

Course Description:

This is an introductory survey course in accounting. The course covers both financial and managerial accounting. Students will learn to understand the financial statements of an organization, with emphasis on the Income Statement and Balance Sheet. Students will learn to understand, analyze and explain the financial performance of a company and to make managerial decisions using this information. Students will work in teams to prepare an in-depth financial analysis of a company.

Due Dates

ALL DUE DATES TIMES ARE ON CST.

Homework, project assignments and cases are due as assigned, even if you have an excused absence for a university activity. **Emailed and late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a zero.**

Here is a [quick course calendar](#)

[Download quick course calendar](#) of class dates and due dates for submitted assignments. In addition, please read the Canvas page for that day's work before coming to class. The Canvas page will provide videos and other important information.

Evaluation of Student Work:

Exam 1	33%
Exam 2	37%
Homework, cases and class contribution	10%
BIP 301 Project	20%

Required Text/Materials:

This course requires:

- Textbook with Connect
- Course packet
- One Harvard case.

Textbook with Connect

The textbook is *Accounting What the Numbers Mean*, **13th edition**, Marshall, McManus, Viele. Be sure you get the **13th edition**. You must have a version of the textbook that includes Connect, the homework software.

- Most students buy the electronic version of the textbook with Connect. ISBN: 9781265645151. This should be the least expensive option. [Here is the link for our class.](#)
- [Links to an external site.](#)
- If you prefer a hard copy of the book, you can buy a looseleaf version with Connect. The looseleaf version is just like a traditional textbook, but it is sent to you without a cover and it is hole punched. ISBN: 9781265461287. Make sure you buy the looseleaf with Connect option rather than buying each separately. When purchased together, it is cheaper.

You can rent the traditional bound copy, but you will still need to buy Connect which comes with the ebook.

Need help with Connect? Click [here](#) for more resources.

Course Packet

In this class, we use a course packet. This is a workbook designed to help you do the cases we work on in class. You will need to be writing in the course packet during class. If you can write on your screen, that will work fine. If not, you may want to print out pages from the course packet. There were a few students who did not have the packet or did not have the ability to write on the packet and they struggled with our class cases. You can also choose to buy the hard copy course packet at the Norris bookstore.

[Course packet for downloading](#)

[Download Course packet for downloading](#)

Harvard Case: Chemalite

The case must be purchased online through the Harvard Business Publishing website. The case costs \$4.25. You will need to register on this site. Here is the [link for buying the case](#)

[Links to an external site.](#)

Reading and videos

To be successful in this class, keep up with the reading and videos.

Homework Problem Sets

Homework will be done and submitted online via Connect. It is your responsibility to understand how Connect works. Connect problem sets are due online before 11am CST on Wednesdays. The due dates are in the course calendar and on Connect. You cannot submit homework late.

Suggested Practice Problems

To keep your homework to a moderate workload, I have selected only a portion of the available problems for the assigned problems sets. For most students, this will not be enough practice to master all of the topics in each chapter. In addition, some important topics are not covered in the homework. For this much needed practice, I have provided practice problem sets on Connect and additional practice on Canvas. I have also provided extra practice problems to help you prepare for the exams. [Resources for Practice and Exam Prep](#)

Exams

You must take all exams in your assigned class period. **If you have a conflict with the scheduled exam dates/times you should not be taking the course this term. Please make sure you check the scheduled exam dates now.**

Exams will be closed book and you will only be able to use notes I provide on the exam. Only four function calculators will be allowed. Graphing calculators and calculator functions of other electronic devices (e.g. computers, cell phones, Ipads) will not be allowed. *This means that you may need to purchase an inexpensive simple calculator for this course.* You will not be permitted to share calculators during the exams. Students may not leave during an exam.

If you have a very serious emergency on the day of the exam, you must send me an email *before* the exam time, explaining your situation. I will then decide if you have a truly legitimate situation. For example, a positive covid test or hospitalization is a legitimate reason for missing an exam. Please understand that legitimate reasons for missing an exam are quite rare. If the reason, in my judgment, is not legitimate, you will get a zero on the test for a grade of F that cannot be made up. Any problem that causes you to miss a test must be documented by an independent source.

Final Project

This course will not have a final exam as scheduled by the University. Instead, you will have a group final project. A description of the final project is posted on Canvas. Details of the final project requirements will be discussed in class.

Attendance and active participation

Attendance and active participation is crucial to success in this course. We have limited capacity in our Tuesday and Thursday class, so you must attend the Tuesday Thursday class section in which you are registered. *Taking good notes, participating in class activities and paying close attention in class are extremely important.* You are responsible for the material covered in class and some of this material is not in the readings or posted lecture notes. You are expected to be in every class, unless you have an excused absence for a university activity or if you are in University mandated quarantine. The University policy is that you should attend class even if you have been exposed to Covid, assuming if you are vaccinated and boosted, unless you test positive or have symptoms.

You are expected to sign in on the attendance sheet. This is your responsibility. Attendance and course contribution may impact your grade.

Course community

Each student has an important role in our classroom community. Each of you has unique experiences which can be shared with the class. Often, just asking a question can help other students learn. To maximize the learning opportunity for everyone, I ask you to participate actively in class discussions, work enthusiastically and positively on class activities and help each other on in-class problems and mini-cases. If you have ideas for the class, please let me know.

Best to keep screens off on most days

In general, except for cases of documented disabilities and for certain instructional activities, I ask that you not use your computers, phones and Ipads in the classroom. We want you to be successful in this course and we have found that students do better when they do not have a device open in the classroom. If you really prefer to take notes on your devices, please make sure that your device is not a distraction. We will occasionally use our devices for a class activity and I will let you know in advance about these lessons.

Please read my emails

It is extremely important to read my emails and announcements. If you email me, I strive to get back to you within 12 hours, but sooner if you email me during the day. I ask that you always respond to my questions within 24 hours. Please be certain that your Canvas is set up to receive announcements about the class.

Academic Integrity is taken very seriously at Northwestern

Students in this course are required to comply with the policies found in the booklet, "Academic Integrity at Northwestern University: A Basic Guide". All papers submitted for credit in this course must be submitted electronically unless otherwise instructed by the professor. Your written work may be tested for plagiarized content. For details regarding academic integrity at Northwestern or to download the guide, visit:

<https://www.northwestern.edu/provost/policies-procedures/academic-integrity/index.html>

Any form of cheating, including improper use of content generated by artificial intelligence, constitutes a violation of Northwestern's academic integrity policy. [Turnitin](#), which is already in use at Northwestern, is expanding its system to include artificial intelligence detection.

From my many years at NU, I know that most NU students have excellent standards of honesty and integrity. However, it is always a good idea to make sure you are familiar with the NU standards. I am very serious about ethical behavior. I believe it is important to make sure that everyone is treated fairly. If you are caught violating these standards, you are likely to receive an "F" in this course and there may be further repercussions. I believe that students who choose unethical behavior should get the toughest consequences available. I have caught students in the past and they would tell you that it is totally not worth it.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence

As of the beginning of the quarter, there are no assignments in this course which allow the use of GAI.

Class will be in person, and some classes may be recorded by the instructors

Class sessions for this course will occur in person. Individual students will not be granted permission to attend remotely except as the result of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodation as determined by AccessibleNU.

This class or portions of this class may be recorded by the instructor for educational purposes. Your instructor will communicate how members of the class can access the recordings. Portions of the course that contain images, questions, or commentary/discussion by students will be edited out of any recordings that are saved beyond the current term.

Class materials and videos are not to be shared outside this class

Unauthorized student recording of classroom or other academic activities (including advising sessions or office hours) is prohibited. Unauthorized recording is unethical and may also be a violation of University policy and state law. Students requesting the use of assistive technology as an accommodation should contact [AccessibleNU](#). Unauthorized use of classroom recordings – including distributing or posting them – is also prohibited. Under the University's [Copyright Policy](#), faculty own the copyright to instructional materials – including those resources created specifically for the purposes of instruction, such as syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, and presentations. Students cannot copy, reproduce, display, or distribute these materials. Students who engage in unauthorized recording, unauthorized use of a recording, or unauthorized distribution of instructional materials will be referred to the appropriate University office for follow-up.

All of the material I provide to you for this course, including (but not limited to) information on Canvas, slide presentations, cases, readings and other handouts of material not in the public domain, are copyrighted, whether a copyright notice appears on the document or not. You have permission to use these materials for this course, and to print a copy or copies for your personal use. You may not share these materials with anyone else, including (but not limited to) via online services that facilitate the sharing of course materials by students, whether you receive a fee for such sharing or not. Uploading any course materials to an online depository is a violation of federal copyright law and the Northwestern Academic Integrity Code.

Course Changes

Please note that the specifics of this course syllabus are subject to change in the case of unforeseen circumstances. Instructors will notify students of any changes as soon as possible. Students will be responsible for abiding by the changes.

AccessibleNU

*Northwestern University is committed to providing the most accessible learning environment as possible for students with disabilities. Should you anticipate or experience disability-related barriers in the academic setting, please contact AccessibleNU to move forward with the university's established accommodation process (e: accessiblenu@northwestern.edu; p: 847-467-5530). If you already have established accommodations with AccessibleNU, please let me know as soon as possible, **preferably within the first two weeks of the term**, so we can work together to implement your disability accommodations. Disability information, including academic accommodations, is confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.*

Religious Observance

Northwestern is committed to fostering an academic community respectful and welcoming of persons from all backgrounds. To that end, the [policy on academic accommodations](#) for religious holidays stipulates that students will not be penalized for class absences to observe religious holidays. If you will observe a religious holiday during a class meeting, scheduled exam, or assignment deadline, please let me know as soon as possible, preferably within the first two week of class. If exams or assignment deadlines on the syllabus fall on religious holidays you observe, please reach out so that we can discuss that coursework.

Support for Wellness

Northwestern University is committed to supporting the wellness of our students. Student Affairs has multiple resources to support student wellness and mental health. If you are feeling distressed or overwhelmed, please reach out for help. Students can access confidential resources through the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Religious and Spiritual Life (RSL) and the Center for Awareness, Response and Education (CARE). Additional information on all of the resources mentioned above can be found here:

<https://www.northwestern.edu/counseling/>

<https://www.northwestern.edu/religious-life/>

<https://www.northwestern.edu/care/>

COVID-19 Classroom Expectations Statement

Students, faculty, and staff must comply with University expectations regarding appropriate classroom behavior, including those outlined below and in the [Covid-19 expectations for students](#).