

College of Business Administration and Economics
New Mexico State University
Course Syllabus
ACCT 353
Cost Accounting
Fall 2007

Instructor: Dr. Mary Jo Billiot, DBA, CPA
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WebCT Address: <http://salsa.nmsu.edu>

Office Hours: 1:30-2:30 MW
Other times by appointment

Required Materials:

Cost Management – Accounting and Control (2006) Hansen and Mowen, 5th Edition,
Southwestern Publishing

Cost Management - Accounting and Control, WebCT Access Code. Available in the bookstore
or on the ACCT 353 WebCT initial entry page. Purchases through the website are directly from
the publisher and require a credit card.

Course Prerequisites:

ACCT 251 and ACCT 252 or equivalents

Course Description:

Development and use of cost accounting information for inventory valuation, income
determinations and cost control.

Course Objectives:

Upon successfully completing this course, you will be able to

- understand the uses of cost accounting information within an organization,
- apply principles of cost accounting in appropriate circumstances,
- understand the problem of cost assignment and the different cost assignment methods, and
apply the appropriate method,
- understand and apply budgeting processes
- understand and apply a standard costing process, and
- understand and apply various activity- and strategic-based costing processes.

WebCT:

Upon registering for this course, you will need to gain access to WebCT. Course materials and
assignments will be posted to the course web site. Many of these will not be distributed in class.
It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the materials required for class and that all
assignments are completed by the due date. Therefore, you will be expected to visit the site
regularly and use it as one of the keys tools for this course. You may access the site at
<http://salsa.nmsu.edu>.

Course Policies:

Wireless Communications: The use of cellular phones, pagers, etc. during class is distracting and disrespectful to the instructor and your classmates. Remember to turn off all forms of wireless communications before coming to class. If you must be contacted during class for any reason, notify the instructor in advance.

Academic Dishonesty: I expect all students to conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. For a definition of academic dishonesty and its consequences, see your student handbook. For the purposes of this course, academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to,

- copying another student's solution or allowing another student to copy your solution
- soliciting or offering assistance on individual assignments
- removing or copying pages or problems from exams or quizzes
- using programmable calculators during exams or quizzes
- using any type of dictionary during exams or quizzes
- using any type of wireless communication during exams or quizzes
- any other activity that jeopardizes the integrity of this course.

Students with Disabilities: If you have, or think you may have, a disability that interferes with your performance as a student, you are encouraged to discuss this on a confidential basis with the instructor, the Disabled Student Programs Coordinator at 646-1921, and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 646-7795. If you have a condition that may affect your ability to exit these premises in case of an emergency, you should contact any of the above persons immediately.

Course Work

Quizzes, Homework, Assignments

- Quizzes will be given on an individual basis and a group basis. If you miss a quiz, your grade will be 0 for the missed quiz. There will be a quiz for each chapter.
- Individual homework will periodically be assigned and collected and may not be made up if missed.
- In-class problems will be worked within groups.
- **Assignments will be available on WebCT for each chapter the day we begin the chapter. Assignments are due the day that we begin the subsequent chapter *with the exception of assignments prior to an exam. Assignments for chapters prior to an exam are due on the date of the exam.***
- Read the material and attempt the suggested practice exercises and problems before the class period in which the material will be covered. Class time is for asking and answering your questions

Contribution to group success

- In addition to group quizzes and assignments, you will receive a grade for your participation in group tasks. **As part of the final exam, team members will rate each other in 3 areas: (1) preparedness for tasks, (2) attendance, and (3) group facilitation.**

Exams – Two midterm exams comprise 300 points and consist of multiple choice, short answer, and problems. The final exam represents 100 points. **No makeup exams will be given. If you miss an exam and PRIOR TO the exam the instructor approves your absence, you will receive a grade of 0 for the missed exam and must take a comprehensive final that will count as 250 points. If you have not contacted the instructor prior to the exam, you will receive a grade of 0 and will not be able to make-up the points.** If you are participating in a university-sponsored activity and must miss an exam or other work, notify the instructor prior to the event to make alternate arrangements.

Course Grade

Grades will be assigned consistent with the policy in the undergraduate catalog based on the following:

Midterm exams (2@150 points each)	300
Final exam	100
Individual & group quizzes/ assignments	200
Contribution to group success	45
Total	645

Your Course Grade will be based upon the percentage of the available points earned where A = 90-100%, etc. The instructor reserves the right to lower the above grading scale.

If you are an undergraduate taking this course on the S-U grading basis, an S will be recorded for anyone earning an A, B, or C letter grade. Incomplete (I) grades will only be given under extenuating circumstances and in accordance with university regulations. The regulations state “... the grade of I is given for passable work that could not be completed due to circumstances beyond the student’s control ... that developed after the last day to withdraw from the course ... In no case is an I grade to be used to avoid the assigning of D, F, U, or RR grades for marginal or failing work.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CPA Exam and 150-hour requirement – New Mexico law requires applicants for the CPA Examination to have at least 150 semester hours of education. Texas and most other states also have the 150-hour rule, but the nature of these 150 hours can vary significantly from state to state. For example, in New Mexico, only 30 total hours of accounting are required to sit for the CPA exam, and 3 of these hours can be in business law. In Texas, 30 UPPER DIVISION accounting hours, plus an approved accounting ethics class, are required to sit for the exam. Including sophomore-level accounting courses, this totals 39 hours of Accounting. (NMSU will provide a Texas-approved accounting ethics class beginning in Fall 2005.) *To find the requirements for a particular state*, see the following AICPA website, which links to the various state boards of accountancy:

<http://www.aicpa.org/yellow/ypsboa.htm>

Many who plan to sit for the CPA Exam choose to remain in school for a Master of Accountancy degree. If you are thinking about a career in public accounting, you may wish to consider this program as the most beneficial way to enhance your background and credentials before accepting a career position. In addition, the MAcc degree should allow you to meet the CPA certification requirements in most, if not all, states. If you are interested in entering the MAcc program at NMSU, please contact the director, Dr. Cindy Seipel (cseipel@nmsu.edu , Room BC 333, 646-5206) for more information. You should keep in mind, however, that professional certifications other than the CPA are available and may be more appropriate for your career objectives.

ACCT 353 – Cost Accounting – Fall 2007 Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic
W 08/22	Introduction
F 08/24	Chapter 2
M 08/27	
W 08/29	
F 08/31	Chapter 3
M 09/03	Labor Day Holiday
W 09/05	
F 09/07	
M 09/10	
W 09/12	Chapter 5
F 09/14	
M 09/17	
W 09/19	
F 09/21	Chapter 6
M 09/24	
W 09/26	
F 09/28	
M 10/01	Exam I
W 10/03	Return Exam I
F 10/05	Chapter 7
M 10/08	
W 10/10	
F 10/12	Chapter 8
M 10/15	
Tu 10/16	Last day to drop with “W”
W 10/17	
F 10/19	
M 10/22	Chapter 9
W 10/24	
F 10/26	
M 10/29	
W 10/31	Exam II
F 11/02	Return Exam II
M 11/05	Chapter 14
W 11/07	
F 11/09	
M 11/12	
W 11/14	Chapter 16
F 11/16	
11/19-11/23	Thanksgiving Holidays
M 11/26	
W 11/28	
F 11/30	Chapter 17
M 12/03	
W 12/05	
F 12/07	
M 12/10	Final exam Sec 01 8:00-10:00 Sec 02 10:30-12:30