ACCT 4130
Intermediate Accounting III
Fall 2017
Dr. Erin Henry
Office: 224 Fogelman College Admin. Building
Phone: 678-3348

Please read this document carefully! It will help you do your best work in the course.

Advice from the founder of Microsoft (and the one of the world’s wealthiest persons, who is now giving most of his money away and encouraging other wealthy individuals to do so also): “I have a single but strong belief. How you gather, manage, and use information will determine whether you win or lose.” Bill Gates, Microsoft Corporation, Gates Foundation

Course Description

Intermediate Accounting III (3). This is a course in financial accounting (reporting). The role of financial accounting is to communicate information that supports business decision-making. Without understanding how decision makers use accounting information, it is difficult to fully understand financial accounting issues or, more importantly, to critically evaluate accounting method alternatives. Keep this perspective in mind as you study each topic. To assist you, each chapter has one or more sections entitled “Decision Makers’ Perspective” which offer insights into how the information discussed in the chapters affect decisions made by investors, creditors, managers, and others. Also, avoid memorizing. A true understanding of how a particular procedure is applied demands a clear understanding of why it is applied. As you learn procedures presented in the text, make sure you understand why those procedures are applied. Prerequisite: Acct. 3110.

Course Materials


Common Mistake

Every semester, after one or more exams, students come to my office or email me seeking advice on how to improve on their dismal performance with future exams. The typical question is “I’ve done well on all my homework and other assignments, I studied a long time for the exam, but I did really lousy on it. How can I do better next time?” Often, it’s too late at that point. After talking for a while, almost always I discover that the student has not been reading the chapters. Usually the student insists that he/she is “using” the book every day. But, inevitably that means using it as a reference when doing homework, trying to find an example that matches the assignment. That doesn’t work! Sure, you might get a good grade on the homework, but you won’t understand the material. You might have memorized a mechanical way of arriving at an answer, but without understanding why, you will score poorly on exams. And worse, you won’t acquire the knowledge you need to be successful on the CPA exam or in your accounting career. Don’t make that mistake! Be sure to read the assigned portion of each chapter. And that means reading every sentence from start to finish. The chapter explains, not just how, but why. You paid a lot for that book. Use it!
Connect

Most assignments are to be completed online within Connect, a web-based assignment and assessment platform. With Connect, I will deliver assignments online. You will be given opportunities to practice important skills at your own pace and on your own schedule. LearnSmart (described below) also is included in Connect. With Connect, you also get 24/7 online access to an eBook – an online edition of the text.

Connect comes free with all new copies of the textbook purchased through the University bookstore, Amazon, and many other sources. What’s included is an access code you’ll need to register with Connect. If you buy a used text or a new text from certain other sources, it will not include Connect and you will need to purchase an access code from the bookstore or from the publisher’s website. Here are instructions to purchase an access code if you don’t have one that came with the book: Video Instructions. Use the code to register at the site below:

Follow these instructions to register with your section and Connect:

Go to the following web address and click the "register now" button:
Section 001: http://connect.mheducation.com/class/2017fall4130001henry
Section M50: http://connect.mheducation.com/class/2017fall4130m50henry

If you need help with Connect, here are three sources:
 a. 800-331-5094, option 2
 b. www.mhhe.com/support
 c. Student video tutorials for help embedded within Connect

Office Hours:

In person (FCBE #224): 8:30am – 9:30am, Tuesdays and Thursdays
Online (Google Hangouts - Dr.HenryACCT): 9:00pm – 10:00pm, Wednesdays

You are also free to e-mail me questions at erin.henry@memphis.edu (Please DO NOT email me from within eCourseware. Doing so will create for you an email address in your message that will prevent me from responding to your message.)
Once logged on to eCourseware and at the Course Homepage, go to Course Content. To successfully complete each chapter’s assignments:

1. **Read the chapter.** While reading, take notes of the important items covered. Pay particular attention to the learning objectives listed at the beginning of the chapter. Rework examples in the chapter to make sure you understand the concepts covered. *Expect to spend 3-4 hours per chapter reading.*
2. **Watch the Lecture and/or PowerPoint Tutorial** from the course Content.
3. **Answer the Quiz** (see Quiz later in the syllabus).
4. **Complete the LearnSmart module for the chapter.** See the description below.
5. **Solve Assignments in Connect.** Open the Connect website, log in and select the current chapter.
6. **Solve the Project for the chapter** from the Course Content and save it to your computer as “ProjectXyourlastname.” When you have completed the spreadsheet, upload it to the indicated Dropbox in eCourseware.

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**GRADING**

Your grade this semester will be determined on the basis of the total points you earn:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam 1</th>
<th>100 points</th>
<th>499-555  –</th>
<th>A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>444-498  –</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>388-443  –</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (comprehensive)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>333-387  –</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required Assignments (on Connect)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>below 332 – F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz (on Connect)</td>
<td>35 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excel Project (on eCourseware/Dropbox)</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>555 points</td>
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**Periodic Exams**

The periodic exams during the semester will test your knowledge and understanding of the material in the chapters indicated. These exams will consist primarily of problems similar in nature to the homework exercises and problems. **No** make-up exams will be given. Grades are posted in eCourseware.

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**Connect Grade**

The 100 point "Required Assignments on Connect" grade will be determined on the basis of your daily preparation as evidenced by your scores on homework assignments. Complete your assignments before the date on which the schedule indicates that it is due. Early preparation will allow you to correct errors you inevitably will make in the first attempt. You can attempt each question three times. I will count your highest score. (This approach will guard against technology issues with your own computer or with Connect itself.) Once a deadline passes, the assignment will not be reopened.

To solve the assignments in Connect, follow these steps.

1. **Open the Connect website, log in and select the current chapter.**
2. **PRACTICE SET.** An additional resource for solving the assignments, particularly those without Guided Examples, is the Practice Set for that chapter. Most of the exercises and problems for the chapter are here. *You can submit the answers within the Practice Set and “check your work” to see how you are doing.* If you are having difficulty solving the problem, submit it. This will allow you to see the answer.
3. **CONNECT ASSIGNMENTS.** You may attempt the Questions only three times, so approach the assignments thoughtfully and carefully. I will use the highest grade you attain on each assignment as of the due date. Most assignments are **algorithmic** (each time they are worked, there will be...
different numbers). _Expect to spend 3-4 hours working each chapter’s assignments._ Don’t wait until the cutoff time approaches. Submit your homework well in advance of that time to avoid electronic glitches.

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### Quiz

In **Connect** (within the assignments): Each of the 7 chapters is accompanied by an assigned online quiz (in Connect). These quizzes are designed to assess a very basic understanding of each learning objective. Answers should be relatively easy if you have read the chapter; otherwise not so much. Resist the urge to just look up the answers. You might win the battle, but you’ll lose the war. Be sure to pay attention to the schedule because **when the quiz closes it will not be reopened.**

You are allowed **only one attempt** at quizzes. Full feedback is provided after the due date. Each of the 7 quizzes counts 5 points.

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### Excel Project

The project should be uploaded to the Dropbox (Menu item at the top of eCourseware) by the due date. The project counts 20 points. The objective of the project is to take advantage of the power and flexibility of Excel. Start early, devote an appropriate amount, and do it right.

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### LearnSmart

LearnSmart is an “intelligent” tutoring/learning system. Based on your progress, the program leads you through a learning process for each chapter, allowing you to move to the next level only after you have demonstrated an understanding of the previous level. The number of points you earn and the speed with which you can progress through the chapters depend on how you assess your own ability to answer a question. For instance, if you click "I know it" and answer the question correctly, you will get the greatest number of points possible. If you answer correctly after selecting one of the other buttons – "Think so," "Unsure," and "No idea" – you will still earn points. However, you get fewer points for the items you do not believe you know as well. So, if you select "Unsure" and get the answer correct, you will get fewer points than if you had selected "I know it" or "Think so."

The same applies if you get an answer incorrect. If you do not know the answer after clicking "I know the answer," points will be deducted from your score. Fewer points are deducted if you select "Think so" or "Unsure," and get the answer incorrect. If you click "Unsure," points will not be deducted even if you incorrectly answer the question.

Use the **“SmartBook”** mode when in LearnSmart.

1. Open the **Connect** website, log in and select the current chapter.
2. Look in the Library tab.
3. Choose LearnSmart.
4. In the bottom right corner, click the icon with three horizontal lines.
5. Select Go to SmartBook and make it your default view when asked.

The first icon at the bottom toggles between Read and Practice. Complete the Practice process only after reading the appropriate portion of the Chapter. You can do so in the eBook using the “Read” tab, but it’s easier for most to read it in the physical textbook.

**Note:** Completing a LearnSmart module enhances your learning of the course material and does not impact your final grade.
Course Schedule (tentative and subject to change, all times are in Central time)

Preparation for each class:

- **Read and study the chapter before class,**
- **Take the Quiz for the chapter in Connect,**
- **Complete the LearnSmart module for the chapter (optional),**
- **Submit Solutions to the required assignments in Connect.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters/Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Read through “Getting Started” and “Course Resources” under Content at eCourseware.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Aug. 31      | Leases                        | **Chapter 15**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; Excel Project (due on Sept. 21) and Required Assignments. |
| Sept. 5,7    |                               |                                                             |
| Sept. 12, 14, 19 | Accounting for Income Taxes | **Chapter 16**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
|               | Exam 1, Chap. 15 – 16         | Available 12:01am Sept. 21 to 11:59pm Sept. 21.           |
| Sept. 26 (no class Sept. 28) | Pensions and Postretirement Benefit Plans | **Chapter 17**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
| Oct. 3, 5    |                               |                                                             |
| Oct. 10, 12, 19 (no class Oct. 17) | Shareholders’ Equity | **Chapter 18**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
| Oct. 24, 26, 31 | Share-based Compensation and Earnings per Share | **Chapter 19**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
|               | Exam 2, Chap. 17 – 19         | Available 12:01am Nov. 2 to 11:59pm Nov. 2.               |
| Nov. 7, 9, 14 | Accounting Changes and Error Corrections | **Chapter 20**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
| Nov. 16, 21, 28 | Statement of Cash Flows      | **Chapter 21**  
Read Chapter; Quiz; and Required Assignments. |
|               | Exam 3, Chap. 20 – 21        | Available 12:01am Nov. 30 to 11:59pm Nov. 30.          |
| Dec. 5       | TBA                           |                                                             |
Final Exam

The final exam will cover all chapters. The final will consist entirely of multiple choice questions. These questions will be approximately evenly divided between "conceptual questions" and numerical problems with multiple choice solutions.

For Section M50, the final is available December 11 from 12:01am to 11:59pm.
For Section 001, the final is on Dec. 14 (Thursday) 8:00am - 10:00am.