

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION- HONOURS PROGRAM
DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ADMINSTATION**

**Winter, 2009
BADM 4250**

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Course Title:	Accounting Theory
Pre-requisites:	BADM 4210 Advanced Financial Accounting
Co-requisites:	None
Credits:	0.50
Course Website (If applicable):	http://www.onlineguelphhumber.ca/
Method of Delivery:	3-0 Lecture

Calendar Description:

This course examines various conceptual and theoretical approaches to accounting, including the implications of economics and finance on financial reporting. Focusing on current and/or controversial issues as well as contemporary cases, students examine the appropriateness of current accounting policies and practices in light of conceptual considerations. Research, analytical, writing, presentation and group skills are demonstrated through preparation of research papers and contribution to group discussions and presentations.

Course Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Recognize and understand the complexities of alternative accounting theories.

2. Conduct critical accounting research, using quality resources.
3. Describe the development of accounting and financial reporting throughout history.
4. Evaluate the current accounting and financial reporting environment, particularly with respect to economic and political issues, the impact of the global economy, and the regulatory environment.
5. Explain and evaluate the decision usefulness and limitations of accounting information, including the implications of other fields of study such as finance and economics.
6. Assess the characteristics and limitations of alternative accounting models and approaches.
7. Analyze and critically discuss contemporary issues in accounting.
8. Analyze and evaluate generally accepted accounting principles and their application on financial reporting in context of current issues and cases.

Learning Resources

Required Textbook(s):

Title: Financial Accounting Theory
Author: William R. Scott, Prentice Hall
Edition: Fifth Edition, 2009
***ISBN:** 0132072866

Course Schedule

Week(s)/ Lesson	Topic	Reading(s)/ Activities
1) Jan 9	Intro – Nature and Purpose of Accounting Theory	Chapter 1:
2) Jan 16	Accounting Under Ideal Conditions	Chapter 2/ Questions: 1,2,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14c&d
3) Jan 23	The Decision Usefulness Approach to Financial Reporting	Chapter 3/ Questions: 1,2,5,6,7,9,10,14
4) Jan 30	Efficient Securities Markets	Chapter 4/ Questions: 3,4,5,7,8,9,12
5) Feb 6	The Information Perspective on Decision Usefulness	Chapter 5/ Questions: 2,3,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,16
6) Feb 13	The Measurement Perspective on Decision Usefulness AND Measurement Perspective Applications	Chapter 6/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5,6 Chapter 7/ Questions: 3,4,5,6,7,10
Feb 20	Reading Week – No Classes	
7) Feb 27	Mid-term 25%	
8) Mar 6	Economic Consequences and Positive Accounting Theory	Chapter 8/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5,6
9) Mar 13	An Analysis of Conflict	Chapter 9/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7
10) Mar 20	Executive Compensation	Chapter 10/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,6,8,9
11) Mar 27	Earnings Management	Chapter 11/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5,6
12) Apr 3	Standard Settings: Economic Issues AND Standard Settings: Political Issues Paper due 15%	Chapter 12/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 Chapter 13/ Questions: 1,2,3,4,5
TBA	Comprehensive Exam 25%	

Evaluation and Due dates

Students will be evaluated in this course through:

Class participation	10%
Group Assignment*	25%
Research Paper (April 3)	15%
Midterm (February 27)	25%
Final (TBA)	25%
Total	<u>100%</u>

* In the first week of class, groups will be formed, and each group will be assigned a chapter. The chapter questions will be presented in class on the Friday of the week noted above.

* LATE ASSIGNMENTS OR PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

NOTE: The University of Guelph-Humber Undergraduate Calendar states:

“Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection”

Accordingly, instructors may decide to use originality checking services, such as Turnitin.com, to ensure that submitted work conforms with the university’s Academic Misconduct policy. Students will be notified of such a requirement in advance by the instructor. More information on Academic Misconduct is included below in this outline.

Drop Box Policy

- If late submissions are permitted by the late policy of this course outline, such assignments submitted after the due date must be electronically date stamped and placed in the secure assignment drop box, located on the second floor in the Learning Commons.

Academic Policies

Important University of Guelph-Humber Academic Regulations

Academic Integrity / Academic Honesty

Academic misconduct is behaviour that erodes the basis of mutual trust on which scholarly exchanges commonly rest, undermines the University's exercise of its responsibility to evaluate students' academic achievements, or restricts the University's ability to accomplish its learning objectives.

The University takes a serious view of academic misconduct and will severely penalize students, faculty and staff who are found guilty of offences associated with misappropriation of others' work, misrepresentation of personal performance and fraud, improper access to scholarly resources, and obstructing others in pursuit of their academic endeavours. In addition to this policy, the University has adopted a number of policies that govern such offences, including the policies on Misconduct in Research and Scholarship and the Student Rights and Responsibilities regulations. These policies will be strictly enforced.

It is the responsibility of the University, its faculty, students and staff to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible through establishment and use of policies and preventive procedures to limit the likelihood of offences occurring. Furthermore, individual members of the University community have the specific responsibility of initiating appropriate action in all instances where academic misconduct is believed to have taken place. This responsibility includes reporting such offences when they occur and making one's disapproval of such behaviour obvious.

University of Guelph-Humber students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students should also be aware that if they find their academic performance affected by medical, psychological or compassionate circumstances, they should inform the appropriate individuals, (instructors, Program Advisor) and follow the available procedures for academic consideration outlined in the University's calendar.

Students are encouraged to review the policy in the 2008-2009 Academic Calendar at:
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/guelphhumber/current/c07/c07-amisconduct.shtml>

Grading Procedures

Feedback to students on work completed or in progress is an integral part of teaching and learning in that it allows students to measure their understanding of material and their progress

toward achieving learning objectives. Feedback often goes beyond grading and should be an indication of the standard a student has achieved and should include comments on the particular strengths and weaknesses of a student's performance. While the nature and frequency of such feedback will vary with the course, the University of Guelph-Humber is committed to providing students with appropriate and timely feedback on their work. Faculty members are urged to provide meaningful feedback (approximately 20% of the total course evaluation is the standard), prior to the 40th class day. This is the last day that students are permitted to drop classes without incurring any academic penalties.

Missed Final Exams / Deferred Privileges

When students do not write a required final examination, complete a final assignment, or complete a work term report prior to the last class date, they must request Academic Consideration to be considered for a deferred privilege. When granted, a deferred privilege allows a student the opportunity to complete the final course requirements after the end of the semester, but during established timelines.

Please note that faculty members do not grant deferred privileges. Faculty can only grant academic consideration for work that is due during the semester and cannot grant extensions beyond their deadline for submission of final grades.

The nature of the deferred privilege may take the form of either a deferred condition or a deferred examination. The Admissions and Academic Review Sub-Committee grants deferred privileges on the basis of **medical**, **psychological** or **compassionate** consideration. Please see your Admission and Program advisor for details.

Accommodation Procedures

Students will identify themselves to Services for Students with Disabilities and, where required, provide appropriate documentation of their need. Where appropriate, students will inform individual instructors of their disabilities and academic accommodations required, by distributing the "*SSD Memo to Faculty*".

When students require test accommodations, they will:

- Remind instructors at least **one week in advance** of each test or as soon as possible, that they require test accommodations
- Book the test date and time in the SSD office or make the appropriate arrangements to write in the Test Centre at least one week in advance of each test, or as soon as possible.

Students with special needs are accommodated through Humber ITAL Services for Students with Disabilities. Students should make themselves familiar with the policies relating to special accommodations by visiting the website at:

http://studentservices.humberc.on.ca/ssd/pnp/fac_resp.htm.

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the University's policies and Academic Regulations. These policies can be found at:

<http://www.guelphhumber.ca/cstudents/policies/index.shtml>