The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Department of Accounting

ACCT 2010 – Principles of Accounting I (L2)

Course syllabus - Summer 2025

Course information

Instructor:	Mr. Antonino Costa
Email:	acosta@connect.ust.hk
Class schedule:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 AM - 12:50 PM
Venue:	LSK 1033
Office hour:	Monday 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM, or by appointment
Office:	LSK 5017

Brief Course Description

This introductory course delves into the realm of financial reporting and the underlying accounting information. The primary goal of this course is to equip students with a comprehensive conceptual framework that enables them to interpret information derived from financial statements. Upon completing this course, students will attain a profound understanding of the logic underlying the most common accounts found within financial statements.

Intended Learning Objectives (ILOs)

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Define and classify* the fundamental accounts found in financial statements.
2. *Prepare and analyze* the four main financial statements.
3. *Understand* the principles of accrual accounting.
4. *Recognize* the role of accounting standards in shaping the content of financial statements.
5. *Understand* the purpose of the disclosure process and the responsibilities of professionals involved.

6. *Analyze* the impact of business transactions on financial statements and their effects on stakeholder decision-making process.

7. *Comprehend* how accounting information is utilized in the decision-making process of both internal and external stakeholders.

Course materials

Required Textbook: Libby, Libby, and Hodge. *Financial Accounting*, 11th Edition, (McGraw-Hill).

Canvas: Lecture notes will be posted on canvas before each lecture. Students are strongly encouraged to review the lecture notes prior to class.

Assessment

Assessment Task	**Contribution to Final Grade**
In-class participation	5%
Mid-term exam	45%
Final examination (cumulative)	50%

Detailed instructions on exam arrangement will be provided prior to examinations.

Self-practice

I will assign practice problems to self-review and to deepen understanding of the topics discussed in class. I strongly encourage students to first solve these exercises individually and then to discuss them in groups. Students are welcome to prepare and raise questions about self-practice during class or office hours.

Preliminary course schedule

Topic	Date
Financial statements and the decision-making process	June 16
Business transactions and their impact on financial statements	June 18
Accrual accounting	June 20
The disclosure process	June 23
Accounting for the sales cycle	June 25
Accounting for the purchasing cycle	June 27
Mid-term exam	**June 30**
Accounting for the investing cycle	July 2
Accounting for the financing cycle	July 4
The statement of shareholders' equity	July 7
The cash flow statement	July 9
Final Examination	**July 11**

Mapping from ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessment	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Midterm exam	ILO 3 to ILO 7	Assess students' understanding of accrual accounting (ILO 3), accounting standard setting (ILO 4), disclosure process (ILO 5), and how information is used by internal and external stakeholders (ILO 6 and ILO 7).
Final exam	ILO 1 to ILO 7	Assess students' understanding of the course (ILO 1 to ILO7).
Participation	ILO 3 to ILO 7	Assess the students' ability to apply the course content to practical scenarios (ILO 3 to ILO7).

Final Grade Descriptors

Grades	Short Description	Grading
A	Excellent Performance	The student demonstrated a solid understanding of accrual accounting and accounting principles. Shows a sophisticated problem-solving capacity, exceeding core requirements to achieve learning goals.
B	Good Performance	The student demonstrates a good knowledge of financial accounting concepts, and is able to prepare financial statements and interpret its components.
C	Satisfactory Performance	The student shows an adequate understanding of financial accounting principles and is able to handle common accounting issues.
D	Marginal Pass	The student shows marginal understanding of financial statement preparation and core accounting issues.
F	Fail	The student does not demonstrate sufficient proficiency with accrual accounting and accounting standards. The students fails to meet the fundamental requirements for professional practice.