NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE
NUS Business School
Department of Accounting

ACC1701C - ACCOUNTING FOR DECISION MAKERS
AY2026-27 Semester 1

I. Teaching Faculty

Prof Yupeng Lin, Instructor

II. Course Description

Accounting serves as the language of business, enabling effective communication of a company's financial information. This course offers an introduction to financial accounting, focusing on how business activities are recorded into financial statements intended for external users such as investors and creditors. This introductory accounting course is designed for students with no prior academic knowledge of accounting. Students will explore fundamental accounting principles, gain familiarity with financial statements, and develop the skills needed to prepare, interpret, and analyze financial statements for informed decision-making. Throughout the course, we will illustrate applications of accounting principles with real examples drawn from the financial statements of publicly listed companies.

III. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Articulate the objectives and uses of the principal financial statements prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

- Prepare, analyze, and interpret the principal financial statements and their components.

- Understand and apply the accounting procedures for significant business transactions, including those related to cash, receivables, inventory, property, plant, and equipment (PPE), liabilities, and equity.

- Identify, define, and thoughtfully discuss a range of accounting issues and the foundational concepts underpinning financial accounting, utilizing the analytical tools and methods introduced in the course.

A strong sense of ethics is vital in business and accounting, where decisions often have significant impacts on a wide range of stakeholders. The ability to make sound ethical judgments—knowing what is right and wrong—builds the trust and credibility that underpin long-term professional success. Ethical lapses can lead to reputational harm, financial loss, and even legal consequences, underscoring why integrity is so highly valued in the field.

To emphasize the importance of ethical conduct, this course weaves ethical considerations throughout the curriculum. You will encounter case studies and practical exercises that challenge you to navigate ethical dilemmas, both independently and in group discussions. These activities are designed to help you recognize ethical issues and thoughtfully consider their implications in real-world business contexts. Ethics will also form a part of your assessment, with related questions included in both the midterm and final examinations, ensuring that ethical reasoning becomes an integral part of your accounting toolkit.

IV. Textbook (Required)

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

V. Teaching and Learning Activities

Each class generally consists of two main components. The first is a 40–50 minute, tutorial-style session focused on selected assignments from the previous week. Weekly preparation of these assignments is required, as working through them is central to learning accounting and essential for developing mastery of the subject.

The remaining 100–120 minutes are dedicated to topic-based lectures, delivered through presentations and supplemented with in-class exercises and activities. Lecture slides will be made available three days in advance.

This course is fast-paced and covers a broad range of interconnected topics. Not all textbook content will be covered in class; regular attendance is therefore strongly recommended to ensure you understand which concepts are emphasized. Students are encouraged to attend every session.

If you encounter difficulties with the course material, please use the Canvas discussion forum, which will be monitored regularly. **To ensure efficiency in a large class setting, please avoid emailing the instructor with content questions; instead, reserve email correspondence for personal or administrative matters.** You may also consult with the lecturer during designated consultation hours.

All lectures are conducted face-to-face on campus. Students are expected to attend their assigned lecture slots unless otherwise approved by the BBA Program Office.

VI. Academic Integrity and Honesty

Academic integrity and honesty are 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. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with university rules. Additional guidance is available at: https://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/administrative-policies-procedures/graduate/acceptance-record#NUSCodeofStudentConduct

VII. 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:

1. In-Class Interaction (10 marks):

Students earn these marks by asking questions and contributing responses during class. The aim is to foster an active and engaging classroom, and every student is encouraged to participate fully and earn all 10 marks.

2. Group Assignment (10 marks):

Students must form a group of five to six members within their assigned lecture group (C1 or C2) and create a group name. Groups must sign up by the end of Week 11. The assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday of Week 13. One representative should upload a single PDF submission to Canvas for the group, using the filename "Session - GROUP NAME" (for example, "C1-Superman"). Assessment is based on completeness, not accuracy. All members are expected to contribute; free riding is not acceptable.

2. Midterm Test:

1.5 hour closed book test. Midterm test is a secure digital assessment using Examplify. The scope includes topics up to and including Week 6. Ethics is tested. The test will take place in Week 8 after recess week **(exact time and venue TBA).**

3. Final Exam

2 hour closed book test. The final examination is a secure digital assessment using Examplify. The scope is comprehensive. All material covered throughout the semester may be examined (exact time and venue TBA).

VIII. Topics Covered

(This tentative schedule is subject to change. A detailed schedule will be posted separately on the course's Canvas website prior to the start of the semester)

Week	*Topic Description and Relevant Chapters*
	Accounting in Business & Overview of the Financial Statements

1	*Chapter 1: Accounting Information: Users and Uses* *Chapter 2: Financial Statements: An Overview*
2	The Accounting Cycle: Mechanics of Accounting *Chapter 3: The Accounting Cycle: The Mechanics of Accounting*
3	The Accounting Cycle: Adjusting Accounts *Chapter 4: Completing the Accounting Cycle (LO1 & LO2)*
4	The Accounting Cycle: Completing the Cycle *Chapter 4: Completing the Accounting Cycle (LO3 - LO5)*
5	Operating Activities: Receivables *Chapter 7: Receivables (exclude LO7)*
6	Financial Statement Integrity & Operating Activities: Cash *Chapter 5: Internal Controls: Ensuring Integrity of Financial Information.* *Chapter 6: Cash*
RECESS WEEK	
7	Operating Activities: Inventory *Chapter 8: Inventory & the Cost of sales (exclude LO8 & LO9)*
8	Operating Activities: Current Liabilities *Current Liabilities: Known liabilities - Payroll, Taxes* *Current Liabilities: Estimated & Contingent Liabilities (Chapter 9: LO3)*
9	Investing Activities: PPE (Long term Assets) *Chapter 10: PPE & Intangible Assets (exclude LO11, LO12 & LO13)* *Chapter 9: (LO4) Capitalize vs Expense*
10	Financing Activities: Equity *Chapter 12: Equity*
11	Statement of Cash Flows *Chapter 14: Statement of Cash Flows (exclude LO4 "indirect method")*
12	Financial Statement Analysis *Chapter 15: Analyzing Financial Statements*