



# Northeastern University

**Course:** INFO 7225: Accounting and Budgetary Systems for Engineers

**Course Prerequisites:** Graduate Student Status; Enrolled in COE

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to teach Information System students the core concepts and basic principles of accounting, finance and auditing. The course will focus on developing a basic understanding of the processes and information flow behind accounting information systems. They include the “double entry” system, financial statements, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), basic financial statement analysis, key ratios, internal controls, and valuation principles and techniques.

No previous knowledge of accounting is assumed. The focus of this course will be on the practical, real-world accounting and finance problems and issues that engineers would face whether they are entrepreneurs launching their own technology start-ups, engineers interested in becoming more involved in their companies to rise as business leaders, or simply interested in better communicating with the CFO and finance/accounting staff of the companies they work for.

## COURSE FORMAT

This course runs for a whole semester and is presented in lecture format. In-class exercises will be given to enhance students' understanding of the core concepts. Weekly, homework is assigned and graded with feedbacks from instructor or teaching assistant.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Demonstration of excellence and student capacity in the student outcomes listed below is assessed weekly in homework assignment and class participation. This course is designed so that at its completion, students will be able to perform the following:

- APPLY a working knowledge of the fundamentals of accounting, finance, tax, internal controls, and budget development to specific fact patterns and problem sets;
- DEVELOP AND PRESENT financial statements for a software development or related entity;
- COMMUNICATE verbally and in writing about key terminology relating to Accounting, Finance, Tax, Internal Controls, and Budget;
- RECOGNIZE the challenges and issues facing management with respect to Accounting, Finance, Tax, Internal Controls, and budget development.

## COURSE ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

This course includes the following required activities and assignments:

- **Lecture:** Because this course is lecture-based, you will benefit most by attending and participating in the class periods. I will endeavor to make the lectures interactive and in-class problem sets will be given to reinforce your understanding of the material.
- **Reading assignments** to accompany the lectures are listed in the "Class Schedule" section below.
- **Homework:** Homework assignments will be given weekly. Late homework will not be accepted.
- **Examination:** At the middle and the end of semester, you will be assessed on your understanding of specific course topics through examinations. Since the principles and concepts in this course are interrelated and often build off each other, a comprehensive final exam will be given at the end of the semester. The exams will be administered during the course lecture time and during the final exam period designated by the University. Please see the "Class Schedule" file for exact dates of midterm and final exams. Any change on the exam schedule will be announced at least one week in advance on the course Blackboard site. Taking the exam in advance is permissible under very special circumstances with the approval of the instructor and the Program director. Please contact me if the need arises, but keep in mind that you should plan on being at each course lecture (**do not make travel plans that conflict**).

**CLASS SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)**

- Please check Canvas Assignments for Homework Assignments and due dates
- Mid-term and final exams will be held either on course Canvas site via the “Assignments” link (online Canvas-based) or in the classroom (paper-based) depending on the development of COVID-19 pandemic.

Topics		Reading Assignments	Homework Assignments
Week 1	Sept 9 – Sept 12		
	Class 1: Introduction to Accounting	Chapter 1	HW 1
Week 2	Sept 13 – Sept 19		
	Class 2: Analyzing and Recording Transactions Class 3: Accrual-basis Accounting Systems	Chapter 2	HW 2
Week 3	Sept 20 – Sept 26		
	Class 4: The Adjustment Process	Chapter 3	HW3
Week 4	Sept 27 – Oct 3		
	Class 5: Preparation of Financial Statements	Chapter 3 & Chapter 4.2	HW4
Week 5	Oct 4 – Oct 10		
	Class 6: The Closing Process	Chapter 3	HW 4
Week 6	Oct 11 – Oct 17		
	<b>Sat., Oct. 17, Midterm Exam (class 1 – class 6)</b>		
Week 7	Oct 18 – Oct 24		
	Class 7: Accounting for the Sale of Goods	Chapter 5	HW 5
Week 8	Oct 25 – Oct 31		
	Class 8: Assigning Costs to Merchandise	Chapter 6	
Week 9	Nov 1 – Nov 7		
	Class 9: Long-lived Assets Accounting	Chapter 8	
Week 10	Nov 8 – Nov 14		
	Class 10: Corporation Accounting	Chapters 9 & 10	
Week 11	Nov 15 – Nov 21		
	Class 11: Statement of Cash Flows	Chapter 11	
Week 12	Nov 22 – Nov 28		
	W, Nov 25 – Sun, Nov 29, Thanksgiving Recess		

	No class		
Week 13	Nov 29 – Dec 5		
	Class 12: Financial Statement Analysis	Chapter 12	
Week 14	Dec 6 – Dec 12		
	Prepare for final exam; no class W, last day of fall classes R, Reading day F, First day of final exams for fall classes (UG)		
Week 15	Dec 13 – Dec 19; Final exam week		
	<b>M, 12/14</b> First day of final exams for fall classes (GR) <b>M, 12/14 Final Exam</b>		
Week 16	Dec 20 – Dec 26		
	M, Dec 21, First day of winter break M, Dec 21, Faculty grade deadline at 2:00 p.m. for fall classes		

**COURSE GRADING CRITERIA & COURSE FINAL GRADE**

Final Grade Weights		Course Final Grade		
		Letter Grade	Points	Numerical Equivalent
Homework Assignments	30%	A	90.0 – 100	4.000
Midterm Exam	30%	A–	85.0 – 89.9	3.667
Final Exam	40%	B+	80.0 – 84.9	3.333
		B	65.0 – 79.9	3.000
		B–	60.0 – 64.9	2.667
		C	50.0 – 59.9	2.000
TOTAL	100%	F	Below 50.0	0

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities that may require special accommodations for this course, please contact Northeastern University Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) at (617)-373-2675. The DRC can provide you with information and assistance to help manage any challenges that could affect your performance in the course. The University requires that you provide documentation of your disabilities to the DRC so that they may identify what accommodations are required, and provide those on your behalf, as needed.

**HONOR CODE**

All students must adhere to the Northeastern University honor code available on the Northeastern website (<http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academicintegrity/index.html>) and in the graduate student handbook.

Academic dishonesty, as outlined at <http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academichonesty.html> will not be tolerated in any form whatsoever. It is the responsibility of each student to read and understand these policies, including understanding what plagiarism is. Follow this link to read more about plagiarism: [http://www.lib.neu.edu/online\\_research/help/avoiding\\_plagiarism/](http://www.lib.neu.edu/online_research/help/avoiding_plagiarism/) Any evidence of dishonesty or plagiarism will be acted upon by the instructor according to University policies which may include an automatic F in the course, involuntary withdrawal, and/or automatic reporting of offense(s) to the NEU Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. There is no possibility of redoing work found to be dishonestly completed.

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