

**The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania**

**ACCOUNTING 102 – Strategic Cost Analysis  
Course Syllabus  
Summer Session II, 2020**

**Instructor:** Nathan Born

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**Office Hours:** Wednesday 4-6pm, BlueJeans (see Canvas announcement for link)

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course emphasizes the use of accounting information for internal planning and control purposes, as opposed to the external disclosure focus of financial accounting. We will learn alternative methods of preparing managerial accounting information in the first part of this course, and we will spend the remainder of the course examining how these methods are used by companies. Managerial accounting is a company's internal language and is used for decision-making, production management, product design and pricing, performance evaluation, and motivating employees. Well-designed managerial accounting systems maximize economic profits (all relevant benefits minus all relevant costs).

What you learn in this course complements and builds upon what you learned in financial accounting, and what you are learning in your economics, finance, marketing, management, operations, and statistics courses.

Unless you understand managerial accounting, you cannot have a thorough understanding of a company's internal operations. What you learn in this course will help you understand the operations of your future employer (and enable you to be more successful at your job), and help you understand other companies you encounter in your role as competitor, consultant, or investor.

**TEXTBOOKS:***Recommended:*

Shim, Jae K. and Joel G. Siegel, *Schaum's Outlines, Managerial Accounting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, McGraw Hill

*Optional:*

Davila, Antonio and Daniel Oyon, *Malea Fashion District, How Successful Managers Use Financial Information to Grow Organizations, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*, 2009

**COURSE OPERATION:**

The course meets for two hours four times a week - lectures on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We will cover new materials every day as well as homework problem sets. I will be available on BlueJeans for any remaining time to answer questions about the day's material and any more general questions you may have.

**CANVAS:**

To access the course website, go to <https://canvas.upenn.edu> and choose ACCT 102 – Summer 2020. Various course materials, including class notes and exam and homework solutions, will be distributed exclusively through Canvas. Make sure you have access to this website. Each enrolled Penn student can use their PennKey username and password for access.

**PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM:**

The course grade is based on relative performance evaluation (i.e., a curve), but no forced grade distribution is used. Your grade will be based exclusively on the weighted average of two exams and in-class questions. The schedule and weight of exams and in-class questions is as follows

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Midterm	July 22 (Wednesday)	In class	35%
Final	August 7 (Thursday)	In class	35%
Homework	July 13 to August 4	Schedule on Canvas	20%
Participation Quizzes	Daily	Following class	10%

Please note that the above weighting scheme will be strictly adhered to. There is no possibility of changing the above weights.

Students with a weighted average score of 40 or below will likely receive a final grade of F.

Homework will be graded on a three-point scale based on effort and completion. If you have demonstrated reasonable effort at attempting ALL parts of a particular homework assignment, you will receive full credit for that homework assignment.

## **HOMEWORK**

There will be 4 homework assignments to be completed during the course. The homework assignments will be posted on Canvas and announced in class. Homework is due each Monday starting July 13<sup>th</sup>. Homework assignments can be completed in group but **all homework must be submitted individually**.

Homework assignments must be submitted **electronically** through Canvas by 2 pm on the due date. Directions for submitting homework will be distributed via Canvas, and I strongly encourage you to submit your homework answers well in advance of the 2 pm deadline. Late submissions, multiple submissions, and hard-copies are not accepted.

The schedule for all homework assignments is available on Canvas.

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION QUIZZES**

Following each lecture, a short participation quiz consisting of 3-5 questions on the content of that lecture will be available on Canvas. Quizzes must be completed prior to the start of the following lecture. One-third of the quiz grade will be determined by participation. Two-thirds of the grade will be determined by correctness.

At the end of the semester, the lowest four quiz scores will be dropped in determination of the final grade for class participation quizzes.

## EXAMINATIONS

All examinations will be given on Canvas. Exams are open-book and open notes. Examinations must be completed independently. The examination must be completed within twelve hours of being posted to Canvas. Exams will be open from 2:00 PM to 2:00 AM EST.

## EXAM ACCOMMODATIONS:

If you need additional time to complete an exam because of a university-recognized disability, please inform your instructor (by e-mail) and the Office of Student Disabilities Services (SDS) **within one week of the start of classes**. You will be provided with the accommodations that are approved by that Office.

## RE-GRADES:

Regrade requests must be submitted within one week of grades being posted. Regrade requests must explicitly state what needs to be regraded and why. If the re-grade request is made after one calendar week or without an accompanying explanation, no re-grade will be permitted. All re-grade decisions are *final*.

## FAIRNESS AND INTEGRITY:

**I emphasize fairness to all students taking the course. Please do not do anything that is unfair to other students, or ask your instructor to make exceptions that are unfair to other students.**

I expect you to follow the code of Academic Integrity in this course and in all your courses:

[http://www.upenn.edu/provost/images/uploads/Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://www.upenn.edu/provost/images/uploads/Academic_Integrity.pdf).

In order to ensure fairness and on behalf of the overwhelming majority of honest students, I will refer anyone suspected of cheating to the Office of Student Conduct. The Office of Student Conduct will determine if cheating occurred, and if so, what punishment will be administered. There are no exceptions to this policy under any circumstances.

There is some probability that I or the TA will find a student who has cheated. Please note that when a student is convicted of cheating by the Office of Student Conduct, the minimum punishment is a grade of F for the course and a one-semester suspension. Cheating is wrong from an ethical standpoint, and cheating does not make sense practically, because **the expected costs to the cheater far outweighs any small benefits**.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Please refer to Canvas for class schedule.