

The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology
Department of Accounting
ACCT 2010 – Principles of Accounting I
Course Syllabus – Summer 2025

Instructor:	Kevin ZHE CAO
Office:	LSK 4017
E-mail:	zcaok@connect.ust.hk
Time:	02:00PM - 5:50PM (Mon, Wed, Fri)
Date:	June 16 – July 11, 2025
Venue:	Rm 1027, LSK Bldg
Office Hours:	By appointment via email

I. Course Objectives

The introduction to financial accounting is part of the core curriculum for business majors. Upon completion of the course, you will be able to read, interpret, analyze and prepare corporate financial reports. You will be able to:

1. Develop a comprehensive and well-founded knowledge of financial accounting. In particular, you can understand accounting items under assets, liabilities, equity, revenues, expenses. You can also read, interpret, analyze and prepare the balance sheet, the income statement, the cash flow statement and the statement of stockholders' equity.
2. Understand the role of financial accounting in business decision-making process.
3. Develop the ability to identify accounting and business problems, and apply analytical and quantitative techniques to solve problems and to make decisions.

II. Course Materials

1. Libby, Libby, and Hodge. Financial Accounting, 11th edition, International edition, McGraw-Hill (Required).
2. Lecture slides from the Canvas. Bring a paper notebook for in-class exercises.

III. Course Conduct

1. Class preparation: Read the relevant materials before coming to the class.
2. Class participation: Raise and answer questions in class.
3. Class review: Review the lecture slides and complete the practice problems after each class (will be announced at the end of class). Completed assignments must be turned in by the due dates to receive full credit. Exams will be based on the key concepts discussed in the lectures and the related details in the textbook. You are encouraged to do additional practice while preparing for the examinations.
4. Mid-term exam: There will be a mid-term exam covering chapters 1-5 on June 30th 2025 to be held in class in LSK 1027.
5. Final exam: The final exam will be on all chapters and its time is TBA now.
6. Office hours: Please email me to make an appointment. List clearly what questions you want to discuss. You can also discuss with your classmates to schedule a group meeting with me.

IV. Course Assessment

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Class Participation (attendance, in-class exercises, participation)	10%
Homework*	15%
Mid-term Exam	25%
Final Exam	50%
Total	<u>100%</u>

* Homework will be due on June 30th and July 13th.

Notes:

1. Both exams are closed book.
2. No make-up exams will be given, except for medical reasons supported by proper documentation. Students who miss an exam and expect a make-up one must inform the instructor by email BEFORE the exam starts. Medical documents MUST be submitted. It is the sole responsibility of the student to ensure that the medical document reaches the instructor.
3. School honor code applies to mid-term and final exams. Please adhere strictly to academic integrity.

V. Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change)

Date	Topics to be covered
June 16 (Mon)	Introduction; Ch 1, Financial Statements and Business Decisions
June 18 (Wed)	Ch 2, Investing and Financing Decisions and the Accounting System
June 20 (Fri)	Ch 3, Operating Decisions and the Accounting System
June 23 (Mon)	Ch 4, Adjustments, Financial Statements, and the Quality of Earnings
June 25 (Wed)	Ch 5, Communicating and Analyzing Accounting Information
June 27 (Fri)	Ch 6, Reporting and Interpreting Sales Revenue, Receivables and Cash
June 30 (Mon)	Mid-term Exam (Chapter 1-5)
July 2 (Wed)	Ch 7, Reporting and Interpreting Cost of Goods Sold and Inventory
July 4 (Fri)	Ch 8, Reporting and Interpreting Property, Plant, and Equipment; Intangibles; and Natural Resources
July 7 (Mon)	Ch 9, Reporting and Interpreting Liabilities; Ch 10, Reporting and Interpreting Bond Securities
July 9 (Wed)	Ch 11, Reporting and Interpreting Stockholders' Equity
July 11 (Fri)	Ch 12, Statement of Cash Flows; Practice and Review

Note:

I will not cover Ch 13 in this course.

VI. Final Grade Descriptors

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive grasp of subject matter, expertise in problem-solving, and significant creativity in thinking. Exhibits a high capacity for going beyond core requirements to achieve learning goals.
B	Good Performance	Shows good knowledge and understanding of the main subject matter, competence in problem-solving, and the ability to analyze and evaluate issues.
C	Satisfactory Performance	Possesses adequate knowledge of core subject matter, competence in dealing with familiar problems, and some capacity for analysis and critical thinking. Shows persistence and effort to achieve broadly defined learning goals.
F	Fail	Demonstrates insufficient understanding of the subject matter and lacks the necessary problem-solving skills. Shows limited ability to think critically or analytically and exhibits minimal effort towards achieving learning goals.

VII. Communication and Feedback

Homework assessment and exam marks will be provided via Canvas within 1-2 weeks of submission.

Students seeking clarification or further feedback, including marks, should consult the instructor/Teaching Associate within one week of receiving the feedback/marks or as specified in the email.

