

- SUMMER 2021 -

Professor:

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COURSE OVERVIEW

This core course will explain the financial language used in businesses and discuss the financial metrics used to evaluate the feasibility and success of businesses. The course will use real cases to explain how the choice of business strategy and its execution is reflected in financial statements. The *main goal* of this course is to equip you with the knowledge to:

- a. learn a foreign language such as Accounting,
- b. read, interpret, and analyze financial statement data to make informed business decisions regarding investment, credit, or resource allocation.
- c. prepare projections by forecasting future financial statements

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Appreciate how business activities are captured by financial statements.
- Understand the difference between cash and accrual accounting.
- Interpret Balance Sheets, Income Statements, and Statement of Cash Flows.
- Prepare simple financial statements.
- Explain how components of financial statements are linked together.
- Prepare simple journal entries, ledgers, trial balances, and end-of-period adjusting entries.
- Have a basic understanding of how to build and assess a business plan
- Apply ratio analysis to companies in different industries

CLASS HANDOUTS

Your mandatory reading materials are your Handouts.

Class notes, class exercises, solutions to class exercises, review questions, solutions to review questions, sample exams and all other lecture-related materials are available in electronic format on NYU Classes.

OPTIONAL ELECTRONIC TEXT

Some of you prefer to supplement your class notes with other materials. Here is a book that I recommend.

Easton, P., Wild, J., Halsey, R., and M. McNally, Financial Accounting for MBAs, Cambridge Business Publishers.

<https://mybusinesscourse.com/book/financialaccountingformbas8e#purchase> (no access code needed).

In case you are an accounting newbie the book might be useful.

ASSESSMENTS

Your final grade is calculated based on:

- First Group Assignments 20
- Second Group Assignments 10
- 2 Mini Tests 20
- Final Exam 50

Group Assignments

There are 2 group assignments for this course. You can find the due dates of your assignments on our class schedule. **You are supposed to work on the assignments in your preassigned group.** Your assignments should clearly state the team members' full names. **However**, only one member of your team **should submit the assignment.**

Mini Tests (individual assessment, collaboration NOT allowed)

To ensure that you put in consistent effort into the course, 2 mini tests are designed to test your accounting knowledge in selected topics. You can find the test dates on our class schedule. **You are NOT allowed to work through the questions in groups for your mini tests.**

Final Exam

The final exam will cover the full course and is 2:50 hours long.

GRADING

The course will follow the grading policies of core courses:

A/A- max of 35% of the class

CLASS SCHEDULE

At the end of this document, you will find a class schedule. You will find it beneficial to read the assigned handouts. **For those without accounting background, you may want to read the assigned background readings from the recommended text.** When reviewing the handouts, you will find class exercises assigned for selected topics. Discussions of class-exercises have been scheduled during class time and will take place typically after a new topic is introduced. These class-exercises are designed to consolidate your understanding of key accounting concepts and apply your accounting knowledge to situations/cases with a dimension of realism. Solutions to class exercises are posted on NYU Classes as well. 'Review questions with solutions' are additional questions that you can attempt to better grasp the accounting concepts/issues.

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.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity and honesty is central to our mission as an educational institution. [The MBA Code of Conduct](#), which all students sign, therefore places particular emphasis on academic integrity. Notably this includes refraining from any method or means that provides an unfair advantage in exams or papers, and clearly acknowledging the work of others in your own work. As a reminder, the [entire Code of Conduct is available here](#).

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.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY

New York University is committed to providing equal educational opportunity and participation for students with disabilities. Students who are interested in applying for academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (CSA) as early as possible in the semester. If you already receive accommodations through CSA, you are encouraged to request your accommodation letters through the Moses portal as soon as possible.

Moses Center for Student Accessibility (CSA), 212-998-4980, mosescsa@nyu.edu, www.nyu.edu/csa

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, 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

Classes can get stressful. I encourage you to reach out if you need help. The NYU Wellness Exchange offers mental health support. You can reach them 24/7 at 212 443 9999, or via the “NYU Wellness Exchange” app. There are also drop in hours and appointments. Find out more at <http://www.nyu.edu/students/health-and-wellness/counseling-services.html>

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Class Content	Hand-out	Assessment Date
Session 1: 6/15	- Introduction to a new language	1	
Session 2: 6/18 Session 3: 6/22	- The accounting cycle: journal entries and T-accounts - Adjusting Entries and Completing the Accounting Cycle; - Reading Balance Sheet and Income statements	2	
Session 4: 6/25	- Statement of Cash Flow	4	Mini-test #1 due 6/24 by 11:00 PM EST
Session 5: 6/29	- Analyzing and Interpreting Financial Statements	5	
Session 6: 7/2	- Measuring and driving performance in the Tech industry		Mini-test #2 due 7/1 by 11:00 PM EST
Session 7: 7/6 Session 8: 7/9	- Projecting Financial Statements		Assignment #1 due 7/5 by 11:00 PM EST
Session 9: 7/13	Guest Speakers: - <i>Massimiliano Pellegrini</i> : CEO Namirial , former President of Mobile Services at RealNetworks - <i>Andrea Pini</i> : CFO North America at Gucci Grand Finale		Assignment #2 due 7/12 by 11:00 PM EST
Session 10: 7/16	Final Exam		

Enjoy the accounting experience, let the fun begin!