Welcome

This site is for you, summer quarter 2005 (first five weeks) students in Corporate Financial Reporting. It contains the Class Schedule, class notes, articles and readings, and other information sources that should be useful. This web site is password protected. Contact me directly if you have any problems in accessing this site. I will be adding to this site as the course progresses, so please check it regularly. We meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00-9:00 pm in OCM-1 from June 20th (first class) to July 25th (last class).

Course Description

This course critically analyzes and evaluates contemporary issues in corporate accounting and financial reporting and develops implications of those issues, primarily for managers and investors.

We will study a wide range of generally accepted accounting principles (e.g., Statements of Financial Accounting Standards), mostly in the context of understanding the economic and financial motivations for and economic consequences of alternative accounting and disclosure treatments. Legal implications will be discussed where relevant. Findings from research will also be discussed.

In analyzing and researching accounting issues, we will make use of the SEC's EDGAR database, FASB documents, and other sources of financial accounting data (e.g., the web site for a particular company).

Course Administration

Class is conducted around the reading and the assignment for the day. Other than the text and a few handouts, all course material will be available in electronic form. This includes lecture and other notes, which will be available on the web site at least one day prior to class. So check the 270 web site regularly. Please label any homework as lastname.assignmentno.documenttype.

By attending this class, you agree that the use of laptops and the Internet in class should be for course purposes only. Cell phones should be turned off.

Performance

Your final grade will be based on a take-home examination (50%), a group project (40%), and class attendance and participation (10%).

The Group Project should identify a recent or emerging accounting and reporting issue and select one company for which you believe this issue has important investor or management ramifications. Your presentation should be geared to board members who wish to understand why the particular accounting and reporting issue is important and how they (or the company) might be affected by it. The maximum group size is four.
You are requested to present your Group Project findings in class on July 25th. In addition to the presentation, you should hand in a hard copy of (a) an Executive summary and (b) your Power point slides. An electronic copy of the presentation should also be e-mailed to me prior to the presentation. Length of presentation will depend on number of groups.

Prior Knowledge

This course is intended for working professional MBA students and builds upon the MBA core, particularly the first course in financial accounting.

Required Text Book