

The University of Western Ontario  
Management and Organizational Studies

**MOS 4461B ADVANCED ACCOUNTING II**  
Course Outline      January 2010- April 2010

**FACULTY**

Faculty: Bill Dawson (Section 001, 002, 003)  
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Click Faculty / Click Bill Dawson web site

**TIMETABLE**

<u>Section</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Building and Room</u>
001	Wednesday	7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	SSC 3010
002	Monday	1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	SSC 3006
	Wednesday	1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	SSC 3006
003	Tuesday	11:30 am -12:30 pm	SSC 2032
	Friday	9:30 am - 11:30 am	SSC 3028

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

MOS 4461B is an advanced financial accounting course focussing on Canadian accounting for bankruptcy and receivership, joint ventures, segment reporting, variable interest entities, partnerships, financial instruments, transition to IFRS (compare to Canadian & US GAAP) and financial reporting and statement analysis, and evaluation of and valuation of a firm.

This course trains students to perform comprehensive financial analysis, using data from financial statements and company annual reports. After taking this course, students will be able to:

- 1) handle financial reporting issues related to bankruptcies and receiverships, partnerships, and financial instruments, and joint ventures, understand transition to IFRS.
- 2) independently perform comprehensive financial analysis using annual reports and other publicly available information from analysis recommend whether or not to invest in a company.

Prerequisite: MOS 4460A. Restricted to 4<sup>th</sup> year MOS students only.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Hilton, Murray W. Modern Advanced Accounting in Canada, 5th Edition, McGraw Hill Ryerson Limited. 2008. (ISBN 0-07-097111-0)

Stickney, C.P., and Brown, P.R., and Wahlen, J.M.. Financial Reporting, Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation: A Strategic Perspective, Sixth Edition, Thomson, Southwestern, 2007 (ISBN 0-324-30295-9)

Casebook (available at UWO Book Store) and CICA Handbook available on SSCL network.

**EVALUATION**

Hand-in Assignment (due Fri, Mar 26)	10%
Midterm Examination (Thurs, Feb 11)	25%
2 ½ Hour Test (Fri, Mar 19)	15%
Participation	10%
Group Assignment (due Fri, Apr 9)	30%
Presentation of Group Assignment	<u>10%</u>
	<u>100%</u>

## **EXAMINATIONS**

Students who fail to appear for an examination at the time set in the timetable will not be allowed to write the examination thus missed. Students should report this irregularity immediately to their Dean's office. They may, with the approval of the Chair of the Department concerned, petition the Dean for standing or permission to write a special examination. Petitions will be entertained only when they are submitted on compassionate grounds with supporting documents. See the current Western Academic Calendar.

## **POLICY ON SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS**

- (3) Students with conflicts or students who are unable to write an exam based on compassionate grounds (supported by appropriate documents), may apply in writing prior to the exam to the course coordinator to be excused.
- (4) Students involved with approved out-of-town university activities during the scheduled mid-term exam may apply to the course coordinator for special proctoring privileges to write the mid-term exam.
- (5) Students who are excused from the writing of the mid-term exam will have the appropriate percentage of marks transferred to the weighting of the marks for the final exam.

## **NOTES**

- (1) It is the student's responsibility to submit his or her own original written material in courses in this program. See the current Western Academic Calendar, "Scholastic Offenses".
- (2) For a description of the process to be followed for mark/grade appeals see your professor.
- (3) The use of personal computers during examinations will not be permitted.

## **ADD/DROP DEADLINES**

January 12 (Tuesday)	Last day to ADD a half course.
February 12 (Friday)	Last day to DROP a half course without academic penalty.

## **GROUP ASSIGNMENT**

The group assignment must be done in groups of 5 to 7 Main campus students. You are responsible for finding your own team. The project consists of analyzing an organization's financial performance within an industry (in Canada or the US). You must choose a public company **other than a financial institution, mutual fund or not-for-profit organization**. The instructor will advise you if your chosen company can be selected for the purpose of this assignment. Only one group will be allowed to analyze any one company. Approval of company's will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Company, industry and group selections must be submitted to the instructor in writing prior to conference week (or earlier if possible).

Your report should be a detailed analysis of the financial performance of the company as well as an analysis of the industry. Chapter 1 of the text (Strickney, Brown, Wahlem) will provide you with a suggested approach. In addition to a complete ratio analysis, your analysis must also consider supplier and buyer powers, the capital intensity of the industry, its consequence on the entrance of new players and possible changes in the environment (ie. technology, regulation, etc). You should also include a review of the company's accounting policies and a comparison of the policies to those of other company's in the industry to determine whether the firm is aggressive or conservative and to assess earnings quality. You should identify contracts that may create incentives to manipulate accounting information (ie. compensation schemes, profit sharing plans, debt covenants, etc.). You should include an assessment of the quality of the company's earnings and the impact of off-balance sheet activities on the company's profitability. The ratio analysis should be integrated with information related to the company's industry, life cycle and any other relevant information. Your report must include a recommendation as to whether or not you would invest in this company.

Your report should not exceed 25 pages excluding exhibits (12 point font; 1.5 line spacing) and is due no later than Friday, April 9, 2010. Assignment can be handed in during class time or to the professor's office. All information used in your analysis should be included in an indexed appendix. Your grade will be determined based on the depth of your analysis, the integration of the analysis, the style and content of your report and your professionalism and creativity. Cite all sources for information included in your report. All group members will evaluate the efforts of the other members of the group (peer evaluation). To the extent that a member of a group has not provided the necessary effort/work, his/her mark will be adjusted accordingly. In addition, other class members will evaluate your report.

Each group will present its analysis during the last two weeks of the term. The presentation will be graded based on clarity, style and content and the group's ability to answer questions. Each group member must have an active role in the presentation. A penalty will be applied if this is not the case. All students are expected to attend all presentations and to ask relevant questions.

## **TENTATIVE LECTURE OUTLINE**

### **WEEK TOPIC AND ASSIGNMENT**

Week 1 Jan 4-8	<b>COURSE INTRODUCTION</b> <b>MISC CONSOLIDATION ISSUES</b> Read: Hilton, Chapter 10 Assignment: Case 2 Problems: 10-2, 10-3, 10-6, 10-9, 10-12
Week 2 Jan 11-15	<b>COMPREHENSIVE REVALUATION OF ASSETS &amp; LIABILITIES</b> Read: Hilton, Chapter 14 (A) (casebook/handout) Assignment: Case 1 Problem 14-1, 14-4, 14-5
Week 3 Jan 18-22	<b>BANKRUPTCY AND RECEIVERSHIP</b> Read: Hilton, Chapter 14 (B) (casebook/handout) Article: "Quebecor World Battle" – Financial Post, Nov. 14, 2008 Assignment: Review Questions 7-14 Case 2, 3 Problems 14-7, 14-8, 14-9
Week 4 Jan 25-29	<b>ACCOUNTING FOR PARTNERSHIPS</b> Read: Hilton, Chapter 15 (casebook) Assignment: Problems 15-2, 15-4, 15-5, 15-6, 15-10, 15-15
Week 5 Feb 1-5	<b>ACCOUNTING FOR FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b> Read: CICA Handbook, Section 3860 Beechy, Intermediate Accounting, Fourth Edition, Chapter 14 (casebook) Assignment: Case 14-1, 14-3 A 14-1, A 14-3, A 14-5, A 14-8, A 14-13

**MID-TERM EXAM - 3 hours - location TBA (tentative WSC 55)**  
**Thursday, February 11, 2010 6:00-9:00 pm**

**NOTE: Group Assignment**  
**Selected Company & Group Members Due Week 6 (prior to Conference Week)**

Week 6 Feb 8-12	<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENT ANALYSIS - INTRODUCTION INCOME AND CASH FLOWS</b> Readings: SBW, Chapters 1 and 3 (pp 124-144) "From Pizza to Dough" (casebook) Assignment: SBW Problems 1.11, 1.14, 1.16, Problems 3.14, 3.16
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**FEBRUARY 15 – 19 CONFERENCE/READING WEEK (NO CLASSES)**

Week 7	<b>EARNINGS QUALITY - EARNINGS MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY</b>
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Feb 22-26      Readings:      SBW, Chapter 6  
 Articles:        -“Never Say Never” (casebook)  
                   -“Letters - Predicting Future Earnings” (casebook)  
                   -“Pick a Number, Any Number” (casebook)  
                   -“Credit Ratings Under Fire”, Financial Post (June 14, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“Enron: Who’s Accountable?” Time (Jan. 13, 2002) (casebook)  
                   - “From There to Here” CA magazine (June/July 2008) (casebook)  
                   -“Former Livent VP Outlines Accounting” Financial Post  
                           (May 16, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“Former VP Tracked Fake Books, Court Told” Financial Post  
                           (May 16, 2008)(casebook)  
                   - “Nortel Settles Fraud Suit with \$35M” CFO.com  
                           (Oct. 15, 2007)(casebook)  
 Assignment SBW: Problem 6.10, Case 6.2 (Hewlett-Packard)

Week 8            PROFITABILITY AND RISK ANALYSIS  
 March 1-5        Readings:      SBW, Chapter 4, 5  
                   Income Statements  
 Articles:        - Predicting Future Earnings (casebook)  
                   -“Mark to Market Rules up to OSFI” Financial Post  
                           (Oct. 6, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“Mark to Market May be Eased” Financial Post  
                           (Oct. 8, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“A Bad Time to Loosen Accounting Standards” Financial Post  
                           (Oct. 8, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“Estimate Revisions Likely Amid Surprises” Financial Post  
                           (Aug. 18, 2008)(casebook)  
                   -“The Gray Area of Bias” CA Magazine (May 2008)(casebook)  
                   - “Pay Debate Key” Financial Post (Oct. 4, 2008)(casebook)  
 Assignment:    SBW, Case 4.1 (Starbucks), Case 4.2 (Wal-Mart)

Week 9            EARNINGS MANAGEMENT: REVENUE RECOGNITION/LIABILITY  
 March 8-12      RECOGNITION  
 Readings:      SBW, Chapter 7 , 8  
                   “Numbers Games” (casebook) 1E October 2002  
                   “Hide’n Seek” (casebook) Canadian Business, Apr 1, 2002  
 Assignment:    SBW, Problem 7.3 (Chiron Corp), Problem 8.12, 8.21, 8.24

**Fri, Mar 19      3 hour Mid-Term Exam 4:00-7:00 pm**  
 Covers Stickney Chapters 1-8 (Format: MC, short answer)  
 Location TBA (tentatively WSC 55)

Week 10          BUSINESS VALUATION/PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,  
 March 15-19     INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS VALUATIONS  
 Readings:      SBW, Chapters 10, 11

Week 11          BUSINESS VALUATION/PRO FORMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,

March 22-26 INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS VALUATIONS (continued)

Readings: SBW Chapters 12, 13, 14

Assignment: SBW, Case 12.1, 13.1, 14.1 (Starbucks)

Week 12/13 PRESENTATION OF GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

March 29 - Note: Presentations will take place during regular class time. Each group will be  
April 31 allowed 25 - 35 minutes for their presentation. A schedule for Presentation of Group  
April 5-9 Assignments will be distributed as soon as rooms are finalized after add/drop period. **For Sections 1 hour/2 hours, presentations will be done on second class session by adding one hour to class time.)** Try to be present for all presentations to provide input and evaluation for all presentations. All students are expected to attend all presentations and to ask relevant questions. You will do a peer evaluation to assist in grading presentations.

**Reminder**

- 1) Hand-in Assignment to be handed out during the week of March 9 in class or available in the professor's office. Assignment may be done individually or with one other student. Assignment is due Friday, March 26 by 5:00 pm in hard copy (my office)
- 2) Written Group Report is due by Friday, April 9 (may be handed in early)