

ACC 311 COST ACCOUNTING Fall 2010

I. Basic Information

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Course Purpose: Modern management accountants are not only concerned with how cost data are transformed into cost accounting information, but more importantly how to use cost accounting information to aid managerial goals. Accordingly, the topics of this course will emphasize: 1) techniques, procedures and concepts common to managerial accounting reports and summaries; 2) techniques and procedures common to planning, controlling decision making and other internal reporting issues; and 3) costing systems, cost behavior and estimation, budgeting, variances, standard costing, relevant costs, cost analysis, cost allocation, pricing decisions, profitability analysis and strategy implications. What you learn in this course will help you have a thorough understanding of a company's cost accounting system and related decision making.

II. Course Required Materials:

1. **Text:** Horngren, Foster and Datar, Cost Accounting: A Managerial Emphasis, 13th Edition, Prentice Hall.
2. **MyAccountingLab** (online homework tool)

Prerequisite: ACC202 or ACC211

III. Course Learning Goals

This course focuses on five core concepts arranged in five modules: (1) product and service costing, (2) planning and control, (3) pricing, (4) cost allocation and (5) performance evaluation.

IV. Student Performance Assessment

The goal of this course is to develop an understanding of core concepts and ability to analyze, use and communicate accounting information. Several assignments are designed and arranged throughout the semester to accomplish this learning goal. The performance assessment will be based on the evaluation of the following performance indicators:

- A) Overall quality of the group project and presentation
- B) Quality of group case write-up
- C) Scores on exams, quizzes and in-class group assignments
- D) Class participation and attendance

The above performance indicators will be weighted to determine the grade for this course and the final grade will be determined by points accumulated, with 500 total possible points:

Exam #1	70 points
Exam #2	80
Exam #3	80
Final Exam (Comprehensive)	100
MyAccountingLab Assignment	100
Group Project/Cases	70
Total	<u>500 points</u>

EXAMS: Exams will test both problem-solving abilities and knowledge of theories and concepts. **You must take all of the exams on the dates that they are scheduled.** Make-up exams will be given only in the event of **extreme emergencies** such as unexpected illness. You would also be expected to provide documentation to substantiate the reason you must miss an exam (e.g., a doctor's excuse in the event of illness or an obituary in the event of a death). In the event that a dire emergency arises which prevents you from being at the exams, **the instructor must be notified of the situation prior to the exam.** Any student who does not abide by this policy will receive a grade of zero for the exam.

Dean's Office: "Except in the case of a TCNJ authorized absence or documented personal emergency, faculty are encouraged NOT to make individual exceptions to course assignment due dates and exams. Our work is no less coordinated or time-sensitive than many tasks encountered in the workplace and meeting deadlines and obligations is simply one more step in preparation for a business career."

GROUP WORK:

A portion of your grade will be determined by group activities. Group learning frequently mirrors what happens in the "real world." Most work environments require us to collaborate and cooperate with others to produce a product or service which reflects a joint effort.

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS: There will be in-class group assignments that students have to complete at the end of classes. The group assignment will relate to the topics we covered on that day. Expect to have one or two in-class group assignment every week.

GROUP PROJECT/CASES: There will be a term project for the semester. You are expected to research a company and report their management accounting practices that at least relate to three module concepts covered in the course. (More information related to the group project will be posted on SOCS.) Each group member in the same group will receive the same grade assigned for the project. However, there will be an anonymous peer review at the end of the course. **Your grade of all group work will be adjusted based on confidential points determined by other group members in your group. (The peer evaluation criteria will be posted on SOCS.)**

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: This course requires a substantial time commitment, both inside and outside of the classroom. It is extremely important that you attend each class, participate in class discussion and complete all assigned work.

Class participation will be used to adjust borderline grades. The TCNJ's attendance policy can be found in the <http://www.tcnj.edu/~recreg/policies/attendance.html>.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS: The use of classroom time aims at reinforcing or clarifying what you have tried to learn on an individual basis before entering the classroom. Therefore, the success of this course is dependent on:

- 1) adequate preparation via studying the assigned readings and solving the assigned problems
- 2) discussion of the materials by the students and teacher in class
- 3) presentations of solutions in class

Your contribution to the class via your solutions, comments, and questions is regarded as an essential part of the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: In order to ensure fairness—and on behalf of the majority of honest students—I will send anyone suspected of cheating to the Academic Integrity Officer. Dishonesty on exams and any other assignments will not be tolerated. More information about TCNJ's academic integrity policy can be found in the website of <http://www.tcnj.edu/~academic/policy/integrity.html>.

LEARNING DISABILITIES: The College is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to enable employees and students to participate in the life of the campus community. Individuals with disabilities are responsible for reporting and supplying documentation verifying their disability. Requests for accommodations must be initiated through the Office of Differing Abilities Services, Eickhoff Hall 159, 609.771.2571. The TCNJ's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) policy can be found in the website of <http://www.tcnj.edu/~affirm/ada.html>.

LATE WORK POLICY: You must turn work in when it is due. **Late submission to the Myaccounting lab assignments will NOT be accepted.** For the **group project** the following late work penalty will apply:

- 1) Work that is submitted 1-2 calendar days AFTER its due date may be graded down a maximum of 10%.
- 2) Work that is submitted 3-6 calendar days AFTER its due date may be graded down a maximum of 20% (one full letter grade).
- 3) Work submitted more than 7 calendar days past will not be accepted.

CELL PHONE AND TEXTING POLICY: Please turn off your cell phone during the lecture and absolutely no texting allowed in class.

GRADING SCHEME:

The assessment of your performance will focus on two major parts: individual effort and group work. The following are the criteria that I will use to assess your performance in each component of course work described above:

Written assignments (case write-up or group project report):

A = Excellent work. The written works clearly and logically identify related issues, apply the most appropriate accounting concepts, provide thorough analysis without computational and verbal errors and draw well-supported, compelling and insightful conclusions.

B = Good work. The written works clearly and logically identify related issues, apply related accounting concepts (but not the most appropriate or powerful ones), provide complete analysis without computational and verbal errors and draw appropriate conclusions.

C = Average work. The written works identify some of issues, apply related accounting concepts (but not the most appropriate or powerful ones), provide suitable analysis and conclusions with rare computational and verbal errors.

D = Below Average. The written works identify few related issues, apply related accounting concepts (but not the most appropriate or powerful ones), provide illogical, unrelated or inappropriate analysis with computational and verbal errors.

F = Failing Performance. Omit necessary discussion and analysis. Have obvious computational and verbal errors. Conclusions are illogical and inaccurate.

Class participation and attendance:

A = Actively participate in the class. Frequently offer constructive comments in the class and miss fewer than two classes during the entire semester.

B = Consistently engaged in the class and miss fewer than two classes during the entire semester.

C = Respond to the class discussions and questions and miss three classes or fewer during the entire semester.

D = Rarely provide voluntary comments frequently and miss four classes or fewer during the entire semester.

F = Rarely participate in the class or miss most of the classes.

The letter grade described above and the final letter grade for this course is determined based on the following scale:

Final Grade Ranges	
A	465-500 points
A-	450-464
B+	435-449
B	415-434
B-	400-414
C+	385-399
C	365-384
C-	350-364
D+	335-349
D	300-334
F	Less than 300

Tentative Course Schedule

Module 1: Planning and Control

Date	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assigned Problem/Exercises
Week 1	Flexible Budget I	Ch 7	16 to 28,36,39,42,43
Week 2	Flexible Budget II	Ch 8	16 to 24,27, 36,39,40
Week 3	Sales Variances Analysis	Ch 14 (p515-p523)	25,26,32,33

Module 2: Product/Service Costing

Date	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assigned Problems/Exercises
Week 4	Job Costing	Ch. 4	16, 17, 18, 19, 24, 26, 31, 32, 33,34, 35,36, 37,38
Week 5	Process Costing	Ch. 17	16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26,27,28,31,32
Week 6	ABC	Ch 5	16,17,25,28,29,30,32,34,36,38
Week 7	Inventory Costing	Ch 9	18, 19, 20, 21,25,26, 27,30,31,34, 36
Week 9	Determining How Costs Behave	Ch 10	18, 20, 21, 22,23,24,27,29,30,33

Module 3: Pricing

Date	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assigned Problem/Exercises
Week 10	Relevant Info and Decision Making	Ch 11	18,19,20,21,22,25,26 33,34
Week 11	Pricing and Decision	Ch 12	21,23,24,25,32,34
Week 12	Transfer Pricing	Ch 22	20, 25, 26, 28,30

Module 4: Cost Allocation

Date	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assigned Problem/Exercises
Week 13	Allocation of Department Costs	Ch. 14 (P500-P508) Ch 15	19,21,23,24,25,28,30
Week 14	Joint Product and Byproduct	Ch 16	21,22,24,26,27,28,30,31

Module 5: Performance Measurement

Date	Topic	Textbook Reading	Assigned Problem/Exercises
Week 15	Strategy and Balanced Scorecard	Ch 13	Reading assignment
	Quality, Time and Theory of constraints	Ch 19	15, 17, 35, 37
	Financial and Non-financial Performance Measurement	Ch 23	25, 29, 33, 45

Exams Schedule:

Exam I- Ch 7, 8, 4 & Ch14 (sales variances)

Exam II – Ch 17, 5, 9

Exam III- Ch 10, 11, 12, 22

Final Exam - Comprehensive

Course and exam schedules are tentative and subject to changes.