

COURSE SYLLABUS

Academic year 2012-2013

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Degree:	Administración y Dirección de Empresas (English teaching)
Double Degree:	Derecho y Administración y Dirección de Empresas (English teaching)
Course:	ADVANCED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING (Contabilidad Financiera Avanzada - English teaching)
Module:	V: Accounting and Finance
Department:	Financial Economics and Accounting
Academic Year:	2012-2013
Term:	First term
Total Credits:	6
Year:	3rd
Type of Course:	Obligatory
Course Language:	English

Teaching model:	C1	
a. General/background:		50%
b. Theory-into-practice/developmental knowledge-building		50%
c. Guided Academic Activities:		

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2. TEACHING TEAM INFORMATION

2.1. Course coordinator JUAN GARCÍA ÁLVAREZ DE PEREA

2.2. Teachers	
Name:	Juan García Álvarez de Perea
Faculty:	Business Administration
Department:	Financial Economics and Accounting
Academic Area:	Accounting
Category:	Profesor Colaborador
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3. ACADEMIC CONTEXT

3.1. Course Description and Objectives

The course “Advanced Financial accounting” is included in the Module V “Accounting and Finance” which adds up 54 ECTS credits. Thirty out of them are accounting courses -either financial accounting courses (18 ECTS) or management accounting courses (12 ECTS).

The course aims to provide students with the knowledge required for a general understanding of Financial Accounting Statements.

The communication process of accounting information is approached from an external point of view, analyzing intensely the main Financial Accounting Statements, and also some other Statements and Corporate Reports. Reliability and relevance issues are also deeply considered.

Furthermore, the Advanced Financial Accounting course aims to raise concern among students about the importance of ethical and social responsibility behavior in the profession as well as about the role of accounting in social, environmental and sustainability decision making, which is portrayed as an aim extending across the whole accounting curricula within the Degree of Business Administration and Management.

3.2. Contribution to the Training Plan

With this course the students can gain knowledge and acquire the skills necessary to understand and handle the main financial statements -either statutory or voluntary.

Students are also introduced to new practices on corporate disclosure, related to the consideration of several stakeholders, satisfying information needs on sustainability, social and environmental information and social responsibility issues.

Similarly, the course aims the student to become familiar with business realities, as well as emphasizing the role of fair accounting practices, ethics and socially responsible behaviour.

Likewise, this course provides the basis for the course “Financial Statements Analysis”, scheduled in the 2nd Term of this 3rd year of the Degree, which introduces the students the diverse analytical techniques available for analysis and decision making.



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3.3. Recommendations or Prerequisites

This course, as determined by its contents and objectives, is a continuation of the courses “Introduction to Financial Accounting” and “Intermediate Financial Accounting” previously scheduled in this Degree. Consequently, the students are advised to have successfully taken those two courses previously.

In addition, some topics addressed in this course require the students to be familiar with the basic concepts introduced in the “Financial Mathematics” course scheduled in the 1st semester of the 2nd year of the Degree in Business Administration and Management.

Furthermore, to assure the students’ efficient learning and participation in the course it is advised to handle Accounting Standards and the recommended bibliography.

During office hours, students may check homework solutions, ask questions, and discuss any other aspect of the course with the lecturer. Please take advantage of this resource. If these hours conflict with your schedule, arrange to meet with the lecturer at a time that is more convenient.

Regular attendance and class participation are expected of all students. Because the course covers a great deal of material, attending every class session is very important for performing well. Also, students are expected to make a meaningful contribution to the class, whether by asking questions, responding to questions, or contributing in other ways to class discussion.

Please find more information about class timetable, tutorials, and class materials (slides, exercises, documentation, etc) on the WebCT. Students are expected to use the course’s Virtual Classroom (WebCT) on a regular basis.

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4. SKILLS

4.1 Degree Skills Developed during this Course

Instrumental skills:

- Ability of analysing and synthesising.
- Develop written and oral English communication skills
- Decision-making skills.
- Team working.

Attitudinal skills:

- Critical and self-critical reasoning
- Ethical commitment to work.

Systemic skills:

- Self-autonomous learning
- Quality motivation.
- Sensitivity towards environmental and social issues.
- Acting under social responsibility criteria, equal opportunities for men and women principles, equal opportunities and universal access for handicapped people principles, and the characteristic values from a peace and democracy values culture.

Specific skills:

- Understanding and applying good governance practices, corporate social responsibility and business ethics.
- Understanding the role and functioning of the firm's accounting information system, as well as the operating, investing and financing activities; identifying the relevant accounting information sources; relating accounting to other subjects through the role of the Financial Statements.
- Learning the formal accounting development and its interaction with Society.
- Developing, preparing and interpreting Financial Statements and other tools for business information disclosure. Using Information Technologies to access and review financial accounts and other corporate reports, as well as the information disclosed from several institutions and regulatory and standardization bodies.

4.2. Module Skills Developed during this Course

On completion of this course students should be able to:

- Master the accounting and financial language and terminology.
- Know the new reporting practices.
- Have a broader view of the role of the accounting and Finance in satisfying the

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information needs of Society in a global environment.

- Develop and design basic accounting and finance tools and techniques.
- Interpret and analyse financial information.

4.3. Course-specific Skills

Cognitive (Know...):

- Comprehension of basic accounting and information disclosure characteristics.
- Comprehension of the fundamental concepts and elements of the Financial Statements.
- Acquisition of a broader view of the role of Accounting in satisfying the information needs of stakeholders.
- Knowledge of the new disclosure practices.

Procedural/Instrumental (Know-how to...):

- Acquisition of basic skills for developing and preparing financial statements and other business disclosure tools.
- Acquisition of analytic skills for interpreting Financial Statements and other tools for business information disclosure.
- Usage of Information Technologies to access and review financial accounts and other corporate reports, as well as the information disclosed from several institutions and regulatory and standardization bodies.

Attitudinal (Be...):

- Acquisition of a constructivist critical attitude, appreciating the fact that accounting, as a discipline, is the object of a constructivist debate and continuous questioning.
- Development of an ethical attitude to work inside the limits marked by the accounting ethics.

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5. COURSE CONTENT (COURSE TOPICS)

Unit 1: Communicating accounting information.

- 1.1. Introduction.
- 1.2. Characteristics and requirements of accounting information.
- 1.3. Accounting information regulation.
- 1.4. Accounting information users.
- 1.5. Accounting information comprehension.
- 1.6. Ethics and Accounting.

Unit 2: Balance Sheet

- 2.1. Introduction.
- 2.2. Assets.
- 2.3. Liabilities.
- 2.4. Equity.
- 2.5. Balance Sheet formats.

Unit 3: Income Statement

- 3.1. Introduction.
- 3.2. Structure and components.
- 3.3. Profit/Loss from continuing operations.
- 3.4. Profit/Loss from discontinued operations.
- 3.5. Format of the Income Statement

Unit 4. Statement of Changes in Equity.

- 4.1. Introduction.
- 4.2. Income and expense recognized directly in equity.
- 4.3. Formats and components.
- 4.4. Statement of Recognised Income and Expense.
- 4.5. Statement of Total Changes in Equity

Unit 5: Cash Flows Statement

- 5.1. Introduction.
- 5.2. Structure and contents.
- 5.3. Cash Flows from operating activities.
- 5.4. Cash Flows from investing activities.
- 5.5. Cash Flows from financing activities.

Unit 6. Notes to the Financial Statements and the Director's Report

- 6.1. Introduction.
- 6.2. Normal Notes contents.



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6.3. Abbreviated Notes contents.

6.4. Director's Report Contents.

Unit 7. Other Financial Statements and Reports

7.1. Intermediate Financial Statements.

7.2. Segment Reporting.

7.3. Auditor's Report.

7.4. Sustainability Report.

7.5. Corporate Governance Report.

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6. METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCES

METHODOLOGY:

This course accounts for 6 ECTS credits, so the total number of student learning hours is 150 and it is distributed as follows:

- In-class work (30%): 45h (15 weeks, 2 classes per week of 1,5h split in Basic Learning (50%) and Practical and Developmental Learning (50%) sessions. Basic Learning sessions are mainly devoted to introducing basic concepts, fostering the participation of students, and solving basic practical exercises on the concepts introduced. During the Practical and Developmental Learning sessions, assignments previously prepared, individually or in groups, will be solved, either by the instructor or the students.
- Individual autonomous learning (60%): 95h. This includes study hours of Basic Learning materials, preparation of assignments for the Practical and Developmental Learning sessions, as well as revision of concepts learned and skills acquired.
- Assessment (10%): 10h

RESOURCES:

To ensure the students' efficient learning in the course it is advised to handle the bibliographic resources available at the University's Library, as well as the University electronic resources.

More information about class timetable, tutorials, and class materials (slides, exercises, documentation, etc) on the WebCT. Students are expected to use the course's Virtual Classroom (WebCT) on a regular basis.

Course materials are divided as follows:

- Student Guide for each unit: Covering a description of the objectives of the unit as well as their minimum contents (This sort of 'script' cannot be considered as the official notes of the course). Student must use the resources available at the University to fulfil the learning objectives of each unit.
- Exercise booklets, including some of the assignments to be solved during the Practical and Developmental Learning sessions.
- Self-assessment tests, so that students can check their advances and their autonomous learning processes are facilitated.

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7. ASSESSMENT

To pass this subject student could take two official exams per year, which will be governed by the same evaluation criteria.

Students will be assessed cumulatively on their work throughout the course, both in class and on guided assignments. The assessment criteria applicable to student is:

- The content and skills acquired in Basic Learning sessions represent 50% of the overall rating and is evaluated using a theoretical-practical final exam. To calculate the final mark, a minimum mark of 4 out of 10 in the exam is required.
- The content and skills acquired in Practical and Developmental Learning sessions represents 50% of the overall grade. This part will be assessed continuously through the various activities carried out during the course, mainly through participative attitude of students in class and their continuous effort (20%) and the submission of several assignments (30%).

The minimum mark needed to pass the course is 5 out of 10.

IMPORTANT, please note:

- For students officially enrolled in this course, continuous assessment obtained on Practical and Developmental Learning will be valid through final evaluation periods for the current academic year, but not for the following academic year.
- International exchange students (Socrates/Erasmus/PIMA) sit the same exams and are evaluated according to the same criteria as other students with the exception that they will be allowed to use a dictionary when sitting exams.

Mobility:

Those students who cannot be assessed on a continuous basis due to being abroad under official mobility programs (Sócrates-Erasmus, Séneca, Atlanticus...) will do an additional project that will be conveniently defined, in order to obtain the continuous assessment mark. The lecturer should be contacted before the 30th of November, 2012, in order to let the lecturer be aware of the intention to do the project. Any break of the deadlines must be acknowledged by the Academic Coordinator of their Mobility Program.

PLEASE NOTE: In compliance with Title II, Chapter II, Articles 12.2 and 14.3 of the Normativa de Régimen Académico y de Evaluación del Alumnado (signed in Consejo de Gobierno de la Universidad Pablo de Olavide de Sevilla on July 18, 2006): “With



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regard to essays or other homework, plagiarism and/or the use of unoriginal material—including information obtained from online sources—without explicit and proper citing (and, where required, the express permission of the author), may warrant a grade of FAIL for the module, in addition to any other applicable academic sanctions warranted by academic misconduct on the part of students. [...] After consulting professors, students and any other university bodies deemed necessary, the Director of the Department responsible for the module in question will decide on the need for further measures including an official academic integrity hearing.”

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8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Essential reading:

- Atrill P. & E. McLaney (2011): Financial accounting for decision makers. Financial Times Prentice Hall, 6th Edition.
- SPANISH GENERAL ACCOUNTING PLAN (PLAN GENERAL DE CONTABILIDAD ESPAÑOL – ENGLISH TRANSLATION) - Approved by Royal Decree 1514/2007 of 16th November 2007
- Memento Contable. Edit. Francis Lefebvre, 2008. [Electronic Resource]
http://athenea.upo.es/record=b1357850~S1*sp.

Additional Reading:

- Atrill, P. (2000): Financial Management for Non-Specialists, Second Edition, London: Financial Times Prentice Hall.
- Gillespie, I., Lewis, R. and Hamilton, K. (2000): Principles of Financial Accounting, Second Edition, London: Financial Times Prentice Hall.
- Britton, A. and Waterson, C. (2006): Financial Accounting, Second Edition, London: Financial Times Prentice Hall.
- Kimmel, Paul D.; Jerry J. Weygandt, Donald E. Kieso (2009): Financial accounting : tools for business decision making. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.
- Kimmel, Paul D.; Jerry J. Weygandt, Donald E. Kieso (2009): Working papers to accompany financial accounting : tools for business decision making. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons.
- Kimmel, Paul D.; Jerry J. Weygandt, Donald E. Kieso (2009): Financial accounting : tools for business decision making – Study Guide. Hoboken : John Wiley & Sons.
- Fraser, Lyn M. & Ormiston, A. (2007): Understanding financial statements. New Jersey: Prentice Hall. 8th ed.
- Jerry J. Weygandt, Paul D. Kimmel, Donald E. Kieso (2011): Financial Accounting: IFRS Edition. Hoboken : John Wiley & Sons. 1st Edition.