



**MBA Core**  
**—Financial Accounting—**  
**Autumn 2019**

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**Why is this course important?**

The practice of accounting affects individuals, not-for profit organizations, for-profit corporations, governments, and many other entities. Understanding how to create and use accounting information is critical to your future success as a strategic thinker and leader.

**What can I expect of this course?**

The objective of the course is to help those of you who know little about accounting gain a basic understanding of accounting (the “language of business”), its role in society, and how accounting information can be used to make informed decisions. Many of you will find the material we will cover challenging. Success in this course will likely require significant out-of-class prep time.

**What are the required materials?**

- CANVAS.UW.EDU: *The central repository of all information.*
- TEXTBOOK: *Financial Accounting, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition by Libby, Libby & Hodge.*
- CONNECT PLUS ACCOUNT: *The textbook’s companion website.*
- HARVARD CASE PACK: *<https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/658137>*
- CALCULATOR FOR EXAMS: *Any calculator that does not store notes; e.g. HP-12C. **No cellphones.***

Below are your options for purchasing the textbook and *Connect Plus*.

1. Buy or rent a non-custom textbook and a *Connect Plus* access code.
  - Available on Amazon and elsewhere.
2. Purchase a new custom textbook. This is nearly identical to the non-custom version.
  - Available from UW bookstore. Comes with *Connect Plus*. Harder to re-sell.
3. Use only the eBook available in *Connect Plus*
  - *Connect Plus* is available from the bookstore, publisher’s website, and other sources

Non-Harvard cases will be available on Canvas at least a week before class.

### How will the course be taught?

I have designed our course and each class based on the following principles:

- ◆ **Relevance.** I will demonstrate the relevance of the topics we will cover by associating them with current events and real firms. Doing so demonstrates the extent to which accounting permeates society.
- ◆ **Interaction.** Active participation facilitates learning; passive listening does not. I design each session to be an active learning experience. This approach only works if you come to class prepared and willing to participate.
- ◆ **Organization.** Well-organized content facilitates your ability to link new information with your existing knowledge. I have put considerable thought into organizing the class sessions to make them relevant, interesting, and informative. Periodically I will step back to show you how the topics we have covered, and will cover, are related to each other.

### How will the course be graded?

	<b>Weight</b>
Creating Financial Statements Project	22.5%
Exam I	22.5%
Exam II	22.5%
Integrated Core Case (team)	10%
Friday Quizzes	7.5%
Case Questions (team)	7.5%
Individual Participation	7.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### What is the purpose of the exams, quizzes, and course participation grade?

- The Creating Financial Statements Project tests your knowledge of recording transactions and creating financial statements. This project is a take-home project that you will complete *on your own*.
- The two in-class exams test your knowledge of accounting concepts and practices and test your ability to apply your knowledge to specific transactions. Any assigned or covered material is fair game for the exams (including case discussions and guest speakers).
- The quizzes are intended to give you an indication of whether or not you understand the material, and if not, to formulate specific questions that we can discuss. Everyone must individually complete the quizzes on *Connect*. You may use the textbook, notes, and other resources, but may not consult other people for help. Quizzes have a 15-minute limit once you begin.
- Cases are an integral tool for learning in MBA programs. Cases are to be completed in teams.
- The course participation grade rewards students who actively contribute to the course, both inside and outside the classroom. Much of the participation grade will be determined through a peer voting system.
- Attendance is required. You may miss one class without penalty, after which absences will reduce your grade. Excessive absences may result in failing the class.

### How do I submit assignments?

- One soft copy of the case responses should be turned-in on Canvas before class. Only one team member needs to submit for the entire team. Be sure to have a soft or hard copy for use during the class discussion.
- You will complete your quizzes on the textbook website *Connect*. To begin using *Connect*:
  1. Go to <https://connect.mheducation.com/class/dehaan-ba500-2019>
  2. Select “Register Now” and enter your email address and *Connect Plus* code that came with your textbook.

If you have any problems using *Connect*, visit [www.mcgrawhillconnect.com/support](http://www.mcgrawhillconnect.com/support)

or call 1-800-331-5094. The online support for *Connect* is pretty good; they are likely to solve any problems you have quicker than I can.

### **What if accounting does not come “naturally” to me and I need additional help?**

First, recognize that accounting (or any other discipline) does not come “naturally” to most people; you are not alone. Second, recognize that if you are willing to put in the time and deliberate practice you can learn the material. To facilitate your efforts, I have a PhD student (Edgar) who will run review/help sessions throughout the quarter as well as hold office hours.

#### **Edgar Rodriguez**

Email: edgarrod@uw.edu  
Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12:00pm-1:00pm  
Location: either PCAR-416 or PCAR-597. See Canvas for details.

### **UW Policies**

UW policies on religious and disability accommodations, academic integrity, student conduct, and student safety will be strictly followed. Policy details can be found online including at the following links:

- <https://registrar.washington.edu/staffandfaculty/religious-accommodations-policy/>
- <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/faculty/syllabus-statement/>
- <https://www.washington.edu/studentconduct/conduct-code-and-policy/>