

ACC1701XA - ACCOUNTING FOR DECISION MAKERS

AY2025-26 Semester 1

Instructor: Dr. Hanny Kusnadi
Department: Accounting
Class Day: Tuesday
Class Time: Group A1: 8.30 – 11.30 am
Group A2: 3.00 – 6.00 pm
Class Location: BIZ2-B104
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Instructor Profile: <https://discovery.nus.edu.sg/18315>

I. Course Description

Accounting is the language of business, facilitating communication of the financial aspects of business. This course is an introduction to the financial accounting branch of accounting. The activities and events of a business entity are summarised by the financial accounting process into published financial statements to be used by external users such as investors and creditors. This course introduces the principles of financial accounting and familiarizes students with the financial statements. Therefore, students will learn to prepare, read, understand and use published financial statements for decision-making. Published financial statements of listed companies will be used as examples. This course is targeted at **non-business** students.

Note: There is no prerequisite for this course. This course should be distinguished from ACC1701, which is also introductory financial accounting, but to be taught to business students.

II. Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Explain the purpose and use of the principal financial statements required under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
2. Prepare, analyse and interpret the principal financial statements and its components.
3. Understand the process of accounting for certain significant transactions in specific areas, including PPE, inventory, receivables, cash, equity and current liabilities.
4. Identify, define and intelligently discuss a variety of accounting-related problems and the fundamental principles underlying financial accounting in the context of the tools and techniques covered in this course.

Ethics is the ability to distinguish right and wrong, and is particularly important in business. Survival in business depends on being ethical and trustworthy, and as an old saying goes “Good ethics are good business”. In this course, ethics problems will be assigned for self-study, as well as for class discussion questions. Ethics will also be tested in the midterm and final exam.

III. Textbook (Required)

“Financial Accounting: IFRS Edition”, 4e by Stice, Stice, Albrecht, Swain, Duh, and Hsu (Cengage)

IV. Assessment & Evaluation

Your grade will be based on the following activities:

	Weight
Class Participation	20%
Midterm Test	30%
Final examination	50%
TOTAL	100%

1. Class Participation:

Class participation (CP) scores will be graded holistically, assessed by the **quantity and quality** of a student’s participation. It is important for you to attend each lecture and be actively and positively involved in class activities. Students are expected to complete all assigned class discussion questions before class and contribute to class discussion. Students may also be asked to present solutions individually or as a group.

Class participation includes volunteering answers raised by me or your classmates, offering alternative solutions, raising relevant questions, commenting on others’ work and so forth. The extent of your participation and your learning attitude (e.g., punctuality, respect for the instructor and fellow course mates) will also be other factors that contribute to this component. Mere attendance in class is not considered participation.

2. Midterm Test:

1.5 hour (90 minutes) closed book digital test. Midterm test is a secure digital assessment using Exemplify. Materials covered from Week 1 to Week 6 are examinable. The test will take place in Week 8 after recess week.

The **tentative** midterm date is October 11 (Saturday), 4.00 - 5.30pm. (*Subject to change*)

3. Final Exam

2-hour closed book exam. Final exam is a secure digital assessment using Exemplify. The scope is comprehensive: materials covered for the whole semester are examinable. The date of the Final Exam is TBD.

V. Topics Covered

A detailed schedule with assigned class discussion questions and self-study questions will be posted separately on the course's Canvas website prior to the start of the semester.

Noted: Schedule may be subject to changes.

Week	Topic Description and Relevant Chapters
1	Accounting in Business & Overview of the Financial Statements <i>Chapter 1: Accounting Information: Users and Uses</i> <i>Chapter 2: Financial Statements Overview</i>
2	The Accounting Cycle: Mechanics of Accounting <i>Chapter 3: Mechanics of Accounting</i>
3	The Accounting Cycle: Adjusting Accounts <i>Chapter 4: Completing the Accounting Cycle</i>
4	Financial Statement Integrity <i>Chapter 5: Internal Controls & Ensuring Integrity of Financial Information</i>
5	Operating Activities: Cash <i>Chapter 6: Cash</i>
6	Operating Activities: Receivables <i>Chapter 7: Receivables</i>
RECESS WEEK	
7	Operating Activities: Inventory <i>Chapter 8: Inventory & Cost of sales</i>
8	Operating Activities: Current Liabilities <i>Chapter 9: Current Liabilities</i>
9	Investing Activities: PPE (Long term Assets) <i>Chapter 10: PPE & Intangible Assets</i>
10	Financing Activities: Equity <i>Chapter 12: Equity</i>
11	Statement of Cash Flows <i>Chapter 14: Statement of Cash Flows (exclude LO7 "direct method")</i>
12	Financial Statement Analysis <i>Chapter 15: Analyzing Financial Statements</i>
13	Course Review

VI. Academic Integrity and Honesty

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is 'the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own' (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT do not require specialist knowledge to use. Many of these AI tools are commonly used in social media, for example, to create content and disguise and refine content created from programmes like ChatGPT. We understand that students will be drawn to using these AI Tools, as they would for any other electronic aid.

However, to be clear, normal academic rules still apply. As noted in the Code of Student Conduct:

“The University takes a strict view of cheating in any form, deceptive fabrication, plagiarism and violation of intellectual property and copyright laws. Any student who is found to have engaged in such misconduct is subject to disciplinary action by the University.”

With respect to AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT and image generation tools), your instructor will clarify whether the use of these tools as inputs into your assignment development process is acceptable. AI is a technology that requires skill to use, and knowledge about when and how to use it. If you use ChatGPT or any other such AI tool in your work, you must provide a proper representation of how you used the tool and what prompts you used to generate output. Failure to cite its use constitutes academic misconduct.

Further, as with any information source, be aware that minimal efforts yield low quality results. You will need to refine your work and fact check the output, as you would double-check information from any source. Further, you should be selective in how and when you use such tools instead of using it for each and every assignment you create.

To summarise:

1. Always check with your instructors on what are the permitted uses of AI tools.
2. Have a discussion at the start of a course about the use of AI.
3. Where permitted, acknowledge your use of AI.
4. You remain responsible for the quality of your work and its appropriate representation.
5. Failure to follow the above steps can lead to a concern about plagiarism (academic dishonesty).

As always, you have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard.

Additional guidance can be found at:

Admission Condition: <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/administrative-policies-procedures/acceptance-record#NUSCodeofStudentConduct>

NUS Code of Student Conduct: <http://nus.edu.sg/osa/resources/code-of-student-conduct>

Academic Integrity Essentials: <https://libguides.nus.edu.sg/new2nus/acadintegrity#s-lib-ctab-22144949-4>

Guidelines on the Use of AI Tools For Academic Work: <https://libguides.nus.edu.sg/new2nus/acadintegrity#s-lib-ctab-22144949-3>