

ACCT 304 Intermediate Accounting I  
Spring Semester 2010

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**Required text:** Spiceland, Sepe, and Tomassini, Intermediate Accounting, 5th edition, Chapters 1-13, Irwin McGraw-Hill.

**Text Website:** [www.mhhe.com/spiceland5e](http://www.mhhe.com/spiceland5e)

**Course Objective:** This first course in the intermediate accounting series begins the study of financial accounting theory and practice. It will provide students with a deeper understanding of the principles underlying financial accounting and reporting. We will examine the effects of various influences on the standard setting process. We will also examine some of the characteristics and limitations of financial reports and the substance of general accepted accounting principles (GAAP) focusing on current and non-current assets and current liabilities. We will examine an ethical decision making model (COBE Core Goal). In this course, we will examine the following areas:

- Income Measurement and Profitability Analysis
- Environment & Theoretical Structure of Financial Accounting
- Accounting Process (Review)
- Balance Sheet and Financial Disclosures
- Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows
- Time Value of Money Concepts
- Cash and Receivables
- Inventories
- Fixed Assets
- Intangible Assets
- Investments
- Accounts Payable
- Accrued Liabilities

The intermediate series is considered to be the backbone of the accounting program, so it is important that you master this material. At the conclusion of the course you should have an understanding of both the financial accounting and reporting requirements for each of the areas studied.

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**Examinations:** There will be 2-3 examinations worth 50 –100 points each. Examination dates are included in the course lecture and homework schedule posted in the assignment section of blackboard. **There will be no makeup exams.** You must see me well in advance of exam dates if you have an unavoidable conflict.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be used to reinforce concepts and/or problems from both class and readings. There will be 8-10 short quizzes of approximately 15-25 points each. Quizzes may be online (Blackboard) or in class and will generally be unannounced. **There will be no makeup quizzes.**

**Attendance & Participation:** This course includes frequent in class exercises requiring collaboration and teamwork with fellow class members (COBE Core Goal). As such regular attendance is expected and necessary to achieve success in this class—as in the work place. Frequent absences are associated with poor performance and a low or failing grade. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to know the material covered and what assignments are due or schedule changes that have been made. Attendance, preparation, and class participation are carefully considered in the assignment of grades especially for those students who fall at the grade break points. **The instructor reserves the right to raise (or lower) a student’s mathematical derived grade by one letter grade upon his perception of a high (or low) level of participation/behavior.** Please be considerate of your fellow students by arriving on time—before the instructor begins class!

**Case(s):** Case(s) will be assigned to provide opportunities for students to develop proper, clear and concise written communication; integrate and apply accounting concepts covered in reading and class to address issues and solve unstructured accounting and reporting problems (COBE Core Goal) associated with a comprehensive extended set of circumstances; and develop skills to understand and follow complex directions, as in the real world. **Case completion is required to receive any course grade above a “C”.**

**Homework:** Working the scheduled assignments in advance and reading text chapters are an important factor for success in this course. Completed homework assignments should be filed in a three ring binder. Binders may be collected and evaluated on a random and periodic basis. If your homework is not available if called for it will NOT be accepted at a later date. While **specific points are not allocated** to homework it could be important to your final grade especially if your total points fall at a grade break point. Homework should be complete, clear, and easy to follow to receive consideration. **Microsoft Word and Excel are required** for completing homework. Selected solutions to homework assignments will be posted at completion of each chapter.

**Performance Evaluation:** Your grade in this class will be primarily based on total points earned compared to total points possible. The approximate relative weighting is:

Exams	35% - 40%
Quizzes	35% - 40%
Attendance & class participation	5% - 5%
Cases	20% - 15%

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Generally, grades are assigned according to the following scale: 90-100% A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, below 60% F. These grade breaks may be adjusted somewhat based on your performance relative to the other students in the class. Although some of you may have to work very hard to earn your points, the course grade is based on results, not effort.

**Preparation:** You are to prepare for class in accordance with the posted schedule. Preparation includes (1) reading the material (2) working the assigned problems; and (3) identifying questions that you need answered in class. This class moves very quickly and therefore it is extremely important to have assigned reading and homework complete prior to each lecture.

**Blackboard:** Blackboard will be used extensively to provide students access to important information, deadlines, quizzes, practice problems, handouts and announcements. Blackboard chat sessions are used to discuss homework and other in class problems. **CHECK BLACKBOARD DAILY.**

**Required Study:** This is a rigorous, fast paced, challenging class. You must work problems and be actively involved in class to grasp the subject matter and use it. Expect at least 2-3 hours of study outside of class for every hour in class to receive a passing grade.

**Dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form. In accordance with BSU policy, any instance of dishonesty in this class will result in dismissal from class and a failing grade for the course.**