

Course information 2025-26

AC2091 Financial Reporting

General information

MODULE LEVEL: 5

CREDIT: 30

NOTIONAL STUDY TIME: 300 hours

MODE: Locally Taught, Independent Learner Route and Online Taught

Summary

This course is concerned with the theory and practice of financial accounting and reporting. This involves a sound understanding of the concepts and choices that underlie how financial information is measured and disclosed in the financial statements.

Conditions

Please refer to the relevant programme structure in the EMFSS Programme Regulations to check:

- where this course can be placed on your degree structure; and
- details of prerequisites and corequisites for this course.

You should also refer to the Exclusions list in the EMFSS Programme Regulations to check if any exclusions apply for this course.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the course are to:

- stimulate theoretical enquiry into financial accounting issues,
- develop the student's knowledge and understanding of financial accounting,
- prepare students for further academic study in accounting and related areas,
- enable students in the pursuit of a professional accountancy qualification,
- equip students for employment in areas where an understanding of accounting issues and tools is helpful.

Learning outcomes

At the end of this course, and having completed the Essential Reading and activities, students should be able to:

- discuss and apply a number of theoretical and practical approaches to financial accounting.
- record and analyse data.
- prepare financial statements in accordance with relevant accounting standards.
- evaluate a number of regulatory issues relating to financial accounting.
- critically evaluate theories and practices of and other matters relating to financial accounting.

Employability skills

Below are the three most relevant employability skills that students acquire by undertaking this course which can be conveyed to future prospective employers:

1. Decision making
2. Complex problem-solving
3. Communication

Essential reading

Alexander, D., Britton, A., Hoogendoorn, M., van Mourik, C. and Kirwan, C. International Financial Reporting and Analysis. (London: Cengage, 2020) eighth edition [ISBN 9781473766853]

Assessment

This course is assessed by a three-hour and fifteen-minute closed-book written examination (80%) and a sixty-minute Multiple Choice Question assessment (20%). The Multiple Choice Question assessment will examine students' knowledge on Chapters 1 – 10 of the Subject Guide (Locally Taught and Independent Learner students) and up to and including unit M (Online Taught students).

Syllabus

Chapter 1: Rationale for financial reporting and its regulation.

Chapter 2: Conceptual framework.

Chapter 3: Preparation and presentation of financial statements.

Chapter 4: Ethics for accountants.

Chapter 5: Historical cost accounting, accounting for changing prices/values and fair value accounting.

Chapter 6: Accounting for equity.

Chapter 7: Provisions, contingent liabilities, and contingent assets.

Chapter 8: Employee benefits.

Chapter 9: Income taxes.

Chapter 10: Foreign currency.

Chapter 11: Revenue recognition and contracts.

Chapter 12: Tangible non-current assets.

Chapter 13: Intangible assets.

Chapter 14: Financial instruments (excluding hedge accounting).

Chapter 15: Leases.

Chapter 16: Business combinations, consolidated statement of financial position.

Chapter 17: Accounting for groups: consolidated income statement, associates, and other joint arrangements.

Chapter 18: Accounting for groups: historical and alternative approaches.

Chapter 19: Analysis and interpretation of financial reports (Part 1).

Chapter 20: Analysis and interpretation of financial reports (Part 2).