

# Syllabus

## Course description

<b>Course title</b>	INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING
<b>Course code</b>	27004
<b>Scientific sector</b>	SECS-P/07
<b>Degree</b>	Bachelor in Economics and Management
<b>Semester and academic year</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> semester 2016/17
<b>Year</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> year
<b>Credits</b>	8
<b>Modular</b>	No

<b>Total lecturing hours</b>	48
<b>Total exercise hours</b>	30
<b>Attendance</b>	suggested, but not required
<b>Prerequisites</b>	There are no prerequisites. This course is for first-year students.
<b>Course page</b>	

<b>Specific educational objectives</b>	<p>The course is part of the basic educational activities of the programme and belongs to the scientific area of Business Administration.</p> <p>At the end of this course, the students should be able to prepare a set of financial statements representing the results of typical business operations, to evaluate the performance of a firm from its financial reports, and to use financial information in management decisions.</p>
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<b>Lecturers</b>	<p>Tatiana Mazza Office SER E204 tatiana.mazza@unibz.it</p>
<b>Office hours</b>	please refer to the lecturers' web pages
<b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b>	SECS-P/07
<b>Teaching language</b>	English
<b>Lecturing assistant</b>	N/A
<b>Teaching assistant</b>	N/A
<b>Office hours</b>	N/A
<b>List of topics covered</b>	Recording business transactions, The adjusting and closing process, Merchandising operations, Inventory, Cash management, Receivables, Fixed assets, Liabilities, Equity, Statement of cash flows, Financial statement analysis.
<b>Teaching format</b>	The class will combine in-class explanation of the background material, problem-solving and some case discussions. Students will be expected to have read the background material and to have worked on the solution of assigned problems before coming to class. This will allow for a more efficient use of class time to cover only the more complex issues and to apply the theoretical concepts to realistic situations.

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>Knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of international accounting systems and of double-entry accounting for external reporting of the operations of a corporation.</li> <li>• Understanding of standard financial statements.</li> </ul> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to apply the international accounting principles to various simple business situations.</li> <li>• Ability to analyse financial statements through ratio analysis.</li> </ul> <p>Making judgments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to assess the general situation of a firm from an analysis of its financial statements.</li> </ul> <p>Communication skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to communicate in writing the results of the analysis of simple business situations and financial statements.</li> </ul> <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to work independently and in groups.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>Final Exam (60%): The final exam is a combination of problems and essay questions.</p> <p>Assignments (20%): Problems and cases to be handed in will be assigned two times during the semester. They will be announced one week in advance. <b>No late assignments will be accepted</b>, as the solution will be discussed in class on the day it is due.</p> <p>Term project (20%): Analysis of the financial statements of a public firm, to be done in groups of 6 students. The details of the term project will be provided in class and in the Reserve Collections.</p> <p>The problems included in the final exam as well as the assignments are aimed at assessing the acquisition of knowledge and understanding and the ability to apply them to new situations. The essay questions of the exam and the term project also evaluate the ability of the student to make judgements and to communicate effectively in writing.</p>
<b>Assessment language</b>	<p>English</p>
<b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b>	<p>Final exam: 60% Assignments: 20% Term project: 20%</p> <p><b>The student must pass the exam to have a passing grade in the course.</b> The <b>assignments are compulsory</b> and must be handed in (also electronically) <b>even by non-attending students</b> who can find all the necessary information, including due dates, in the Reserve Collections.</p>

<b>Required readings</b>	Weygandt, J.J., P.D Kimmel and D.E. Kieso, Financial Accounting, IFRS Edition, 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition, Wiley, 2012. ISBN: 978-1-118-50272-3 (e-book) or 978-1-118-28590-9 (hardcover).
<b>Supplemen-tary material</b>	<p>For each topic, a few practice problems from the textbook are suggested to facilitate the learning process. It is very important that students work on these problems after each class to be able to understand the material of the next class. The solutions to these problems will be provided in the Reserve Collections section of the Library's web page, as will be the Powerpoint slides to be used in class and other additional readings, problems and cases.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to read a financial newspaper (Wall Street Journal Europe, Financial Times, The Economist) on a regular basis to find stories related to the material covered in the course.</p>