

# **Principles of Accounting: Acct 205: Fall 2009**

6:00 to 9:00 – Wednesday evening – B 215

**INSTRUCTOR:** Shawn Novak Ph.D., CPA  
**OFFICE:** B – 214c **PHONE:** 426-1238:  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday & Wednesday (2:00 to 3:15 & 4:30 to 6:00).  
In general I am available most of the time (Monday through Friday) when I am not in class. Please verify in advance any meeting that you want to make outside of my normal office hours. I encourage you to seek help when you have problems with any aspect of this course. Accounting graduate student tutors are available to assist Accounting 205 students throughout the semester. You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity on an ongoing basis. The schedule for tutoring is posted on the course Blackboard site and throughout the Accounting department. Seek help as soon as you need it. The tutors will become very busy when mid-term exams and final exams approach.

## **Required Course Materials:**

**Textbook:** **Fundamental Financial Accounting**, Seventh Edition, Harrison Horngren, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008, ISBN: 13: 978-0-13-612934-9

**Homework and Assessment Manager:** **MyAccountingLab.com**  
MyAccountingLab.com is the website which will be used to deliver all homework assignments, quizzes and end of chapter exams. To use the website students must register on-line at the website listed below for your section. The online registration requires an access code that comes with the textbook when purchased from the BSU bookstore. The access code may also be purchased separately online if you purchase just the textbook from a vendor other than the BSU bookstore. There is a separate document with detailed instructions on how to register for the homework and assessment manager. Please note that you must use your BroncoWeb student information to register on My Accounting Lab. That includes the name shown on BroncoWeb and your BSU Student ID number as your My Accounting Lab ID number. The correct information is required to process your grades.

The class id number that you must use when registering for MyComputerLab is XL0E-11MW-701Y-8DC2.

**Course Website: (Blackboard.boisestate.edu)** This class will use the Blackboard system to archive course documents. The course website will contain all documents used in class (including lecture notes in Powerpoint). Any item may be downloaded from the site. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to obtain documents for that class from the course website or from a friend in the class.

**Course Objectives:** The course has been designed to provide business students with an understanding of basic financial accounting information, its use and its limitations. An understanding of accounting must include an understanding of how economic events are recorded by an accounting system and processed into financial statements. This class will emphasize basic financial statements and how economic events affect them. In addition, since accounting is the "language of business," mastery of accounting terminology is an essential element of the course.

**Desired Educational Outcomes:** Students should be able to identify the four basic financial statements and explain how the financial statements provide useful information to decision makers. Students should be able to identify the type of information about an entity that each of the four financial statements provides. Students should be able to explain the difference between cash flow and accrual-basis income and analyze the relationship between the two measures of business activity. Students should be able to analyze a transaction and determine how it is recorded by the accounting system and affects the financial statements. Students should be able to read and interpret financial statements and related financial information in order to make informed investment decisions.

**Grades:** Grades will be assigned based on your performance relative to other students in the class. You will not be held to an absolute grading scale such as 90% and above being an A. Expect exams and other assignments to be challenging. When final grades are assigned the instructor will have no sympathy for students who do not attend class regularly and complete assignments when due.

**Relative value of course elements**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Value</u></b>
Chapter Exams	25%
Homework	20%
In Class Assignments	20%
Projects	10%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

**In-Class Assignments:** At the beginning of every class a quiz or other graded assignment will be given. Students that arrive to class late will not be given additional time to complete such assignments. In most circumstances quizzes will be announced in advance. In some cases assignments will be distributed in class for completion at home. Such assignments must be turned in when due to receive credit.

**Chapter Exams:** An exam must be taken after each textbook chapter is completed. Each exam must be completed within the time limits allowed. You will be allowed to drop your lowest chapter exam.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be comprehensive. All students are required to take the final exam in class without the aid of notes or other materials. The final exam will consist of approximately 50 multiple choice questions.

**Class Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded by a weekly in class assignment.

**Homework:** Accounting is a very practical discipline so much of the learning process occurs when concepts are applied to examples. Homework assignments will be prepared and graded on-line according to the schedule posted on My Accounting Lab class homepage. Within the scheduled time period, three homework attempts are available to allow the student to maximize homework points. Solutions are available online for all homework problems. NO credit will be given for late or missed homework assignments.

**Missed Classes:** – I will make reasonable efforts to work with students so that they can receive credit for in-class assignments in circumstances where they take the responsibility to notify me in advance of missing a class. This courtesy will not be extended to those students that miss class on a recurring basis.

**Lecture Notes:** Most class lectures will be presented using Powerpoint. The title of each set of slides is printed at the bottom of each slide in the set and slide numbers are in the lower right corner. Slides presented in class will be archived on the class website as they are presented. If you miss a class or lose your notes you can replace them by going to the course website.

**Outside Reading:** Students are encouraged to read current business oriented periodicals (i.e. Wall Street Journal, Business Week) to keep up with developments in accounting. When current events are discussed in class they will be included on exams. If an article is distributed in class it will be considered “fair game” for exam purposes.

# MyAccountingLab

I hope that the use of this homework/assessment platform will be both convenient for you and be a powerful learning tool. It is absolutely essential that you begin working with it immediately. Homework and end of chapter tests must be completed by the due date in order for you to receive a score. There is a calendar feature that will show you when items become available and when they become due. It is your responsibility to keep up with it.

End of chapter tests allow 75 minutes to complete. Once you start a test you need to complete it. You can not stop in the middle of it and then resume it. You are allowed 2 attempts on chapter tests. Your second attempt allows you to take a test over that you performed poorly on because you were not prepared or could not finish it for some reason. You have unlimited opportunities to complete homework assignments.

With your MyAccountingLab.com account you have access to a variety of additional learning resources that include:

- Full online edition of the textbook
- Full online edition of the student study guide
- Access to publisher's powerpoint lectures for each chapter
- Access to numerous practice problems