



UNIT OUTLINE

UNIT CODE AND TITLE	BA931 Introduction to Accounting
AUTHOR	Brian West
SCHOOL	School of Business
COURSE	Master of Professional Accounting Master of Commerce (Professional Accounting)
PREREQUISITE(S)	None
COREQUISITE(S)	None
DURATION	One teaching period
CREDIT POINTS	30

OBJECTIVES

This unit is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to accounting and will enable students to:

Knowledge

- describe the nature and function of accounting
- comprehend the way in which accounting transactions are recognised, measured, recorded and reported for different forms of business organisations
- understand the regulatory and conceptual frameworks applying to accounting
- evaluate conventional accounting practice and gain an awareness of alternative accounting systems
- understand the role of accounting information in the effective financial management of business organisations

Skills

- design and operate appropriate accounting information systems (from transaction recording through to financial report preparation) for business organisations
- analyse financial reports and use them to make informed decisions
- prepare managements reports which utilise accounting information and provide a relevant and reliable basis for management decision making
- work effectively as a team member

Attitudes

- appreciate the importance of accounting information in facilitating decision making processes and enhancing accountability

- develop an ethical perspective on the preparation and use of accounting information

CONTENT

- the nature and function of accounting
- preparation and analysis of financial reports
- accounting information systems
- the regulatory and conceptual frameworks of accounting
- criticisms of conventional accounting practice and proposals for reform
- financial management and the use of accounting information for management decision making
- ethics and accounting practice

LEARNING TASKS AND ASSESSMENT

Learning Task	Assessment (grading)	Weighting
Classes, at which unit topics are introduced and discussed, and then applied to practical exercises and case studies.		
Prescribed reading, which is intended to reinforce and extend students' understanding of the unit topics.		
Self-study, in which students engage in a process of application by preparing answers to set questions.		
Completion of up to two assignments involving students working in groups and applying accounting knowledge and skills within case study contexts.	Written reports with supporting calculations	30-40%
Progressive review of selected unit content through up to two class tests.	Tests	10-20%
Comprehensive review of unit content.	Examination	50-60%

METHODOLOGY

Classes, independent reading and preparation of set questions and case studies, assignment preparation, review of unit topics for tests and examinations.

REFERENCES

Accounting Handbook 2005, Pearson Education Australia.

Atrill, P, McLaney, E, Harvey, D & Jenner, M 2003, *Accounting: An introduction*, 2nd edn, Prentice Hall, Frenchs Forest, NSW

Bazley, M, Hancock, P, Berry, A & Jarvis, R 2004, *Contemporary accounting*, 5th edn, Thomson, Melbourne.

Birt, J, Chalmers, K, Beal, D, Books, A, Byrne, S & Oliver, J 2005, *Accounting: Business reporting for decision making*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Qld.

Hoggett, J, Edwards, L & Medlin, J 2003, *Accounting in Australia*, 5th edn, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Qld.

Jackling, B, Raar, J, Wigg, R, Williams, B & Wines, G 2004, *Accounting: A framework for decision making*, McGraw-Hill, Sydney.

Marshall, DH, McCartney, JP, van Rhyne, D, McManus, WW & Viele, DF 2005, *Accounting: What the numbers mean*, McGraw-Hill, Sydney.

Handbook entry

BA931 INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING

CREDIT POINTS	30
OFFERED	Teaching period 1 and/or 3
PREREQUISITE	None
COREQUISITE	None

This unit is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to accounting. Topics include: the nature and function of accounting; preparation and analysis of financial reports; accounting information systems; the regulatory and conceptual frameworks of accounting; criticisms of conventional accounting practice and proposals for reform; financial management and the use of accounting information for management decision making; ethics and accounting practice.