaluation. We will focus on key performance indicators for investment-center managers. We will then hold our midterm review.

Session 7. Midterm. March 26

	Wrap-up of course part I. Incentive effects of absorption costing. Western Chipsets case. April 02
Topics	 Incentive effects of absorption costing. Variable costing and contribution format income statements.
Textbook	Chapter 6, pages 257-266.
Prepare	Case study Western Chipsets. Provide the analysis requested in the case.
Self-study Problems	Exercises 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; Problems 6-19, 6-20.
Session Plan	We will wrap up part 1 of our course. We will then focus the incentive and decision-relevance aspects of absorption and variable costing methods. We will discuss the <i>Western Chipsets</i> case.

Part II. Performance Evaluation. Tactical and Strategic Decisions.

Session 9.	Decision analysis: Introduction April 9		
Topics Textbook	 The profit equation. The relevant range of analysis. Cost-volume-profit analysis. Contribution margin ratio (CMR) analysis. Degree of operating leverage (DOL) analysis General decision analysis: relevant costs and relevant revenues. Constraints and opportunity costs Chapter 5, pages 196-217. Chapter 12, pages 560-585.		
Self-study Problems	Exercises 5-4, 5-5, 5-8, 5-9, 5-11, 5-18; Problem 5-23. Exercises 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-10, 12-12, 12-14; Problem 12-23.		
Session Plan	We will begin our exploration of decision analysis. We will do a number of examples, focusing on the following question: how do we use various management reports to extract relevant data and analyze implications of decisions? We will also discuss two important ratio-analysis techniques: Contribution margin ratio (CMR) and degree of operating leverage (DOL) analysis.		

Session 10. Decision analysis: Special orders and opportunity costs Guest speaker

April 16

Topics

- General decision analysis: relevant costs and relevant revenues.
- Excess capacity, constraints, and opportunity costs.
- Analysis of special orders.

Session Plan

Our guest speaker will be Andrea Pini CFO Gucci US

After the visit with the guest speaker, we will spend approximately an hour analyzing special orders, capacity constraints, and opportunity costs.

Session 11.	Decision analysis: Sourcing and pricing decisions: Falco Scooters (A) case. April			
Topics Prepare	 Decision analysis in a rich setting Asset-related costs. Routine and non-routine business decisions. Strategic cosideration Case study Falco Scooters (A). Provide the analysis requested in the case. 			
Session Plan	We will analyze complicated sourcing and pricing decisions in the <i>Falco Scooters (A)</i> case.			

Sessions 12. Decision analysis: Asset-related costs and strategic issues: Falco Scooters (B) case April 30				
Course takeaways. Review for final				
Topics	 Implications of changes in inventories, receivables, payables, and other assets. Incorporating erosion and cannibalization. Strategic considerations. Course takeaways. 			
Self-study	Exercise 13-14; Problem 13-16.			
Textbook	Chapter 13, pages 632-634, 638-643.			
Prepare	Case study <i>Falco Scooters (B)</i> . Address the questions in the case. <i>Note:</i> The discussion of <i>residual income</i> and <i>EVA</i> ® from Chapter 11 is useful for doing the <i>Falco Scooters (B)</i> case.			
Session Plan	Sample final exam. We will continue our exploration of decision analysis. We will analyze the Falco Scooters (B) case. We will then review the key takeaways from the course.			
	We will then take a look at the sample final and discuss final-exam preparation.			

Course Outline

Part I. Estimating and managing costs and revenues.

Session 1. Introduction to the course.

Managerial information systems: theory and practice.

February 3

Topics

- Course objectives: yours and mine.
 - What is management accounting?
 - Management accounting, strategy, and value.
 - Multiple objectives of managerial-information systems.
 - Direct and absorption costing.

Textbook

Chapter 1, pages 24-40. Make sure you understand the terminology introduced in this chapter. You have seen many of these terms before; we will use many of them throughout the course.

Chapter 2, pages 67-82. You can skip low-level details such as: "Measuring Direct Materials Cost", "Job Cost Sheet", and "Measuring Direct Labor Cost" on pages 70-71.

Self-study Problems

Review problem on pages 82-83. Exercises 2-1; 2-2; 2-3; 2-4; 2-6; 2-13.

Session Plan

Unlike financial accounting, managerial accounting is not subject to governmental or legal requirements. Firms design their information systems to suit very specific purposes. Consequently, there are as many information systems as there are firms.

Complexity of the modern firm requires managers to rely on aggregated reports, both to make decisions and to manage costs. You must understand how these

reports are prepared in order to use them. This requires you to comprehend how information is aggregated and presented. This is the main topic of the session.

We will also discuss the "big picture" of the course, course objectives (both yours and mine), and key dates in the course.

Session 2. Normal absorption costing.

February 10

Cost estimation and process complexity. Seligram case.

Topics

- Overhead cost allocations.
- Cost estimation and cost management.
- Two-stage structure of costing systems.
- Selection of allocation bases.

Textbook

Chapter 3, pages 110-128.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 3-3, 3-4, 3-7; Problem 3-12 (parts 1 and 2 only).

Prepare

Case study Seligram, Inc.: ETO. Address the following questions:

- 6. How has ETO's competitive environment changed?
- 7. What caused the existing system at ETO to fail?
- 8. Calculate the reported costs of the five components described as computed by
 - a. the existing system;
 - b. the system proposed by the accounting manager;
 - c. the system proposed by the consultant.
- 9. Which system is preferable? Why?

10. Would you treat the new machine as a separate cost center or as part of the main test room? Why? Compute the first-year overhead rate for the new machine if it were treated as a separate cost center.

Session Plan

The most common modern approach to estimate unit costs is *normal absorption costing*. We will investigate the key components of this approach.

We will then begin examining the issues of information-system design affecting an organization's strategy and performance. The information system at *Seligram* is an extremely common one in practice. As many as 60% of publicly-traded firms rely on similar systems in the majority of their operations. Smaller firms are far more likely to use these "traditional" systems.

We will take a look at what is wrong with the information system, what dysfunctional behavior it can induce, and some proposed solutions.

Session 3. Adapconn case. Measuring and managing the costs of capacity.

February 24

Topics

- Costs of capacity resources.
- Allocating capacity costs using practical and budgeted capacity utilization.
- The "death spiral" dangerous reporting-system-induced phenomenon in cyclical industries.

Prepare

Case study *Adaptonn*. Address the questions in the case.

Session Plan

We will spend the majority of the session discussing the *Adapconn* case and some modern enhancements to *Adapconn's* reporting system.

Topics

- Activity-based costing.
- Differences from and advantages over "traditional" costing systems.
- Hierarchy of activities.
- Translating activity-based costing into improved profitability.

Textbook clarify

Chapter 7, pages 310-335. *Do not get overwhelmed by the details*; we will the main ideas in the class session.

Prepare Coffee Services Company case. This is pretty light reading. Get to know the facts and think through the two questions in the case.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 7-4, 7-5, 7-9, 7-13; Problem 7-16 (parts 1 and 2 only); and the review problem on pages 336-337.

Session Plan

We will begin our discussion of activity-based costing (ABC) and activity-based management (ABM). These information-system tools have become generally accepted as solutions to many of the problems of "traditional" costing systems.

However, there is no general agreement about how ABC and ABM should be designed and implemented for a given firm. Even more problematically, there is no general agreement about what an economic model of the firm must include to qualify for the title *activity-based*.

We will investigate exactly how ABC and ABM differ from "traditional" systems. We will also look at what the activity-based models have to offer firms. Along the way, we will focus on several disadvantages of the "modern" systems.

We will do most of this in the context of the *Coffee Services Company* case.

Session 5. Infinity Bank (A) case. Estimating and managing customer profitability.

March 9

Topics

Customer profitability analysis.

Read

I will post several readings on NYU Classes. A good background is in "Retail Renaissance", a special report in *The Economist*, May 19, 2012. The library has full text from *The Economist* in numerous e-journal sources.

Prepare

Case study *Infinity Bank (A)*. Address the following questions:

- 1. Summarize Infinity Bank's competitive environment. What are the major issues facing the bank? How has the bank performed in 1998-2003?
- 2. What were the conclusions of the product-profitability project? What were the surprises?
- 3. What are the potential advantages of the "supermarket" strategy? What are the potential disadvantages of the strategy?
- 4. What are the objectives of customer-profitability analysis (at Infinity and in general)? What does it add to the product-profitability system? Is it important? How should Philippa Smith's customer-profitability pilot study be improved / extended?
- 5. What were the conclusions of Philippa Smith's customer-profitability pilot study? What were the major sources of variation in customer profitability?
- 6. Examine the customer-profitability database. Construct a graph to communicate the profitability of the 2,205 customers in the *Weighted Sample* sheet, ranked from best to worst.
- 7. Given the customer-profitability analysis, does the "supermarket" strategy make sense?
- 8. How should the customer-profitability information be used? What should we do about the large number of unprofitable customers?
- 9. Overall, what are your recommendations for Infinity Bank's managers?

NOTE: See the course web page for Excel spreadsheet with case data.

Session Plan

We will spend the majority of our time discussing customer-profitability analysis and the *Infinity Bank* case.

Topics Reporting and decisions. Reporting and Activity-Based Costing. Prepare and turn in by 5pm Case study Roomrunner Security Solutions. Address the questions in the case. Note: your case grade will be based on effort only.

Session 7. Decentralization and performance evaluation. Review for midterm.

March 30

Topics

- Decentralization.
- Evaluating investment centers: ROI, Residual Income (RI), Economic Value

Added (EVATM).

Textbook

Chapter 11, pages 506-515.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 11-2, 11-5, 11-9. Problem 11-15.

Session Plan

We will begin our discussion of decentralization and performance evaluation. We will focus on key performance indicators for investment-center managers.

We will then hold our midterm review.

Session 8. Midterm. April 6

Session 9. Wrap-up of course part I. April 13 Incentive effects of absorption costing. Western Chipsets case. **Topics** • Incentive effects of absorption costing. Variable costing and contribution format income statements. **Textbook** Chapter 6, pages 257-266. **Prepare** Case study Western Chipsets. Provide the analysis requested in the case. **Self-study** Exercises 6-1, 6-2, 6-3; Problems 6-19, 6-20. **Problems** Session We will wrap up part 1 of our course. Plan We will then focus the incentive and decision-relevance aspects of absorption and variable costing methods. We will discuss the Western Chipsets case.

Session 10. Decision analysis: Introduction April 20

Part II. Performance Evaluation. Tactical and Strategic Decisions.

Topics

- The profit equation.
- The relevant range of analysis.
- Cost-volume-profit analysis.
- General decision analysis: relevant costs and relevant revenues.
- Constraints and opportunity costs.

Textbook

Chapter 5, pages 196-217.

Chapter 12, pages 560-585.

Self-study Problems

Exercises 5-4, 5-5, 5-8, 5-9, 5-11, 5-18; Problem 5-23.

Exercises 12-3, 12-4, 12-5, 12-10, 12-12, 12-14; Problem 12-23.

Session Plan

We will begin our exploration of decision analysis. We will do a number of examples, focusing on the following question: how do we use various management reports to extract relevant data and analyze implications of decisions?

Session 11. Decision analysis: Special orders and opportunity costs Guest speaker

April 27

Topics

- General decision analysis: relevant costs and relevant revenues.
- Excess capacity, constraints, and opportunity costs.
- Analysis of special orders.

Session Plan

Our guest speaker will be Daniel Ryterband, CEO, FW Cook.

After the visit with the guest speaker, we will spend approximately an hour analyzing special orders, capacity constraints, and opportunity costs.

Session 12. Decision analysis: Sourcing and pricing decisions Falco Scooters (A) case.

May 4

Topics

- Decision analysis in a rich setting.
- Asset-related costs.
- Routine and non-routine business decisions.
- Strategic considerations.
- Contribution margin ratio (CMR) analysis.
- Degree of operating leverage (DOL) analysis.

Prepare

Case study *Falco Scooters (A)*. Provide the analysis requested in the case.

Session Plan

We will analyze complicated sourcing and pricing decisions in the *Falco Scooters* (A) case.

After we analyze the case, we will consider two important ratio-analysis techniques: Contribution margin ratio (CMR) and degree of operating leverage (DOL) analysis.

Sessions 13. Decision analysis: Asset-related costs and strategic issues Falco Scooters (B) case.

May 11

Course takeaways. Review for final.

Topics

- Implications of changes in inventories, receivables, payables, and other assets.
 - Incorporating erosion and cannibalization.
 - Strategic issues.
 - Course takeaways.

Textbook Chapter 13.

Chapter 13, pages 632-634, 638-643.

Prepare Case study *Falco Scooters (B)*. Address the questions in the case. *Note:* The discussion of *residual income* and *EVA*[®] from Chapter 11 is useful for doing the *Falco Scooters (B)* case.

Sample final exam.

Session Plan

We will continue our exploration of decision analysis. We will analyze the *Falco Scooters (B)* case.

We will then review the key takeaways from the course.

We will then take a look at the sample final and discuss final-exam preparation.