




Business Administration

Course Number:	BUAD 359
Course Title:	Accounting – Contemporary Perspectives and Issues
Credits:	3
Calendar Description:	Students will gain a broader perspective on the role of accounting, beyond recording transactions. Students will examine who key users are, how standards have evolved in response to user needs, the critical role accounting information plays in the capital markets and other current topics in accounting.
Semester and Year:	Winter 2020
Prerequisite(s):	BUAD 363 or 364
Corequisite(s):	No
Prerequisite to:	No
Final Exam:	Yes
Hours per week:	3
Graduation Requirement:	Elective – BBA, Accounting option
Substitutable Courses:	No
Transfer Credit:	
Special Notes:	
Originally Developed:	April 2007
EDCO Approval:	December 2019
Chair's Approval:	

Professors

Name	Phone number	Office	Email
Mary Ann Knoll <i>Course Captain</i>	250-762-5445 x4363	Kelowna: C135	MKnoll@okanagan.bc.ca

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course students will be able to

- explain how recent historical events have shaped accounting and accounting standards
- analyze who the key financial reporting users are and their needs
- analyze the role financial reporting plays in the capital markets and how it relates to market efficiency
- examine how financial reporting choices affect decisions of stakeholders including investors, creditors, and management
- analyze how and why companies try to "manage" earnings, and the consequences of such earnings manipulation practices.
- examine recent accounting standard changes and how the need for the change evolved
- discuss current issues in accounting, their effect on standards and the accountant's role

Course Objectives

This course is designed to have an element of flexible content based on emerging issues, the course schedule enclosed is subject to change.

Evaluation Procedure

Term Work	30%
Mid-term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

Notes

Please check Moodle each week for topics to be covered and detailed reading assignments. Term work includes in class discussion participation, two hand in assignments, online discussion postings and a presentation/discussion

Required Texts/Resources

Financial Accounting Theory, Scott, W.R., 8th ed. Pearson

Course Schedule

Date		Topic	Textbook
2020 Week of		Monday, January 6 – First Day of Classes Monday, February 17 – Family Day Tuesday, February 18 – Friday, February 21 – Reading Break Thursday, April 9 – Last Day of Regular Classes	
Jan	6th	Users and the Conceptual Framework – An introduction to the relevance and reliability tradeoff	Selected Readings
	13th	Historical Perspective – How recent historical events have shaped accounting standards	Selected Readings
	20th	Present Value Accounting and Perfect Information Rational investor Decision Making	Selected Readings
	27th	Rational Investor Decision Making	Selected Readings
Feb	3rd	Measuring Market Reaction to Financial Reporting	Selected Readings
	10th	Behavioral Investor Decision Making	Selected Readings
	17th	Reading Break	
	24th	Mid-term Exam Fair Value, Decision Usefulness and Volatility	Selected Readings
Mar	2nd	Fair Value, Decision Usefulness and Volatility	Selected Readings
	9th	Earnings Management	Selected Readings
	16th	MD&A and Non-GAAP Measures	Selected Readings
	23rd	Executive Compensation	Selected Readings
	30th	Recent Standard Changes – Leases, examining the reasons and the process	Selected Readings
Apr	6th	Emerging roles in accounting – What is the role of accounting and big data?	Selected Readings
Apr	14-24	FINAL EXAM PERIOD	

SKILLS ACROSS THE BUSINESS CURRICULUM

The Okanagan School of Business promotes core skills across the curriculum. These skills include reading, written and oral communications, computers, small business, and academic standards of ethics, honesty and integrity.

STUDENT CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

What is the Disruption of Instructional Activities?

At Okanagan College (OC), disruption of instructional activities includes student “conduct which interferes with examinations, lectures, seminars, tutorials, group meetings, other related activities, and with students using the study facilities of OC”, as well as conduct that leads to property damage, assault, discrimination, harassment and fraud. Penalties for disruption of instructional activities include a range of sanctions from a warning and/or a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course to suspension from OC.

What is Cheating?

“Cheating includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct during tests or examinations in which the use is made of books, notes, diagrams or other aids excluding those authorized by the examiner. It includes communicating with others for the purpose of obtaining information, copying from the work of others and purposely exposing or conveying information to other students who are taking the test or examination.”

Students must submit independently written work. Students may not write joint or collaborative assignments with other students unless the instructor approves it in advance as a group/team project. Students who share their work with other students are equally involved in cheating.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is defined as “the presentation of another person’s work or ideas without proper or complete acknowledgement.” It is the serious academic offence of reproducing someone else’s work, including words, ideas and media, without permission for course credit towards a certificate, diploma, degree and/or professional designation. The defining characteristic is that the work is not yours.

“Intentional plagiarism is the deliberate presentation of another’s work or ideas as one’s own.” Intentional plagiarism can be a copy of material from a journal article, a book chapter, data from the Internet, another student, work submitted for credit in another course or from other sources.

“Unintentional plagiarism is the inadvertent presentation of another’s work or ideas without proper acknowledgement because of poor or inadequate practices. Unintentional plagiarism is a failure of scholarship; intentional plagiarism is an act of deceit.”

What are the Students’ Responsibilities to Avoid Plagiarism?

Students have a responsibility to read the OC Plagiarism Policy and Procedures outlined in the OC calendar, which is available in online format www.okanagan.bc.ca. Students must acknowledge the sources of information used on all their assignments. This usually involves putting the authors’ name and the year of publication in parentheses after the sentence in which you used the material, then at the end of your paper, writing out the complete references in a Reference section.

“Students are responsible for learning and applying the proper scholarly practices for acknowledging the work and ideas of others. Students who are unsure of what constitutes plagiarism should refer to the UBC publication “*Plagiarism Avoided; Taking Responsibility for your Work*”. This guide is available in OC bookstores and libraries.

Students are expected to understand research and writing techniques and documentation styles. The Okanagan School of Business requires the use of the APA or MLA style, but suggests that students cite references using the APA guidelines (see Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition (2019)). A copy of the APA manual is available in the reference section and also available for circulation from OC libraries. The library website has access to these two major citing styles.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism and Cheating?

The Okanagan School of Business does not tolerate plagiarism or cheating. All professors actively check for plagiarism and cheating and the Okanagan School of Business subscribes to an electronic plagiarism detection service. All incidents of plagiarism or cheating are reported and result in a formal letter of reprimand outlining the nature of the infraction, the evidence and the penalty. The Dean of the Okanagan School of Business and the Registrar record and monitor all instances of plagiarism and cheating. Penalties for plagiarism and cheating reflect the seriousness and circumstances of the offence and the range of penalties includes suspension from OC.