

Moravian College
Accounting 213 -- Cost Accounting
Fall 2006
Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 – 2:00

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Office: Comenius Hall Rm. 209
Office hours: M/W 10 – 11 am
T/Th 2 – 3 pm *and*
by appointment

Catalog Description

An introduction to basic financial information used within business organizations. Emphasis is on cost analysis to improve decision making, and facilitate planning and control. Topics include cost systems, budgeting, variance analysis, and pricing and profit analysis.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the variety of ways in which cost accounting information is used to support an organization's strategic objectives. After completing this course, students should understand:

- The nature of costs incurred by firms and the variety of ways by which organizations account for and manage these costs.
- The process of budgeting and evaluating the performance of firms and their business units.
- The use of cost information in a variety of decision making contexts.
- The rationale behind the balanced scorecard.
- The use of accounting information to motivate performance.

Required Materials

Horngren, Datar, and Foster (2006). *Cost Accounting 12th Edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Additional resources include:

- Cost Accounting 12th Edition text website --
http://wps.prenhall.com/bp_horngren_cost_12
- Class notes, announcements, and other resources are available on the Acct 213 Blackboard site, which can be accessed at <http://blackboard.moravian.edu/>

Blackboard Course Site

Many of the materials for this course can be accessed through Moravian's Blackboard course management system. Items included on the Blackboard site include instructor prepared materials such as electronic copy of the syllabus, PowerPoint slides, and selected solutions to problems.

Class communications including course updates, and other important announcements will be communicated in class and through Blackboard. Students should log in to the course Blackboard

site at least weekly. *Students should register for the Blackboard site as soon as possible, but no later than the beginning of the second week of class.* Instructions will be distributed in class.

Attendance and Participation

Your attendance and participation are vital to the success of the course; therefore, *active participation is welcomed and encouraged!* Participation includes attending class, reading the assignments prior to attending class, completing homework assignments, and participating in class discussions. Many of the concepts covered in this course build upon concepts covered earlier in the course. For this reason, it is crucial that students keep up with the readings and assignments. Please ask questions and seek help as soon as possible to avoid falling behind.

If a situation arises that would cause you to miss a class, please notify the instructor via email as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for any missed materials or assignments.

Examinations

*All students are expected to take examinations when scheduled. Make-up exams will only be given if the instructor is **notified in advance** and will only be granted for legitimate reasons.* Please refer to the Schedule of Assignments on the last page of this syllabus for the exam dates.

Homework Assignments

Homework problems will be assigned throughout the semester. The specific homework problems will be announced in class.

In order to receive full credit for homework, students must make an adequate effort at completing all of the problems. An adequate effort includes following your text and notes to satisfactorily set up the problems and making an attempt to answer all questions. Problems for which the instructor does not feel the student has made an adequate effort will not be given credit.

Homework assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class period when they are due. Late homework will not be accepted for credit. Students should make an extra copy of homework or case assignments so that they will be able to correct their answers when the solutions are discussed in class. Even with an excused absence from class, homework is due on the date indicated on the Schedule of Assignments on the last page of this syllabus. You may fax or email your solutions if you will not be in class on the due date.

Case Assignments (Team)

Written analysis of three case studies will be required during the semester. The case studies use real world settings and deal with key topics in cost accounting including cost behavior and the balanced scorecard. The cases will be distributed in class. Due dates are listed on the Schedule of Assignments.

The case write-up should include an Executive Summary (one page or less) highlighting the key issues, problems, and solutions identified in the case. (The executive summary should not merely be a rehash of the case itself.) The case will be evaluated based on the demonstration of

critical thinking, accuracy of the solution, and clarity of the supporting documentation. The written analysis of the case must be handed in on the date that the case is due.

Grade Determination

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%
Team Case assignments (3)	15%
Homework	10%

Grading Scale:

94& above: A; 90 - 93 : A-; 87 – 89: B+; 84 – 86: B; 80 - 83: B-; 77 – 79: C+; 74 – 76: C; 70 – 73: C-; 60-69: D; <60: F

Academic Honesty

“Academic integrity is the foundation on which learning at Moravian College is built. Moravian expects its students to perform their academic work honestly and fairly. In addition, a Moravian student should neither hinder nor unfairly assist the efforts of other students to complete their work successfully.” (Moravian College 2005/2006 Student Handbook, Academic Honesty). Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, helping or hindering others, and false testimony. The College’s expectations and the consequences of the failure to meet those expectations are outlined in the Student Handbook.

Disability Support Services

“Moravian College adheres to the principles and mandates of the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.” “The College will provide reasonable accommodation, upon request, to students whose condition meets the legal definition of a disability under the ADA and who are considered otherwise qualified for College admission. Special classroom setups, alternate testing, physical plant alterations (on campus), and other accommodation for students with documented disabilities are available on a case-by-case basis. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and request accommodation through the appropriate office.”

“Students must provide documentation of disabilities and a rationale for the requested accommodation from a professional with expertise in the condition. It is the responsibility of students to request accommodation well in advance of need in order to give the College a reasonable amount of time to evaluate the documentation and implement the request. Classroom accommodation requiring notification to faculty must be requested for each semester it is needed.” (Moravian College 2005/2005 Student Handbook)

Any student who wishes to disclose a disability and request accommodations under the ADA for this course first must meet with either Mrs. Laurie Roth in the Office of Learning Services (for learning disabilities and ADD/ADHD) or Dr. Ronald Kline in the Counseling Center (all other disabilities.) The Learning Services Office and Counseling Center are located at 1307 Main Street (610) 861-1510.

Tentative Schedule of Topics and Assignments*

	Date	Topic	Text Reading Assignment	Other assignment
T	Aug 29	Welcome and Introduction		
Th	Aug 31	Accountant's role in the organization Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes	Ch 1 Ch 2	
T	Sept 5	Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes (cont'd)	Ch 2	Homework #1
Th	Sept 7	Cost Volume Profit Analysis	Ch 3	
T	Sept 12	Cost Volume Profit (cont'd)		Homework #2
Th	Sept 14	Job Costing	Ch 4	
T	Sept 19	Job Costing (cont'd)		Homework #3
Th	Sept 21	Process costing	Ch 17	SmartTool Case due
T	Sept 26	Process costing (cont'd)		
Th	Sept 28	Review		
T	Oct 3	Exam #1 Chapter 1,2,3,4,17		
Th	Oct 5	Activity Based costing	Ch 5	
T	Oct 10	Fall Recess – No Class		
Th	Oct 12	Activity Based Costing		Homework #4
T	Oct 17	Activity Based Costing (cont'd)		
Th	Oct 19	Master Budget and Resp. Accounting		Homework #5
T	Oct 24	Master Budget and Resp Accounting (cont'd)	Ch 6	
Th	Oct 26	Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances, Standard Costing	Ch 7	
T	Oct 31	Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances, standard costing (cont'd)		Homework #6
Th	Nov 2	Flexible Budgets, Overhead cost variances, and management control	Ch 8 (p 256 to 264 only)	
T	Nov 7	Review		Homework #7
Th	Nov 9	Exam #2 Ch 5, 6, 7, 8		
T	Nov 14	Determining how costs behave	Ch 10	
Th	Nov 16	Decision Making and Relevant Info	Ch 11	Homework #8
T	Nov 21	Decision Making and Relevant Info (cont'd)		
Th	Nov 23	Pricing decisions and cost management	Ch 12	Superior Valve Case due
T	Nov 28	Strategy, Balanced Scorecard, and Strategic Profitability Analysis	Ch 13	
Th	Nov 30	Strategy, Balanced Scorecard, and Strategic Profitability Analysis		Homework #9
T	Dec 5	Performance Measurement, Compensation, and Multinational Considerations	Ch 23	Balanced Scorecard Case due
Th	Dec 7	Performance Measurement, Compensation, and Multinational Considerations (cont'd)		Homework #10
TBD		Exam #3 Ch 10, 11, 12,13, 23 Date to be determined by final exam schedule		

* This is a tentative schedule of assignments, exact dates assigned to each topic may change depending on the pace of class discussion. Changes to the schedule will be announced in class. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that he or she is aware of all changes.