



## Economics/Management 4:- Financial Accounting Fall 2011

Lectures 5-6:20pm Mondays and Wednesdays – WLH 2001

Michael Willoughby, Ph.D., CFA

Economics Bldg. Room 110B, Thurgood Marshall campus

### Materials and Resources:

1. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING READER & COURSE WORKBOOK "FALL 2011 EDITION."
2. **Nordstrom** ("JWN") Form 10K (FY 2011). Available online - thru *MSNmoney.com*.
3. **Online Tutorials** *Simple Studies.com* at <http://simplestudies.com/>
4. **Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room** – documentary movie. Shown in-class.

### Course Objective:

This course is an introduction to financial accounting (assumes no prior knowledge of accounting) and plays the role of two prerequisites: first, for the Rady School of Management *accounting minor* and, second, for the *management science major*, specifically for Corporate Finance (Econ 173B). Thus, we will study basic book-keeping, principles of accrual accounting, plus financial reporting and financial analysis.

### Guidance

Students will need the current Reader & Course Workbook. A number of websites provide tutorials and glossaries. The course webpage will provide contemporaneous guidance and support. Students should check it often, especially for announcements and instructions related to for class-preparation - documents to *print & bring-to-class*.

Professor Willoughby's office hours can be found on the fall calendar at:

<http://econ.ucsd.edu/~mwilloug/mwilloughby.html>

### Grades

Grades will be based on accumulated scores using a 100 point weighted scale. Deliverables are assigned a *weight* with the sum of *weights* equal to 100%. Thus, *weighted scores* (regardless of points allotted to individual assignments) will fall between 0 and 100 points.

Letter grades will be based on a *curve* but with certain absolute attributions at the top and the bottom. The class average will establish the lowest B-. All weighted scores of 90 points or greater will be assigned an "A"; all weighted scores of 54.99 points or fewer will be assigned an "F". At least 62 weighted points will be needed for a "C-" or "P".

## Extra Credit

On Monday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have an extra credit event in the form of a multiple-choice exam – based chapters 1-3 from the Reader – worth 6 weighted points. Points earned on this exam will be added to – are in addition to - the 100 course points itemized below. In order to earn these extra credit points, students must bring a Scantron and take the exam at 5pm on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, there will be an extra credit section on the final exam related to Liar's Poker, the 1986 auto-biographical, financial markets satire by Michael Lewis.

## Course Deliverables:

	<u>Weighted Points</u>
a) Lecture attendance	4 points
b) Home-works from the Reader [4 of them]	12 points
c) A PowerPoint “company” presentation due 5pm October 7 <sup>th</sup> .	8 points
d) Quizzes [4 of them] in Teams of Two	36 points
e) A Final Exam – Thursday December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 7pm.	40 points

Notice that it is possible to accumulate enough points to “pass” this course prior to the final exam.

## Details

Schedules and “due dates” can be found on the professor’s on-line calendar.

PowerPoint Presentation: Students will be assigned a publicly-traded company and given a template of slides to adapt to their company and turn-in.

- ✓ No mistakes = 8 points; any error = 0 points.
- ✓ Redo w/ no errors = 5 points w/out indication of errors.
- ✓ Redo w/ no errors = 2 points w/ indication of errors.

Home-works: Several homework assignments identified in the Reader will be due when announced. Each will be worth 3 points.

Quizzes: There will be four quizzes. Quizzes will be team-events. Students will work in teams of two, but turn-in separate papers.

Exams: There will be no midterm exam.

The final exam will include multiple choice, problem-solving, and essay questions.

A practice final exam will be given in-class on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **Important Administrative Rules.**

At the end of 2nd week, students will be given “numbers” to identify their work for grade recording purposes. Numbers will be assigned in alphabetical order. Student numbers are required on all assignments. No number, no score, no exceptions.

Check your scores. Notify T.A.’s of recording errors. There will be no revisions to recorded scores after the end of 9<sup>th</sup> week.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to know and comply with the UCSD Code of Academic Integrity. Any infraction will be reported. In addition, sound ethical behavior is also expected of every student in this course. Any act that purposefully and unfairly conveys a grading advantage will be considered a breach of ethics and will also be referred to the AI Coordinator. Moreover, in action that involves a conspiracy (of any sort), all parties will be treated, for purposes of reporting and punishment, equally.

## **Rules of the Road**

- Check the course webpage and calendar frequently.
- Find your quiz-partner early.
- Attendance is mandatory.
- Come to lecture prepared to work and don’t fall asleep during lecture – leave or stand-up at the back of the room.
- No laptops or mobile phone use during lecture.
- Treat the T.A.s with respect.
- Attend T.A. or the professor’s office hours as often as your schedule permits.
- All Quizzes and the Final Exam will be “open” Reader, includes notes written therein.
- No late assignments; no make-up Quizzes, no rescheduled final exam.<sup>1</sup>

If you run-into an emergency or a UCSD-sponsored conflict, inform me as soon as possible. Once your conflict has been documented, points for the missed assignment will be rolled-over to the next, similar, graded assignment.

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<sup>1</sup> . . . with the exception of varsity athletes or any member of a school-sponsored team (dance, choir, debate, science project, etc.).