Financial Accounting – 200A  
Daytime and Sacramento  
Fall Quarter, 2008  
Syllabus (as of June 16, 2008)

Contact Information:

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Email: agoteti@ucdavis.edu  
Office hours:  
Professor Yetman: 10:30 – noon Wednesdays  
Teaching Assistant: Mondays 5:00 – 6:00 pm & Thursdays 9:30 – 10:30 am.

Email is the easiest way to contact us. Students should email questions to both the professor and the teaching assistant. Please provide the section identifier (“San Ramon MGT 200A”) in the subject line.

Course Objectives:

Corporate financial reporting is concerned with the form and content of the financial information disclosed by firms to external parties (e.g. shareholders, financial analysts). In the United States financial reporting practices must follow “Generally Accepted Accounting Principles” (GAAP), which are set by the Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB), a private-sector regulatory authority. GAAP define the set of accounting method and disclosure practices from which firms select when providing information to external parties. The primary emphasis of this course is to assist you in developing the basic skills required to interpret, analyze and evaluate information contained in published financial statements. The course will introduce a variety of financial reporting topics. Later elective courses in the program cover many of the same topics, as well as additional topics, at a deeper level.

Class Materials:

Textbook: Financial Accounting for MBAs, 3rd edition by Easton, Wild, Halsey, McAnally

Additional Materials: Announcements, assignments, solutions, class notes, and other materials will be posted throughout the quarter on the course website. Note that electronic copies of the class notes are not a substitute for the material covered in class. They are a base set of notes to assist you in note taking during class.
**Waiving Out of the Course:**

Students who earned a bachelor or master degree in accounting are/or who are certified public accountants will be automatically waived from taking the core Financial Accounting Course (200A). The student should email Professor M. Yetman (mhyetman@ucdavis.edu) and summarize the relevant education or certification that qualifies them for the exemption. She will send an email to you and student services confirming your exemption.

Other students who feel they have a very good understanding of basic accounting principles may take the waiver exam. Students who minored in accounting or have already taken a few financial accounting courses may attempt the waiver exam. The professor does not recommend waiving the course for students who have had only one previous undergraduate financial accounting course, as beginning undergraduate accounting courses are typically taught with an emphasis towards bookkeeping, whereas her course is taught with an emphasis towards managerial decision making.

**Class Format:**

You are expected to have read the textbook material and attempted the assigned questions, exercises, problems, and cases (QEPC) from the textbook prior to coming to class. Although you are responsible for all QEPC assigned, I will cover only the more challenging ones in class. The class format is a lecture that highlights key conceptual issues followed by working select problems and cases from the textbook.

**Attendance:**

I do not take attendance. However, attending class is valuable in helping you understand the material; therefore I suggest you attend class. If you do need to miss class, you will need to rely on a classmate for any notes taken in class. I am happy to answer questions about the material, but only after you attempt to work through it yourself.

One issue with respect to missing class is with respect to homework and quizzes. Please see “Assessment” below in terms of the policy on turning in homework and on missed quizzes.

If you know you will be missing a class, you are welcome to attend one of my other classes if you wish. The schedule of my classes will be posted on the course website at the beginning of the quarter. However, I cannot guarantee that the timing will be perfectly synchronized across the sections.

**Classroom Etiquette:**

Class will begin on time. Please do your best to arrive in time. I realize that circumstances may occur where you may be late to class. Please feel free to join the class late, but enter quietly and sit close to the door so as to minimize disruption to the class. Please turn your cell phone off during class. If you *must* have your cell phone on during class then please turn it on vibrate and sit in an area of the class room where you can minimize disturbance should you need to leave the
room to take a call. Finally, be respectful to all of your classmates and do not talk to your neighbors during class.

**Performing well in the course:**

This course does not require a prerequisite and will be taught assuming no prior knowledge of accounting. Because this is a master’s course we move through the material quickly. This gives you little time to digest the material before we move on. Not understanding the material in early chapters will prevent the understanding of material in later chapters since the accounting concepts build on each other. Thus, many students will be inclined to get lost quickly unless they keep up and invest in understanding each concept as it is covered. If you find yourself getting behind, I strongly suggest that you find time to study. If you are confused, you need to see me for help (but only after you attempt to understand the material on your own).

With this in mind, before the first class I strongly encourage you to complete the first assignment, which will be covered over the first two weeks of class.

**Assessment:**

Your final grade will be determined by homework (10%), 2 quizzes (30% each), and a final exam (30%). Homework is collected at the beginning of class. If you are going to miss class on a day when homework is due, you may email it to the TA, but it must be in her inbox before class begins and it must be in PDF format. Late homework will not be accepted. There will be 4 homework assignments, and your homework grade will be based on the highest 3 scores.

You are expected to take the quizzes and the final exam at the scheduled time. If you must miss a quiz or exam, then please contact the professor as far in advance as possible to make alternative arrangements. With the exceptions of emergencies, failure to contact the professor about missing a quiz or exam will result in a score of 0 on the item. The content of the quizzes and final exam will be derived from the textbook readings, assigned QEPCs, and class notes. You are responsible for understanding all of the assignments regardless of whether we covered them in class (detailed solutions of all of the assignments will be posted on the course website).

Requests for regrading must be made in writing within two weeks from the return of the graded item. My grader and I will regrade the entire item and, therefore regrading may result in a higher or lower score.
# Financial Accounting Schedule (subject to change)
## Fall 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Module</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>1 Financial Accounting for MBAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 7</td>
<td>2 Introducing Financial Statements and Transaction Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>3 Constructing Financial Statements and Analyzing Transactions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>Quiz #1: Modules 1, 2, and 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>4 Analyzing and Interpreting Financial Statements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 28</td>
<td>5 Reporting and Analyzing Operating Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>6 Reporting and Analyzing Operating Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>8 Reporting and Analyzing Nonowner Financing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>Quiz #2: Modules 4, 5, 6, and 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>9 Reporting and Analyzing Owner Financing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 2</td>
<td>Appendix B Constructing the Statement of Cash Flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 9 6-8 pm</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
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November 11: No class. University holiday to honor Veteran’s Day