

ACCT 3120 - Intermediate Financial Accounting II

Seattle University
Albers School of Business and Economics
Spring Quarter – 2020

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Class meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:15 – 12:20 PM, via Zoom.
Office hours: Via Zoom upon request by email. Routinely before and after class.

Learning and Teaching in Extraordinary Circumstances

When I prepared the original version of this syllabus, I thought that on April 7 we would be meeting face-to-face in a classroom. Instead, we will meet remotely via Zoom. Our world, our lives, our priorities changed dramatically over the past few weeks. Therefore, I have revised the syllabus accordingly. The main changes have to do with eliminating participation as a graded activity, expanding the average time allowed for returning homework assignments, eliminating the midterm exam, and making the final exam optional. There are now two grading schemes: one without the final exam, and one with a final exam. The scheme WITHOUT the final will require more regular focus on homework and small projects throughout the quarter. The scheme WITH the exam gives you a somewhat lighter load during the next 7 weeks or so, but then requires a more intense effort to prep for the final. Another important change is that even if you can only put enough time into this course to do homework, IF you do well in homework you can pretty much guarantee a B in the course even without doing anything else.

I have been teaching now for about 26 years and have another 19 years of experience in industry. I had never taught a single online class until now. This will be a new experience for me. I am sure this will be all new to most of you too. But if we help each other I trust that we will have a good time learning about financial accounting. My primary goal is to enable you to focus on learning, and have a good time doing it. Nobody needs any more stress.

Course Description and Objectives

The sequence of three intermediate financial accounting courses offered by the Accounting Department helps to prepare you for a career as a professional accountant, financial analyst, or in corporate financial management. Upon conclusion of this sequence you should: understand the issues involved in accounting policy choice; understand the processes and the conceptual framework according to which accounting standards are set in the United States, and have in-depth knowledge of accounting for transactions, events and adjustments affecting assets, liabilities, shareholders' equity, revenues, expenses, gains and losses. ACCT 3120 covers accounting for property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, current liabilities, long-term liabilities, contingent liabilities, and stockholders' equity.

We will normally dedicate a full week to each chapter from the 10th until the 16th. We will begin by discussing the main concepts and techniques in a chapter, and then work on numerical

examples and on using those same concepts and techniques to interpret information in published financial reports. To succeed in ACCT 3120, it is fundamental that you come to our Zoom classes well prepared. *(If you are now living in a time zone that makes it difficult to join the regular Zoom sessions, please check out the recordings that will be available on Canvas, and then we will set up regular times to meet to go over anything you may have missed, or questions you may want to ask.)* Even skim-reading a chapter will help a lot. If you join class without having checked out the relevant chapter in the book, you will miss most of the discussion. Once you fall behind it can be difficult to catch up.

Teaching Continuity & Zoom

For as long as campus is closed, we will hold classes via Zoom. Invitations for classes via Zoom will all be posted on Canvas. Please don't share our Zoom link with anyone outside of our class. I will connect to Zoom about 10 minutes before each class, and will stay connected after class whenever possible, so that I can chat with individual students, or groups of students. If you would like to chat privately before or after class, please send me a text message, and we will move to a chat room.

If SU email is down, and you need to get in touch, please email me at cmeluza@gmail.com. I will activate a discussion forum on Canvas and we can always communicate via Zoom as well.

I will provide you both my mobile phone number and Skype ID via Canvas. If you text, please remember to include your name in the message.

Prerequisites

ACCT 3110 is a prerequisite for ACCT 3120. I assume, therefore, that students enrolled in this course have a solid understanding of the foundations of the financial accounting model, including:

- Familiarity with a menu of basic transactions.
- Preparation of balance sheets, income statements, and statements of cash flows.
- Meaning and information content of financial statements.
- Solid understanding of accounting for receivables, inventory, and revenue recognition, at the level of ACCT 3110.

If you are not confident about some of these topics, we should meet as soon as possible to draw up a plan for catching up.

Required Materials

- Kieso, Weygandt and Warfield, Intermediate Accounting, 17th ed, Wiley.
Companion Site:
<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=111950368X&bcsId=11429>
- Wiley Plus Software. (If not included with your textbook, you may purchase Wiley Plus at www.WileyPLUS.com.)
- FASB Accounting Standards Codification. (Login provided in class.)
- Computer with MS Excel, internet connection and Zoom-ready (camera + speakers).

Class Conduct

I expect the highest level of professional conduct throughout the course. In particular:

- Please let me know if you must miss class or will be joining us late. And send me a private message via Zoom when you arrive.
- Please turn your video camera on when in class. I find it difficult teaching to 30 black boxes on my screen that occasionally ask a question! 😊 Of course feel free to turn video off once in a while if you need to.
- Please keep your mics off during class, unless of course you wish to ask a question.
- Ask before video or audio recording class. I'll almost always agree, but everyone has a right to know that the class is being recorded.
- Please ask if you must leave the call while class is in session. This can be done via Zoom text just to me.

Grading

Grades will be based on homework, short accounting research projects, and an optional final exam. The weights of these components in the final grade will depend on whether you choose to take the final or not. The idea in this scheme is that if you find it hard to keep working at a relatively steady pace throughout the quarter, you can transfer a considerable chunk of effort until the end of May, and first week of June. That will require some cramming at the end but gives you flexibility until then. Due dates are shown in the class schedule. Following are summary descriptions of the graded requirements of the course:

▪ **HOMEWORK PROBLEMS: (if no final exam 80%; with final 60%)** Eight homework assignments will be distributed, solved, and graded via Wiley Plus. The first and the last are optional and will be included in your grade only if they help your grade improve. Assignments 2 through 7 are required if you don't take the final. If you do take the final you can also drop the lowest score from items 2-7. Solutions for the problems assigned will be available via Wiley Plus after the due date. It's okay to ask for help with homework and solving together in groups. However, if you need excessive help solving homework problems in any given chapter, whether from tutors or classmates, and even after getting help you still feel insecure, please let me know so that I can help you understand the topic.

▪ **CPA PRACTICE TESTLETS: (if no final exam 5%; with final 0%)** There are eight CPA "testlets", one for each chapter we cover. I will count towards your grade the best six. Your grade in each testlet will be the Minimum of ($\frac{1}{3} \times$ "your score"; 100). Where "your score" = $100 \times$ number correct/total questions in testlet.

▪ **SHORT 10-K PROJECTS: (if no exam 15% for 3; with final 10% for 1)** I will propose five topics for projects. Your grade in short projects will be the best 3 out of those you turn in if you don't take the final. If you do take the final, I will consider only the best one you submit. These projects will involve investigating financial reports and other sources of information, to verify and/or reconcile information presented in different financial statements, or in financial disclosures and financial websites/newsmagazines. Each project requires a summary description of accounting for the issue at hand in your own words, and references to the relevant FASB Accounting

Standard Codification (ASC) sections. Quality of writing, diligence in researching the facts, and professionalism in presentation will all count.

A brief (still tentative) description of each project follows:

- . P1: Create a generic present/future value table workbook.
- . P2: Reconcile beginning and ending balances of PP&E for AOBC + another company.
- . P3: Goodwill at GE in 2018.
- . P4: Verify that data on price and yield-to-maturity are correct on www.finra.com
- . P5: Shareholders equity at Apple in the most recent 10-K.

▪ **Final EXAM: (if no exam -%; with final 30%)** The final exam will be comprehensive, covering chapters 6, and 10 through 16.

The correspondence between final numerical scores in the course on a scale of 0-100, letter grades, and GPA units is as follows:

Numerical score	< 50	≥ 50	≥ 60	≥ 63	≥ 67	≥ 70	≥ 75	≥ 85	≥ 90	≥ 95
Letter grade	F	D	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
GPA units	0.0	1.0	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.7	3.0	3.3	3.7	4.0

I will compute your final grade under both grading schemes, with and without the final. Your final grade will be the best of the two results.

I round final numerical scores up to the nearest tenth of a point. The split at 95 between A- and A may be lower (but not higher) depending on the distribution of grades. According to university policy, courses graded C- or below will not count toward a graduate degree.

Scheduling

I have prepared a tentative distribution of topics throughout the quarter (attached below). Please check the schedule for assignment deadlines, exam dates, and topics that we will cover in class. I may adjust the schedule from time to time as the course progresses due to variations in the time needed to explain each topic. I will announce scheduling changes by email and/or in class with enough time for you to adjust.

Office hours this quarter will be held via Zoom. Office hours are opportunities for us to discuss the course, financial accounting concepts, career choices, or any other topic that you believe I might help you with. Please schedule to meet with me regularly throughout the course, rather than just before an important deadline, because at that time many of your classmates may want to talk to me as well.

Online Communications

I expect that you will check Canvas announcements and Seattle University's email frequently. *Please use Seattle University email instead of Canvas mail* and avoid communicating by means of the multiple text messaging windows available in Canvas, as it becomes difficult to monitor too many different sources of messages.

I check SU email daily and will reply to your messages within 48 hours. Please include the course title in the subject line of your messages to me. Due to the threat of malware, I often delete without reading messages without a subject, or with a subject that I find suspicious.

About Zoom, Missing Class, and Technical Glitches

Zoom meetings of this course may be recorded. I will let you know if I need to record a session on Zoom. Any recordings will only be available to students registered for this class. Recordings may not be reproduced, shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments.

If you're having technical difficulties, send me a message or call. After class, we can try to figure out what's going on with your connection or with Zoom. Checking out the SU Orientation to Distance Learning may help. Link: <https://seattleu.instructure.com/courses/1563070>.

If you expect to be absent or to be late to a synchronous session on Zoom, please e-mail me beforehand.

If you miss a synchronous class, try to go through the Zoom recording of the session afterward and obtain notes from one of your peers to catch up. If, after going over those notes and checking the readings for the class, you still have questions, please arrange to meet me during Zoom office hours to discuss.

Academic Honesty

I expect that all students will abide by the University's Academic Honesty Policy. "Seattle University is committed to the principle that academic honesty and integrity are important values in the educational process. Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offense against the academic community." If you are not sure about whether an action is acceptable per the Academic Honesty Code, you should check with me before engaging in it.

As required by University regulations I must report to the chair of the department all verified instances of plagiarism, cheating and usage of unauthorized sources in exams, papers, projects, homework, or any other academic assignment. Depending on the severity and circumstances of the violation I may recommend that the student receive a grade of D or F in the course.

Office of Institutional Equity (Title IX)

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination based on sex in educational programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. This prohibition includes sexual misconduct, which encompasses sexual harassment and sexual violence. Seattle University remains committed to providing a safe and equitable learning, living, and working environment. Seattle University offers emergency, medical, and other support resources, as well as assistance with safety and support measures, to community members who have experienced or been impacted by sexual misconduct.

Seattle University requires all faculty and staff to notify the University's Title IX Coordinator if they become aware of any incident of sexual misconduct experienced by a student.

For more information, please visit <https://www.seattleu.edu/equity/>. If you have any questions or concerns, you may also directly contact the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Institutional Equity (email: oi@seattleu.edu; phone: 206.296.2824)

Notice on Religious Accommodations

It is the policy of Seattle University to reasonably accommodate students who, due to observance of religious holidays, expect to be absent or endure a significant hardship during certain days of their academic course or program. Please see Policy on Religious Accommodations for Students. (<https://www.seattleu.edu/media/policies/Policy-on-Religious-Accommodations-for-Students---FINAL.pdf>)

Notice for Students Concerning Disabilities

Seattle University values diverse types of learners and is committed to ensuring that each student is afforded an equal opportunity to participate in learning experiences. For disability and other learning-related needs and accommodations that you have already arranged via Disability Services, please communicate with me during the first week of class through email or Zoom. Should concerns arise at any point in the quarter, please let me know as soon as possible.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an “invisible disability” such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, but have not yet arranged support services and/or accommodations, I encourage you to do so through Disability Services staff at DS@seattleu.edu or (206) 296-5740. Disability-based adjustments to course expectations can be arranged only through this process. I am committed to working with you, so please do not hesitate to contact me.

Academic Resources

- Library and Learning Commons
(<https://www.seattleu.edu//learningcommons/>)
(*E.g.: Learning Assistance Programs, Library Research Services, Writing Ctr., Math Lab.*)
- Academic Integrity Tutorial
(<https://www.seattleu.edu/academic-integrity/resources-for-students/>)

Academic Policies

- Academic Integrity Policy
- Grading Grievance Policy
- Professional Conduct Policies (program-specific)

You will find these and other policies on the Registrar’s website:

<https://www.seattleu.edu/redhawk-service-center/academic-policies/>

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic or Activity	To Study	Due Dates
4/7	COURSE INTRO. CASH FLOWS OVER TIME (PVs)	Ch 6	
4/9	CHAPTER 6 LAB		
4/14	PP&E: Acquisition and Disposition.	Ch 10	HW1 due (Ch 6) »
4/16	CHAPTER 10 LAB		
4/21	PP&E: Depreciation, etc.	Ch 11	HW 2 due (Ch 10)
4/23	CHAPTER 11 LAB		
4/28	---[CATCH-UP SESSION]---		
4/30	INTANGIBLE ASSETS	Ch 12	HW 3 due (Ch 11)
5/5	CHAPTER 12 LAB		
5/7	CURRENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENCIES	Ch 13	HW 4 due (Ch 12)
5/12	CHAPTER 13 LAB		
5/14	Long-Term Liabilities.	Ch 14	HW 5 due (Ch 13)
5/14	CHAPTER 14 LAB		
5/19	---[CATCH-UP SESSION]---		
5/21	Stockholders' Equity. (+Appendix A)	Ch 15	HW 6 due 5/23 (Ch 14)
5/26	CHAPTER 15 LAB		
5/28	EPS Calculations. (+Appendix A/B)	Ch 16	HW 7 due (Ch 15)
6/2	CHAPTER 16 LAB		
6/4	OPTIONAL FINAL EXAM	Ch 6,10-16	HW 8 due (Ch 16) »

Notes:

(§) Projects → You need 3 if not taking the exam; 1 if taking it. Due dates are:

- P1 4/28
- P2 5/5
- P3 5/12
- P4 5/19
- P5 6/2

(») Homework assignments → Assignments #1 and #8 are optional and will be included in your grade only if they help your grade improve. Assignments 2-7 are required if you don't take the final. If you do take the final you can also drop the lowest score from items 2-7.

(‡) CPA practice testlet due dates (best 6 out of 8) → TBA.