

Moravian College
Accounting 213 -- Cost Accounting
Spring 2010
M/W 10:20– 11:30

Instructor: Dr. Barbara Vinciguerra
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Office: Comenius Hall Rm. 207
Office hours: T/Th 12:30 – 2:30
*OR email to set up an appt. at
another time.*

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, performance measurement, 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, Foster, Rajan, and Ittner (2009). *Cost Accounting 13th Edition*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Additional resources include:

- Cost Accounting 13th Edition text website --
http://wps.prenhall.com/bp_horngren_cost_13/
- 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.

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. It is the *student's responsibility* to notify the instructor of any conflicts **BEFORE** the scheduled exam date. In the case of a known conflict, a makeup exam will be scheduled in advance. If an emergency situation arises that results in a student missing an exam, it is at the instructor's discretion to determine if a makeup exam will be scheduled or a cumulative exam will be given at the next exam date. 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. There will be 12 homework assignments, students will drop their two lowest assignment grades.

Homework is to be uploaded into Blackboard under the Assignments tab into the appropriate assignment. **Students should bring a hard copy of their homework to class in order to have a reference when we go over the problems in class.** Homework assignments are to be uploaded before the beginning of the class period when it was due in order to receive credit. Late homework will not be accepted for credit.

Case Assignments (Team)

Written analysis of two case studies will be required during the semester. The case studies use real world settings and deal with key topics in cost accounting including. 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 facts.) 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:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Exams (3) | 600 points |
| Team Case assignments (2) | 200 points |
| Homework | <u>200</u> points |
| Total | 1000 points |

Extra Credit points – up to 30 extra credit points (5 points each) can be earned by attending Accounting Club events or by completing a one page reflection paper on assigned readings from *The Money Book for the Young, Fabulous, and Broke*, by Suze Orman. Three copies of the book are on reserve in Reeves Library. All write ups are due no later than Monday, April 26th. Details for the extra credit assignments can be found in the Course Documents tab.

Grading Scale:

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| A = 940 points and above | B- = 800 to 839 points | D+ = 670 to 699 points |
| A- = 900 to 939 points | C+= 770 to 799 points | D = 640 to 669 points |
| B+ = 870 to 899 points | C = 740 to 769 points | D- = 600 to 639 points |
| B = 840 to 869 points | C- = 700 to 739 points | F = below 600 points |

Academic Honesty

“Academic integrity is the foundation on which learning at Moravian College, Moravian Theological Seminary, and the Comenius Center is built. Students are expected to perform their academic work honestly and fairly. In addition, students should neither hinder nor unfairly assist the efforts of other students to complete their work successfully.” (Moravian College 2008/2009 Student Handbook.) Institutional expectations and the consequences of failure to meet those expectations can be found at: <http://www.moravian.edu/studentLife/handbook/academic/academic2.html>

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 2008/2009 Student Handbook)

Any student who wishes to disclose a disability and request accommodations under the ADA for this course should contact 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.

**Acct 213 Spring 2010
Tentative Schedule of Topics and Assignments***

| | Date | Topic | Reading Assignment |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| M | Jan 19 | Welcome and Introduction Accountant's role in the organization and Intro to cost terms | Ch 1 and 2 |
| W | Jan 20 | Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes | Ch 2 |
| M | Jan 25 | Introduction to Cost Terms and Purposes (cont'd) | Ch 2 |
| W | Jan 27 | Job Costing | Ch 4 |
| M | Feb 1 | Job Costing | |
| W | Feb 3 | Job Costing (cont'd) | |
| M | Feb 8 | Activity Based Costing | Ch 5 |
| W | Feb 10 | Activity Based Costing (cont'd) | |
| M | Feb 15 | Inventory costing for manufacturing companies | Ch 9 Part 1 only |
| W | Feb 17 | Inventory costing for manufacturing companies (cont'd) | |
| M | Feb 22 | Review case | Case #1 due |
| W | Feb 24 | Exam 1 Ch 1,2,4,5,9 | |
| M | Mar 1 | Cost Allocation | Ch 14 p. 500-514 |
| W | Mar 3 | Cost Allocation | |
| M | Mar 8 | Spring Break | |
| W | Mar 10 | Spring Break | |
| M | Mar 15 | Cost Volume Profit Analysis | Ch 3 |
| W | Mar 17 | Cost Volume Profit (cont'd) | |
| M | Mar 22 | Determining how costs behave | Ch 10 |
| W | Mar 24 | Determining how costs behave (cont'd) | |
| M | Mar 29 | Decision Making and Relevant Info | Ch 11 |
| W | Mar 31 | Decision Making and Relevant Info (cont'd) | Ch 12 |
| M | Apr 5 | Easter Break | |
| W | Apr 7 | Exam 2 –Ch 3,10,11,12, 14 | |
| M | Apr 12 | Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting | Ch 6 |
| W | Apr 14 | Master Budget and Responsibility Accounting | Ch 6 |
| M | Apr 19 | Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances, Standard Costing | Ch 7 |
| W | Apr 21 | Flexible Budgets, Direct cost variances, standard costing (cont'd) | |
| M | Apr 26 | Strategy, Balanced Scorecard, and Strategic Profitability Analysis | Ch 13 (p. 462-474) Last day for extra credit |
| W | Apr 28 | Review Budgeting Case | Case #2 due |
| Thur | May 6 8:30 | Exam 3 – CH 6,7,13 | |

* 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.