SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACC 201 – Intermediate Accounting I
Fall 2009

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tuesday 11:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Thursday 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
And by appointment


PURPOSE OF THE COURSE:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the environment of financial accounting. The environment of accounting consists of social-economic-political-legal conditions, restraints and influences that evolve with time. Accounting objectives and practices are not the same today as they were in the past. Accounting theory has evolved to meet changing demands and influences. Here are some of the benefits you will get from the successful completion of this course:

The ability to:

• Identify, measure and communicate financial information about economic entities to interested parties.

• Explain how financial accounting assists in the efficient use of scarce resources.

• Identify some of the challenges facing accounting.

• Identify the objectives of financial reporting.

• Explain the need for accounting standards.
• Identify the major policy-setting bodies and their role in the standard-setting process.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course stresses the theoretical and analytical aspects of financial accounting. Topics include the Balance Sheet and Income Statement with particular emphasis on current assets, fixed assets and current liabilities. Pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) are incorporated throughout the course.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

• Describe the Financial Accounting Standard setting process.
• Explain the conceptual framework underlying financial accounting.
• Construct financial statements and identify various entity ownership structures.
• Appraise the usefulness and limitations of the Income Statement.
• Recognize and reproduce the content and format of the Statement of Cash Flows.
• Discuss accounting and the time value of money.
• Examine accounting issues related to Accounts and Notes Receivable.
• Identify inventory classification and control.
• Recognize the accounting issues involved with the acquisition and disposal of Fixed Assets (including depreciation, impairments and depletion).
• Describe and explain the accounting for Fixed Assets, including goodwill and Research & Development costs.
• Identify and explain the accounting treatment of liabilities and contingencies.

**In addition:**

• Initiate, understand, assess, and assume responsibility for your own ongoing learning.
• Access and use accounting resources effectively.
• Work alone and collaborate with others.
• Resolve dilemmas emerging from complex situations.
• Think and communicate effectively using appropriate means.
• Clarify personal values, purposes and goals.
RESOURCES:

You will benefit in this course by access to written materials and to people. Resources available to you include:

Course outline – This outline provides you with essential information about the course

Tutoring – Suffolk Community College provides (free of charge) accounting tutoring in Orient Room 234. Phone 548-2594 for details. All students should take advantage of this service.

Academic computing center – Phone 548-2612 for hours.

Textbook Publisher – The publisher of our text offers several learning aids to assist students. For information on these resources access the following web site: http://www.wiley.com/college/wegandt

Accounting web sites –

http://www.rutgers.edu/accounting/raw

http://www.accountingnet.com

http://www.accountingstudents.com

www.aicpa.org (CPA exam info, links to the NYS Society of CPAs and other good stuff)

www.irs.gov (Internal Revenue Service)

www.wsj.com (Wall Street Journal)

www.sec.gov (Securities and Exchange Commission)

www.imanet.org (Institute of Management Accountants)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Like all courses, this class has specific requirements:

• STUDY all assigned text material.

• All homework must be completed and maintained by the student.
• On time submission of Sarbanes Oxley Act assignment – 10/6
• On time submission of the research assignment 1 – due 11/5

• Participate in solution of assigned homework problems and discussion of assigned questions. Reading, written and computer lab assignments are given throughout the semester. It is expected that assignments will be completed when due and that you will be ready to discuss solutions. Homework will be checked at various times throughout the semester without prior announcement. Consequently, you should always have your homework completed, ready to be submitted. For each assignment not submitted, 5 points will be subtracted from the next class exam.

• Satisfactory completion of all examinations. If you miss or fail an exam you must take the comprehensive final exam.

• Due to the difficulty of the subject matter of this course students should be prepared to spend at least six hours of study time per week outside of class in order to obtain a passing grade.

• Students are strongly encouraged to make an appointment with the instructor at the first sign of difficulty.

• Students are encouraged to form Study Groups to work on homework and study for tests.

**GRADING:**

Grading is the province of the individual instructor. As in most college courses, the average student doing the average amount of work can expect to earn a grade of “C” for the course.

There are numerous opportunities to perform well in this class. Your grade will be a function of your performance on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3 during the term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarbanes Oxley Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research assignment 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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</table>
DAY ONE ASSIGNMENT: To be typed and handed in on 8/27.

(1) Find out the educational requirements for sitting for and passing the CPA exam in NY State. (2) What is the “new” format for the CPA exam? (3) How many sections are on the CPA exam? – Name them. (Try the AICPA web site).

ATTENDANCE:

ATTEND ALL CLASSES.
It is imperative that you attend all classes. SCCC “defines excessive absence or lateness as more than the equivalent of one week of class meetings during the semester. Excessive absence or lateness may lead to failure in, or removal from, the course. A student may be required to drop or withdraw from a course, when in the judgment of the instructor, absences have been excessive.” (SCCC 2008 – 2010 Course Catalog, p. 68).
If you are very ill or suffering from personal problems which prohibit you from attending class, please withdraw by the college deadline. Even if you have legitimate excuses for being absent, it is just not feasible to assume that if you miss three or more classes you will be getting the information you need to earn 4 credits. Under very compelling circumstances I may permit you to remain in class after your second absence, however, you must speak to me immediately upon your third absence and your final grade may be adjusted downward up to 2 letter grades.

LATENESS:

Lateness will not be tolerated. It is rude and disruptive to the learning process. Three late events = one absence. What is a “late event”? A late event is any time that you enter class after I have begun that day’s lesson.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS:

The last day to withdraw from class and be guaranteed a “W” grade is 10/27. Please do not ask me to sign a “W” slip after this date. There will be ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY.

PARTICIPATION:

- Ask questions
- Participate in class
- Assist your peers
- Seek new information
- Challenge yourself
**LEARNING TOOLS:**

You, the student, are the center of the learning process. While your professor can provide you with the guidance and materials that you need to succeed, it is your responsibility to set goals, plan your work, make notes from readings, lectures and discussions, and schedule the time you will need to complete assignments.

Developing good study skills can not only save you time and energy, but can also help you learn better, independently and with less guesswork. My suggestions include:

- Set learning goals
- Plan and organize a schedule with ample time for reading, studying, reviewing and studying for tests
- Adjust your schedule as the class progresses
- Break down work into manageable units
- Pace the course workload evenly
- Use a study location free of distractions
- Review periodically
- Set incentives or rewards for yourself

**Study with others.** One of the best ways of learning is to study with someone else. Get to know one or more students in this class and work together. After a reading assignment, review the answers to the assigned chapter questions and discuss what you believe were the major points. Test each other for specific knowledge.

**RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS**

I cannot make allowances for papers which are handed in late – **no excuses**: your grade will drop 1 point (out of the possible 5) for each calendar day that you are remiss in handing it in.

**SARBANES OXLEY ACT (2002):**

**DUE DATE: 10/6**

When the Sarbanes Oxley Act was passed into law the expectation was that it would bring sweeping change to the Accounting Profession. In a 1-2 page paper discuss the Sarbanes Oxley Act. **Summarizing** the nature of the Act and **expressing your opinion** on its’ effectiveness.
RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT 1:

DUE DATE: 11/5

Publicly-owned companies registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission electronically file required reports via the EDGAR (Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval) system. EDGAR can easily be accessed via the Internet (www.sec.gov) using the following steps:

1. Select “Filings and Forms (EDGAR) from the home page.
2. Select “Search for company filings”.
3. Select “CIK (Central Index Key) and Ticker Symbol Lookup” and enter the name(s) of the company(ies) you are investigating. Write down the CIK number(s) and return to the previous page.
4. To examine filings, click on “Historical EDGAR Archives” and enter the appropriate CIK number(including all zeros). When the list of filings appears, click on the desired filing under the “Company name” column.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Determine the CIK numbers for the following companies: Ford Motor Company and Wisconsin Electric Power Company. Examine the balance sheet formats included in the following filings.
  - Ford Motor Co. Form 10-K (html version) filed March 10, 2005
  - Wisconsin Electric annual report to shareholders (10K, html version) filed March 11, 2005

Do you notice anything “unusual” about the balance sheet formats? Why do you think the balance sheets are presented in this manner?

REQUIREMENTS:

- Each student will write a 1-2page paper.
- The paper must be at least 1page long- but no longer than 2 pages.
- Both papers will be evaluated using the following criteria: Content and Mechanics. There are 3 points available for content and 2 points available for mechanics. Points will be allocated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>2.8 -3 Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIDDLE</td>
<td>2-2.75</td>
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<td>LOW</td>
<td>0-1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MECHANICS</th>
<th>2 Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIDDLE</td>
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<td>LOW</td>
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Content will be evaluated using the following guidelines:

**IDEAS**

**HIGH:** Each idea is supported with examples of details. Points are clearly related to the topic and the main idea of the piece. No necessary points are overlooked and there is no padding.

**MIDDLE:** There is evidence of thought, but some points are not illustrated clearly with examples or details. There may be an uneven quality to the points presented. Some cogent points are made, but others are omitted.

**LOW:** Ideas are not explained or expanded. Assertions are made without support, or they are erroneous assertions.

**ORGANIZATION**

**HIGH:** The paper has an underlying plan that the reader can follow. Main points are treated at greatest length or with greatest emphasis, while minor points are treated in proportion to their importance.

**MIDDLE:** The paper's organization is standard and conventional. Some trivial points may be treated in greater detail than important points, and there may be some superfluous material.

**LOW:** The main points may not be clearly separated from one another, and they may unfold in a disorganized manner. The paper starts in one direction, then moves in other directions, until the reader becomes lost.

**Mechanics will be evaluated using the following guidelines:**

**USAGE, SENTENCE STRUCTURE**

**HIGH:** There are no errors in usage according to current standards of formal written English. The sentence structure is usually correct, even in complicated sentence patterns.

**MIDDLE:** There may be a few errors in usage, some that obscure meaning. The sentence structure is usually correct in simple sentence patterns but there are occasional errors in complicated patterns, such as errors in consistency of tenses, and pronoun reference.

**LOW:** There are so many errors in usage and sentence structure that the paper is difficult to understand.

**PUNCTUATION**

**HIGH:** There are no serious violations of rules governing punctuation, capitalization, abbreviations, or numbers.

**MIDDLE:** There may be violations of rules that cause the reader some difficulty with meaning.

**LOW:** There are so many violations of rules that the paper is difficult to understand.

**SPELLING**

**HIGH:** There are no misspelled words in the paper.
**MIDDLE:** There may be several spelling errors in technical words and some basic inconsistency (spelling a word correctly in one sentence and incorrectly in another, for example).

**LOW:** There are so many spelling errors that they interfere with comprehension.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
<th>BR. EXERC.</th>
<th>EXERCISES</th>
<th>CASES</th>
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<td>Financial Accounting</td>
<td>CPA assignment</td>
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<td>2 9/3 &amp; 9/8 Conceptual Framework</td>
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<td>2,3,4,6,7,9,10</td>
<td>2,3,4,5</td>
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<td>9,12</td>
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<td>12,13,14,15,16</td>
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<td>1,2,3,4,5</td>
<td>SOX due!</td>
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<td>7,8,9,22 PROB 2</td>
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<td>1-4,17,18</td>
<td>1,2,7,8,9</td>
<td>1,2,3,12,17,18</td>
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<td>10 11/12,17 Fixed Assets</td>
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<td>11 Nov. 19,24 Depreciation</td>
<td>1-4,6,8,10,14,15,16</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 12/1,3 Intangible Assets</td>
<td>1,3,4,6,7,12,13,16,17,19</td>
<td>1-7,10</td>
<td>1,2,4,1013,14</td>
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**PLEASE NOTE:** The ONLY make-up exam will be comprehensive and given on 12/15