



Evening MBA Accounting 500
—Financial Reporting and Analysis—
Autumn 2020

Instructor: Elizabeth Blankespoor
Email: blankbe@uw.edu
Classes: Mon/Wed 6 – 7:40 pm, 7:50 – 9:30 pm
<https://washington.zoom.us/j/92010432210?pwd=VHZNbmdQOThEbmJvQzRhemNsOFVJUT09>
(Meeting ID: 920 1043 2210; Password: acctg500)

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 5:30-6 pm and 9:30-10 pm, or by appointment (for by appt, use link below)
<https://washington.zoom.us/j/97127437013?pwd=U0xEMkJRR1BWbm1KZ3hRT0pxc1M4QT09>
(Meeting ID: 971 2743 7013; Password: acctg500)

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 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. We will focus on understanding the mapping between underlying economic events and financial statements, as well as discussing how incentives of market participants affect our interpretation of those financial statements. 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 course materials?

CANVAS.UW.EDU:	<i>The central repository of all information.</i>
TEXTBOOK (physical or ebook):	<i>Financial Accounting, 10th Edition by Libby, Libby & Hodge.</i>
HARVARD CASE PACK:	https://hbsp.harvard.edu/import/758797
CALCULATOR FOR EXAMS:	<i>Any calculator that does not store notes.</i>

Below are your options for purchasing the textbook and/or *Connect Plus* (which is an optional online solution with extra practice problems and study aids).

1. Buy or rent a non-custom textbook, ebook, or international edition
 - Available on Amazon and elsewhere, typically as loose-leaf for domestic edition.
2. Purchase a Foster MBA custom textbook from UW bookstore. This is the same as the non-custom

- version, except paperback. Comes with *Connect Plus*.
3. Use only the eBook available in *Connect Plus*.
 - *Connect Plus* is available from the UW bookstore, publisher's website, and other sources
 4. To register *Connect Plus*, go to the following URL, hit register, and enter your access code
 - https://connect.mheducation.com/class/blankespoor_a500_2020

Non-Harvard/Stanford 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?

	Weight
Creating Financial Statements Project	15%
Exam I	30%
Exam II	30%
Friday Quizzes	10%
Case Questions (team)	10%
Individual Participation	5%
Total	100%

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 exams will take place during our scheduled time period. They will 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 *Canvas*. You may use the textbook, notes, and other resources, but may not consult other people for help. Quizzes have a 20-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. Some of the participation grade will be determined through a peer voting system to capture contributions outside the classroom.
- Synchronous attendance is expected unless excused by the professor. If attending class synchronously is a significant burden due to time zone challenges or home obligations, speak with the professor to confirm alternative arrangements. You are expected to view the class recording for all missed classes.

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 and access/submit your exams on Canvas.

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 (Brad) who will run optional review/help sessions throughout the quarter.

Brad Kamrath

Email:	kamrathb@uw.edu
TA Sessions:	Sundays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. (See Canvas for dates and review session materials.)
Office Hours:	See Canvas for details
Location:	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/>