

**Fayetteville State University**  
**School of Business and Economics**  
**Accounting Department**  
**Cost Accounting: Acct 321-01**  
**Spring Semester 2009**

**I. Locator Information:**

Instructor: Dr. Mohsen Souissi  
Course # and Name: Cost Accounting: Acct 321-01 Office Location: 306-B  
Semester Credit Hours: 3 Office hours:  
T: 10:15am-11:00 am  
R: 10:15am-11:00am ; 1:45pm-4:15 pm; 5:15-6:30  
F: 10:30pm-12:15pm  
  
Day and Time Class Meets: T/R 11:00am -12:15pm Office Phone: 672 1362  
Email address: msouissi@uncfsu.edu

**FSU Policy on Electronic Mail:** Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account ([username@uncfsu.edu](mailto:username@uncfsu.edu)) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail.  
Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at  
<http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf>

**II. Course Description:**

Cost accounting is concerned with providing information for financial and managerial purposes and emphasizes the processing and evaluation of cost data. The course consists of an in-depth study of the concepts and techniques used by management accountants to assist decision-makers within the organization. Students will be introduced to methods currently being used by companies for planning and controlling purposes as well as for accumulating product cost and pricing. Also, students will be exposed to techniques used to generate relevant information for management needs.

**III. Disabled Student Services:**

In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ACA) of 1990, if you have a disability or think you have a disability to please contact the Center for Personal Development in the Spaulding Building, Room 155 (1<sup>st</sup> Floor); 910-672-1203.

**IV. Textbook:**

Text Book adopted: Cost Accounting: A managerial Emphasis; Horngren, Datar, Foster, Rajan, Ittner; Prentice Hall, 13 th Edition, 2009. ISBN #: 978-0-13-612663-8

**V. Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- By actively participating in class discussions, each student will improve communication and analytical skills.
- By completing homework assignments, each student will improve their problem-solving skills.
- By successfully completing exams, each student will learn to study the appropriate materials and demonstrate knowledge and application of techniques used in management accounting.
- By working with a team to analyze a comprehensive case (including transfer price issue, performance evaluation, volume variances), students will learn to collaboratively take the steps to solve a commonly encountered business situation.

## VI. Course Requirements and Evaluation Criteria

### Homework assignments

Though not graded, homework assignments are very important. Students should attempt ALL the homework assigned since success in accounting is achieved by working the problems on your own to reinforce what you have learned in class. Students should be prepared to discuss/analyze/present any of the homework assignments in class when called on to do so. Given time constraints, some, but not all, of the homework problems will be reviewed in class.

### Quizzes

Unannounced quizzes are administered at the beginning of the session. While quiz administration is at the instructor's discretion, you should expect on average a quiz per chapter.

### Exams

There will be three semester exams. Exams are designed to test your understanding of facts, concepts, theories, and problem-solving methods. They are not designed to test your memorization skills.

There will be no make-up exam unless a student has a legitimate excuse for missing the exam. **The student has to produce valid documents to support his/her absence within 48 hours.**

### Group case write-ups

The class will be divided into groups. Teams should be comprised of two to three students. Team members would coordinate their efforts by whatever means they deem convenient. The objective of the team write up is to allow you to engage in deeper learning through small group discussions of the case requirements. Although responsibility for final write-up may be divided, you should work on and discuss case requirements as a team to get the benefit of different perspectives. Written responses should be limited to 2 or 3 pages (not including numerical tables or graphs), double-spaced and a font size of 12 points.

No Free riders are permitted in the case analysis. Each member is expected to participate equally. Peer evaluation sheet will be handed out to evaluate the work of each group member.

Cases are longer and more complicated than the exercises or problems, and often may not have "correct" solution. While they may not contain all the information to be found in real world decisions, the cases are useful in developing skills to analyze common accounting-related business problems, and will serve as a basis for class discussions

### Class preparation:

Internet PowerPoint Chapter Summaries:

1. Prior to each class, each student should print out the PowerPoint slides for the required chapter which will be posted on the blackboard under course documents.
2. All readings and problem assignments should be completed in their entirety **before** class on the dates assigned.

### Grading symbols & numerical equivalents:

- A 90 – 100
- B 80 – < 90
- C 70 - <80
- D 60 - <70
- F below 60

**INTERIM GRADE X = NO SHOW** – Assigned to students who are on a class roster, but never attend class. For warning purposes only; NOT a final grade.

**INTERIM GRADE EA = EXCESSIVE ABSENCES** - Assigned to students whose class absences exceed 10% of the total contact hours. For warning purposes only, NOT a final grade.

**FN = FAILURE DUE TO NON-ATTENDANCE** – Assigned to students who are on class roster, but never attend the class. An FN grades is equivalent to an F grade in the calculation of the GPA.

**NOTE TO STUDENTS ABOUT CLASS WITHDRAWALS:**

- *Students receive no refund for withdrawing from individual classes and they slow their progress toward degree completion.*
- *Students who withdraw from or fail more than one-third of their classes will no longer be eligible for financial aid.*
- **STUDENTS MUST STRIVE TO EARN CREDIT FOR ALL THE CLASSES IN WHICH THEY ENROLL. STUDENTS SHOULD WITHDRAW FROM CLASSES ONLY WHEN IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.**

**Your grade is determined on the basis of your performance in the following categories:**

- 10% Class Participation & Attendance
- 10% Quizzes
- 10 % Group Cases
- 20% Exam 1
- 20% Exam 2
- 30% Final Exam

**Student Behavior Expectations:**

The instructor will respect all students and will make every effort to maintain a classroom climate that promotes learning for all students. Students must accept their responsibility for maintaining a positive classroom environment by abiding by the following rules:

1. Students are expected to arrive to class on time, remain in class until dismissed by the instructor, and refrain from preparing to leave class until it is dismissed.
2. Student/teacher relationships, as well as relationships among peers, must be respectful at all times.
3. Students are not permitted to wear headphones or other paraphernalia that may be distracting to the classroom environment.
4. Students must refrain from any activity that will disrupt the class; this includes turning on cell phones and pagers, in and out of the classroom, carry on private conversations while class is being conducted.
5. Students are not permitted to use profanity in the classroom.

*Absent students should contact their peers (not the instructor) for any materials or announcements they missed.*

**Consequences for Failing to Meet Behavioral Expectations:**

*The first time a student violates one of these rules, the instructor will warn him or her privately, either after class or before the next class. (Faculty members reserve the right to warn students publicly if needed.) The second time a student violates the guidelines, the instructor may deduct as many as ten points from the student's next exam grade. If a student violates the guidelines three times, the instructor will report the student to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action according to the FSU Code of Student Conduct.*

**VII. Academic Support Resources**

- The textbook provides an important link for students for further practice. Students are encouraged to access frequently the following website for it offers an excellent opportunity to prepare for exams and quizzes.
- The school writing center provides a great help for your written projects. Please do take advantage of this valuable resource.

**VIII. Course Schedule (tentative):**

**Sessions**

**Chapter Coverage**

- 1 (1/8) First Class Meeting (Course preview)
- 2 (1/13) **Ch 1:** The accountant role in the organization
- 3 (1/15) **Ch 2:** An introduction to cost terms and purposes
- 4 (1/20) **Ch 2:** An introduction to cost terms and purposes

5 (1/22) **Ch 3:** CVP Analysis

6 (1/27) **Ch 3:** CVP Analysis

7 (1/29) **Ch 3:** CVP Analysis

8 (2/3) **Ch 4:** Job Costing

9 (2/5) **Ch 4:** Job Costing

10 (2/10) **Ch 4:** Job Costing

11 (2/12) Exam 1 review

**12 (2/17) Exam 1 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4)**

13 (2/19) **Ch17:** Process Costing

14 (2/24) **Ch17:** Process Costing

15 (2/26) **Ch 5:** ABC/ABM

16 (3/3) **Ch 5:** ABC/ABM

17 (3/5) **Ch 11:** Decision making and relevant information

18 (3/17) **Ch 11:** Decision making and relevant information

19 (3/19) **Ch 11:** Decision making and relevant information

20 (3/24) Exam 2 Review

*Pen case is due*

**21 (3/26) Exam 2 (Covers chapters 17, 5, 11)**

22 (3/31) **Ch 22:** Management Control systems, Transfer pricing, and multinational considerations

23 (4/2) **Ch 22:** Management Control systems, Transfer pricing, and multinational considerations

24 (4/7) **Ch 22:** Management Control systems, Transfer pricing, and multinational considerations

25 (4/9) **Ch 6:** Master budget and responsibility accounting

26 (4/14) **Ch 6:** Master budget and responsibility accounting

27 (4/16) **Ch 6:** Master budget and responsibility accounting

28 (4/21) **Ch 7:** Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances

*Birch Case is due*

29 (4/23) **Ch 7:** Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances

30 (4/28) **Ch 8:** Flexible Budgets, Overhead cost variances

31(4/30) **Ch 8:** Flexible Budgets, Overhead cost variances

**Final Exam 5/5 10:00 am -11:50 am ( Covers Chapters 6, 7, 8, 22)**

## IX. Teaching Strategies

The class will be conducted on a combination lecture/discussion basis. You should be prepared to participate in class discussion. Research has shown that through interactive learning, students are better able to process the knowledge and retain it. We will also seek to understand the broader picture rather than just learning mere facts.

We will cover a lot of materials and it is very important that you stay current. The lecture material only concentrates on the major points introduced in each chapter. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will be very useful for understanding the lectures.

Learning accounting is a cumulative process. For instance, it is difficult to master chapter 3 until you are thoroughly familiar with chapters 1-2. Therefore it is imperative that you keep up with class assignments. **The key here is practice. Do not wait until the week of the exam to cram.**

## X. Bibliography

- 1- Guilding, C., Cravens, K. & Tayles, M., "An International Comparison of Strategic Management Accounting Practices," *Management Accounting Research* (March 2000) p.113 [23p].
- 2-.Brierley, J., Cowton, C. & Drury, C., "How Product Costs Are Calculated and Used in Decision Making: A *Pilot Study*," *Managerial Auditing Journal* (April 2001) p.202 [5p].
- 3-Gordon, L. and Loeb, M., "Distinguishing between Direct and Indirect Costs Is Crucial for Internet Companies," *Management Accounting Quarterly* (Summer 2001) p.12 [6p].
- 4-Maher, M., "Management Accounting Education at the Millennium," *Issues in Accounting Education* (May 2000) p.335 [12p].
- 5-Cooper, R. and Kaplan, R., "Measure Costs Right: Make the Right Decisions," *Harvard Business Review* (September-October 1988) p. 96 [10p].
- 6-Damitio, J., Hayes, G. and Kintzele, P., "Integrating ABC and ABM at Dow Chemical," *Management Accounting Quarterly* (Winter 2000) p.22 [5p].
- 7-Cokins, G., "Learning To Love ABC," *Journal of Accountancy* (August 1999) p.37 [3p].
- 8-Hope, J. and Fraser, R., "Beyond Budgeting," *Strategic Finance* (October 2000) p.30 [6p].
- 9-Stammerjohn, W., "Better Information through the Marriage of ABC and Traditional Standard Costing Techniques," *Management Accounting Quarterly* (Fall 2001) p.15 [7p].
- 10-Yarrow, D., Mitchell, E. & Robson, A., "The Hidden Factory: The Naked Truth about Excellence in the Real World," *Total Quality Management* (July 2000) p.S439 [9p].
- 11-Shank, J. and Govindarajan, V., "The Perils of Cost Allocation Based on Production Volumes," *Accounting Horizons* (December 1988) p.71 [10p].
- 12-Brausch, J. and Taylor, T., "Who is Accounting for the Cost of Capacity?" *Management Accounting* (February 1997) p.44 [7p].
- 13-Brimson, J., "Technology, Sunk Costs, and the Make-or-Buy Decision," *Journal of Cost Management* (Fall 1987) p.52 [4p].
- 14-Kaplan, R. and Norton, D., "Transforming the Balanced Scorecard from Performance Measurement to Strategic Management: Part I," *Accounting Horizons* (March 2001) p.87 [18p].
- 15———, "Transforming the Balanced Scorecard from Performance Measurement to Strategic Management: Part II," *Accounting Horizons* (April 2001) p.147 [14p].
- 16———, "Using the Balanced Scorecard as a Strategic Management System," *Harvard Business Review* (January-February 1996) p.75 [21p].
- 17-Kovac, E. and Troy, H., "Getting Transfer Prices Right: What Bellcore Did," *Harvard Business Review* (September-October 1989) p.148 [7p].