

BACC 461Z AUDITING THEORY AND PRACTICE
The University at Albany
Spring 2007

Professor Ingrid E. Fisher Ph.D. C.P.A.

Office: BA 330

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:10-2:40 and by appointment. Please note: appointments outside of regularly scheduled office hours require advance notice to facilitate instructor availability.

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Email: iefish119@aol.com Email is the most effective way to contact me outside of office hours. Please note that you should include a subject in your email and the subject should be clearly class related to prevent the email from being filtered out as spam.

Required Materials: Auditing and Assurance Services 2nd edition, Louwers, Ramsay et.al..

Recommended Materials: Codification of Auditing Standards. AICPA.

Course Description: This course is unlike most other courses in the accounting curriculum in that it is non-quantitative and focused equally upon the acquisition of knowledge-based analytical decision-making skills and communication skills. You will be graded on your ability to understand and recall auditing principles as well as your demonstration of an ability to apply auditing standards to new situations. You will also be graded on your ability to communicate your understanding of auditing principles effectively, both orally and in writing.

The course will address the process of conducting an audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, the audit environment, the process of communicating audit results in report form and other types of assurance services commonly provided by public accountants.

Course Objectives include:

1. Understand auditing standards accepted in the U.S.A. and standards for other attest engagements.
2. Be able to identify legal concepts of liability and key liability cases.
3. Understand the codes of conduct governing the profession of auditing and accounting and be able to explain professional responsibilities to protect the public interest.
4. Become aware of the importance of ethics and values in the field of accounting and in the world of business.
5. Understand the concepts of internal control and security and their applications to auditing and accounting.
6. Understand the need for computer controls in an accounting information system
7. Be able to assess engagement risk and plan an engagement.
8. Understand the assessment of risk and materiality.
9. Demonstrate an ability to communicate complex technical auditing and accounting issues in written reports in proper format and with proper citations.
10. Demonstrate competence in the utilization of research databases.

Grade Determination:

Exam 1-----	25%
Exam 2-----	25%
Paper 1-----	15%
Paper 2-----	20%
Presentation-----	15%
Total-----	100%

Examinations: All exams will consist of a mixture of analytical-problem solving questions, short answers and essay questions that relate to class lectures and discussions. The questions will reflect the content and level of difficulty comparable to the C.P.A. exam. You may bring and use the Codification during exams. No materials other than the Codification and your writing utensils may be in view during exams. Calculators, cell phones and electronic dictionaries are **prohibited** during exams. The exams will be held on Friday afternoons (time and location to be announced). The exam will be a common exam across both sections of the course. Both sections will sit for the exams at a common time. Per Accounting Department policy the completed exams will not be returned. You may view your exam during scheduled and announced times following the determination of exam results.

Make-up examinations will only be given in the case of **documented** emergencies (e.g., illness, death in the family). An interview, car failure, oversleeping are not acceptable “emergencies”. Please plan your schedules accordingly. Examinations are time consuming to construct and it is difficult to construct exams of equal difficulty, therefore make-up examinations are to be avoided whenever possible. All make-up examinations will be in essay format and will be held at an instructor determined time, either during or at the end of the semester.

Papers: This University has designated this course as a “Z” course, the designation for a writing intensive course. You will have two writing assignments. The first is an individual assignment and will address an ethical issue. The assignment will be limited to 2-3 cogent pages and will be graded on content, grammar, spelling, punctuation, word choice and writing style. Papers must adhere to the American Psychological Association (APA) style requirements. You may refer to <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> for guidance in APA requirements. You are encouraged to consult the university writing center for assistance. The second paper will be a group effort, approximately 8-10 pages and will be integrated with a group presentation. All group members will be required to sign a written statement attesting to the fact that you have complied with the APA's requirements for proper citation and reference. Both papers will be graded equally on content and writing. Both papers are due at the beginning of the class designated. Late papers will receive a grade reduction of one letter grade (10%) for each week or fraction of a week they are late.

Presentation: You will be required to participate in one group presentation. There will be a separate handout, distributed midway through the course detailing the presentation requirements. The presentation should be 20-25 minutes in length and in power point format. The power point slides are required to be emailed to the instructor **no later than 3pm the day before your presentation is scheduled**. Your group will lose one point for every 3-hour delay in email receipt. All class members are required to be present during each presentation session, regardless of whether you are presenting that day—or not. Students absent during their non-presentation days will lose two points (per session missed) on the individual portion of the presentation grade.

Presentation grades will be based upon:

1. Quality of the power point slides (25% group grade)
2. Evidence of a well rehearsed presentation (25% individual grade)
3. Presentation content (50% group grade)

Groups: You may self select your group members. Groups must consist of no less than 3 members and no more than four members. If you have trouble finding a group I will assist you. Group members are expected to participate fully in all group activities. Dysfunctional groups that find themselves unable to self-mediate and remedy the situation should see the instructor immediately for assistance in resolution. Such resolution may result in an uncooperative group member being expelled from the group. This will require the group member to complete all remaining assignments alone.

Attendance: There is no required attendance for this course other than during presentation sessions. However, it is highly recommended that you attend. Students are responsible for **all** changes announced during class. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please be on time. If you are late please enter through the rear door to the classroom. **Repeated disruptions or late arrival may each result in either removal from that day's class or a grade reduction.**

Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any determination of academic dishonesty will result in a zero grade for either the exam or paper and the matter will be referred to the University for disciplinary action. Incidents of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on exams, placing notes or crib sheets in or on your Codification, using the services of someone outside your group and failure to cite references used in papers or presentations. As prospective C.P.A.'s you should be aware that ethics are a cornerstone of the profession. Please adhere to standards of academic integrity.

CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	CHAPTER
M Jan 22	Introduction	1
W Jan 24	Professional Standards	2
M Jan 29	Reports	12
W Jan 31	Reports	12
M Feb 5	Ethics	Module B
W Feb 7	Ethics	Module B
M Feb 12	Legal Liability	Module C
W Feb 14	Legal Liability- PAPER 1 Due	Module C
M Feb 19	NO CLASS-Winter Break	
W Feb 21	NO CLASS-Winter Break	
M Feb 26	Materiality/Risk	3
W Feb 28	Materiality/Risk	3
M March 5	Planning	4
W March 7	Planning	4
F March 9	EXAM I	
M March 12	EXAM I Review/Internal Control	5
W March 14	Internal Control/Fraud	3/6
M March 19	Fraud/Sarbannes Oxley	6
W March 21	Sarbannes Oxley	
M March 26	No Class—Compensation for Friday exams	
W March 28	No Class—Compensation for Friday exams—Group Outlines for Paper 2 Required to be delivered to Instructor via email	
M April 2	NO CLASS-Spring Break	
W April 4	NO CLASS-Spring Break	
M April 9	NO CLASS-Spring Break	
W April 11	NO Class-Group (Paper/Presentation) Appointments With Instructor	
M April 16	Statistical Sampling	Module E/F
W April 18	Other Assurance Services	Module A
M April 23	Completing the Audit	11
W April 25	Completing the Audit	11
F April 27	EXAM II	

M April 30	EXAM II Review/Presentations	
W May 2	Presentations- Paper 2 Due	
M May 7	Presentations/Wrap Up	

Please Note: The above schedule is subject to alteration as announced in class. It is your responsibility to attend class and listen for any necessary changes in the schedule