

Financial Accounting Capstone: ACC 465C
Shidler College of Business
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Term: Fall 2024

Instructor: You-il (Chris) Park, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Accounting

Times: Tuesday, 9:00 AM – 10:45 AM (Section 1)

Office: 808-956-7028

Tuesday, 11:00 AM – 12:45 PM (Section 2)

Email: youil@hawaii.edu

Class venue: BusAd D105

Office location: BusAd C402b

Office Hours: Tue, 2:00 PM –3:00 PM or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This course is designed to equip accounting-major students with the skills to utilize authoritative financial accounting sources to support accounting positions and judgments. The primary objectives of this course are:

1. To develop a comprehensive understanding of financial accounting research and analysis.
2. To enhance the ability to conduct research by accessing information effectively and efficiently.
3. To foster critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills.
4. To improve communication and reporting proficiency.
5. To promote continuous learning with agility and adaptability.

By achieving these objectives, students will be prepared to make informed and sound accounting decisions in their professional careers. To accomplish these objectives, the course will focus on the following five key areas:

- Attaining proficiency in financial accounting authoritative literature and adhering to ethical standards within the practice of financial accounting.
- Developing the ability to identify, comprehend, and apply relevant sections of the Financial Accounting Standards Board’s (FASB) Accounting Standard Codification (ASC).
- Mastering the skill of identifying financial accounting challenges and employing logical, analytical reasoning based on the FASB Codification to resolve them.
- Understanding the protocols for substantiating accounting judgments and cultivating effective team collaboration skills.
- Applying critical thinking to analyze current events affecting the accounting profession.

These objectives will primarily be pursued through classroom lectures, study materials including the FASB Codification, scholarly research papers, real-world case studies, group discussions and presentations, and a comprehensive final examination.

Please ensure that you bring the following items to each class: (1) a calculator, and (2) a laptop or tablet PC with internet access.

This course is specifically tailored for accounting-major students who have either completed ACC 418 with a minimum grade of C- or are currently enrolled in it. No exemptions will be granted. Additionally, ACC 465B must be taken concurrently with this course.¹

Course Materials

Laulima	As the course progresses, I will upload the syllabus, team assignment cases, and other pertinent materials to Laulima’s “Resources” folder.
FASB Codification	On July 1, 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued the definitive edition of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification, establishing it as the sole authoritative source for nongovernmental U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Instructions will be provided on accessing the FASB Codification.

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Schedule
1	Tue, Aug 27	Introduction, lecture, and overview of the FASB Codification
2	Tue, Sep 3	Lecture and case discussion 1
3	Tue, Sep 10	Group presentation 1
4	Tue, Sep 17	Lecture and case discussion 2
5	Tue, Sep 24	Group presentation 2
6	Tue, Oct 1	Lecture and case discussion 3
7	Tue, Oct 8	Group presentation 3
8	Tue, Oct 15	Final Exam

Class Format and Evaluation

The course will include independent study, interactive sessions (readings, lectures, group discussions, presentations), and a final exam covering academic research and practical case studies. The grading structure is outlined as follows. It is important to note that the grade obtained in this course will account for **50% of your final grade in ACC 465C**.

Class Participation	5%	<p>The assessment criteria encompass the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions, which includes proactive engagement with in-class queries • Timeliness • Respect for fellow students, entailing refraining from using phones or engaging in online chats, as well as consuming food, except during designated break times.
---------------------	----	--

¹ Students who do not meet these prerequisites will be administratively dropped after the drop or add period and will not be eligible for a tuition refund.

<p>Team Assignments</p>	<p>15%</p>	<p>There will be three group assignments throughout the semester, each culminating in a presentation. Your initial grade will be based on the quality of your team’s written report, but this will be adjusted based on peer evaluations within your team.</p> <p>Deadlines & Submission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due Dates: Assignments are <u>due by 11:59 PM</u> on the day <i>before</i> your presentation. Specific dates are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assignment 1: Monday, Sep 9 (for presentation in Class 3) ○ Assignment 2: Monday, Sep 23 (for presentation in Class 5) ○ Assignment 3: Monday, Oct 7 (for presentation in Class 7) • Submission: Submit a PDF to youil@hawaii.edu by 11:59 PM on the due date. • File Naming: ACC465C-Section[number]-Team[number]. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Example: ACC465C-Section2-Team3 <p>Report Structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Essay: Maximum 5 pages (minimum 1.5-spacing and 11 font size Times New Roman) • References & Appendices: Maximum 5 pages (separate from the main essay). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appendices: Must include specific evidence or calculations to support your answers. <p>Collaboration & Individual Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration is Key: All team members must contribute to every question in the assignment. No one person should work on a question alone. This helps you prepare for the final exam. • Individual Work Penalty: If there's evidence of someone working independently on a question alone, your team will be penalized. <p>Late Submissions & Grading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Late Submissions: Late assignments will receive a zero. • Allowed Resources: You can use lecture notes, textbooks, the FASB Codification, and any reference materials from class or online (including academic research papers). <p>Clarity & Conciseness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear Writing: Use clear and concise language in your report. Avoid jargon and overly complex sentences. • Proofread: Carefully proofread your work before submitting it. Typos and grammatical errors can detract from your grade.
-------------------------	------------	--

		<p>Remember:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start Early: Group projects take time. Don't wait until the last minute to start working on your assignments. • Communicate: Open communication is essential for successful group work. Make sure everyone is on the same page and understands their responsibilities.
Presentations	10%	<p>In addition to the group grade on the written report, each team member will receive an individual evaluation based on their presentation skills.</p> <p>Evaluation Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professionalism: This includes your overall demeanor, attire, and respect for the audience and the learning environment. • Clarity & Coherence: You should be able to articulate your team's reasoning clearly and logically, without relying heavily on notes. • Audience Engagement: A good presentation captures and maintains the audience's interest. This can be achieved through eye contact, enthusiasm, and the use of relevant examples or visuals. <p>Attendance & Absences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory Attendance: Attendance on your assigned presentation day is mandatory. Failure to attend will result in a zero for the assignment, unless you have received prior approval from the instructor for exceptional circumstances. • Medical Certificates: If you are absent due to illness, you must provide a medical certificate to validate your absence. <p>Key Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice: The best way to improve your presentation skills is to practice. Rehearse your part of the presentation multiple times, both alone and with your team. • Teamwork: While you are being evaluated individually, remember that you are part of a team. Support your teammates and work together to deliver a successful presentation.
Final Exam	20%	<p>For the final exam, all students are required to bring their laptops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final exam is cumulative. All materials covered in class are fair game. The final exam format is open-book and open-notes. A calculator is required for the final exam. However, any internet use, except for the FASB codification website, or any collaboration, will not be permitted during the final exam. No make-ups will be allowed, except in extreme situations with prior approval. All excuses for illness must be supported by a doctor's note.

Teamwork and Peer Evaluation:

- **Self-Selected Teams:** You'll form your own teams for group projects **during the first class session**. Your attendance on the first day is crucial for this process.
- **Consistent Teams:** Once formed, your team composition will remain the same for the entire duration of the course.
- **Peer Evaluation:** At the end of Class 7, you will **confidentially evaluate the contributions of each of your teammates**. This peer feedback will be a significant factor in determining your individual grade for team assignments.

Peer evaluations within your team will directly impact your grade for team assignments. For example, if your team earns perfect scores (100%) on all assignments, but your peers rate your contribution at 75% of their own, your grade for those assignments will be adjusted accordingly, resulting in a 75% of the team's assignment scores. Final grades will be determined using the traditional A, B, C, D, and F grading scale, with plus and minus modifiers included.

Incomplete Status: Regarding an 'incomplete' status, you must formally submit: (1) a request (no guarantee of approval); (2) justification for the request; and (3) an anticipated completion date for the course. Failure to meet these requirements will preclude you from receiving an 'incomplete' status, and your grade will be determined accordingly.

Attendance: Attendance at all sessions within your registered sections is expected, and punctuality with thorough preparation is essential. Each class encompasses substantial content, and comprehending each concept is pivotal for mastering subsequent material. Students who fall behind early in the course often encounter difficulties in catching up and achieving satisfactory performance. **Nonetheless, I am committed to assisting students who miss class due to valid reasons to the best of my ability.**

The University recognizes that certain emergency events are beyond students' control, such as illness, family emergency, bereavement, and specific religious observations that may result in a student's absence from course activity. Additionally, this course also recognizes conflicts that arise for students with regard to University-sanctioned athletic events and other competitions. All such events must be supported by proper documentation from an authorized professional or agency. Failure to notify the instructor on time that a class will be missed will be grounds for refusing to provide the student with a make-up assignment.

Absences for reasons other than those explicitly excused will be categorized as unexcused and will lead to a reduction in the course grade. Additionally, any missed graded assignments or activities will receive a score of zero without recourse to instructor discretion.

Students are expected to be attentive during other student presentations. The instructor may ask non-presenting students for their comments and questions on other group presentations. Your participation in these activities will make up a significant portion of this element of your grade.

Active and respectful participation is expected in this course. To ensure a positive learning environment for everyone, certain behaviors will result in a **reduction of your participation points**. These include:

- **Missing class or arriving late** without prior approval.
- **Disrupting or disrespecting** other students' questions or comments.
- **Sleeping** during class.
- **Leaving early** without prior approval.
- **Engaging in non-class-related activities** during class time, such as using your phone for unrelated purposes or doing work for other courses.
- **Having ongoing conversations** with classmates or via social media that are not relevant to the course material.

Alternative Meeting Place: In case of a disturbance during class time (e.g., bomb threat), meet the instructor in the grassy area on the south (makai) side of George Hall. You will be given further instructions at that point. On days of scheduled exams, you may be directed to a temporary classroom to take the exam.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty (UH Mānoa Student Conduct Code): “The University expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of this institution; to respect the rights, privileges, and property of others; and to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations.”

Make-up quizzes will not be accommodated unless arranged in advance or necessitated by a medical or family emergency. Students requiring an alternative final exam schedule must obtain prior approval from the academic dean.

Shidler and SOA also have an Honor Code Policy. Please do not copy from another person’s homework, quiz, or exam. Please do not fail to cite sources of material that you have quoted or substantially paraphrased. Do not use unauthorized assistance. Do not hesitate to ask questions. Students are expected to behave with integrity in all academic endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and any other form of academic dishonesty are not tolerated. All incidents will be handled per the UH Student Code of Conduct. Please review the Student Conduct Code so you can make conscience and informed choices: www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/

Acts of dishonesty, types of behavior that conflict with the community standards that the UH values and expects of students, include but are not limited to the following:

1. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty;
2. Furnishing false information to any UH official, faculty member, or office; and
3. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any UH document, record, or form of identification.

The term “**cheating**” includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (3) the

acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the UH faculty, staff or student (4) engaging in any behavior prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion.

The term “**plagiarism**” includes, but is not limited to, **using another person’s published or unpublished work without full and clear acknowledgment**. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials. In addition to the above, the instructor prohibits the following behaviors explicitly and includes them within the definition of academic dishonesty: (1) providing another student with any form of direct or indirect, unauthorized assistance on any assignment, quiz, test, or exam; and (2) copying, or recording in any manner, test or exam questions or answers.

Please NOTE that UH disciplinary proceedings can be instituted against a student charged with conduct that potentially violates both the criminal law and this Student Conduct Code (that is, if both possible violations result from the same factual situation) without regard to the pendency of civil or criminal litigation in court or unlawful arrest and prosecution.

If a student is caught committing an act of Academic Dishonesty, he or she will receive a grade of “F” for the course and be referred for disciplinary action as provided by the University Student Conduct Code.

Withdrawal/Drop Policy: Review Shidler College information for the last day to drop without a “W” and the last day to withdraw with a “W.” If a student stops attending class and does not drop the course, a grade of “F” will be assigned at the end of the semester. The student has the responsibility to withdraw from the course.

Statement on Disability: The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and provides equal access to its programs, services, and activities to students with disabilities. If you have a disability and related access needs, please contact the *KOKUA* Program (UH Disabled Student Services Office) at 808-956-7511, kokua@hawaii.edu, or go to Room 013 in the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services. I will work with you and *KOKUA* to meet your access needs based on disability documentation.

TITLE IX: The University of Hawaii is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, the University has staff and resources on your campus to support and assist you. Staff can also direct you to resources that are in the community.

- If you wish to remain *ANONYMOUS*, speak with someone *CONFIDENTIALLY*, or would like to receive information and support in a *CONFIDENTIAL* setting, contact the confidential resources available here:
<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/resources.html#confidential>

- If you wish to REPORT an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, as well as to receive information and support, contact:

Dee Uwono

Director and Title IX Coordinator

2500 Campus Road, Hawai'i Hall 124

Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 956-2299

t9uhm@hawaii.edu

- As a UH faculty member, I must immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about handling your case. My goal is to ensure you know the range of options available to you and access the resources and support you need. For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources, and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to <http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/>