

Syllabus

Course description

Course title	IMA preparation
Course code	25427
Scientific sector	SECS-P/07
Degree	Master in Accounting and Finance
Semester and academic year	2 nd Semester 2019/2020
Year	2 nd Year
Credits	3
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	18
Total lab hours	Not foreseen
Total exercise hours	Not foreseen
Attendance	Suggested, but not required
Prerequisites	The frequency of a management accounting course at introductory level is highly recommended.
Course page	https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/master-accounting-finance/course-offering/

Specific educational objectives	<p>The course refers to the complementary educational activities chosen by the student and belongs to the scientific area of Business Administration.</p> <p>The course reviews the main topics included in the CMA certification exam offered by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA).</p> <p>At the end of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrate proficiency in understanding and interpreting financial statements, including the appropriate measurement and reporting standards underlying various financial transactions; - Apply the most appropriate techniques required for strategic planning, budgeting and forecasting; - Recommend key performance measures (cost drivers and revenue drivers), responsibility centers and a periodic internal reporting methodology given a business scenario; - Recommend a course of action using cost estimation, marginal analysis and pricing methodologies under specific market conditions; - Identify and evaluate relevant decisions regarding long-term financial management, raising capital, capital investments and international corporate finance; - Discuss the issues organizations face in applying their
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	values and ethical standards internationally
Lecturer	<p>Dott. Nicola Dalla Via, Office E5.10b, nicola.dallavia@unibz.it</p> <p>https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/41428-nicola-dalla-via</p>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	SECS-P/07
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Please refer to the lecturer's web page
Lecturing assistant	Not foreseen
Teaching assistant	Not foreseen
Office hours	No assistant
List of topics covered	<p>The course reviews the main topics included in the CMA certification exam offered by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). More in detail, the course covers the following topics:</p> <p>Planning, budgeting and forecasting Performance management Cost management Internal controls Technology and analytics External financial reporting decisions Financial statement analysis Corporate finance Decision analysis Risk management Investment decisions Professional ethics</p>
Teaching format	The course will combine in-class explanation and problem solving. Students are expected to participate actively in class.

Learning outcomes	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge of financial statements and understanding of financial statement analysis and evaluation tools for various business decisions - Demonstrate an understanding of the role that budgeting plays in the overall planning and performance evaluation process of an organization - Knowledge of cost measurement techniques and of the nature and types of cost drivers - Demonstrate an understanding of internal control risk and the management of internal control risk
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge of Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) fundamental concepts - Demonstrate an understanding of the different types of financial market, exchanges, and marketable securities - Knowledge of the ethical principles and standards for management accounting and financial management professionals <p>Applying knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze financial statements using proper accounting ratios - Identify budget components and prepare budgets by using different methodologies - Analyze performance against operational goals and explain favorable and unfavorable variances - Assess the level of internal control risk within an organization and recommend risk mitigation strategies - Perform a cost-volume-profit (CVP) analysis and recommend a course of action - Compare different data analytics techniques and determine the most appropriate tool to use - Apply capital budgeting methods to determine acceptable projects and define appropriate decision criteria <p>Making judgments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommend performance measures and a periodic reporting methodology given operational goals and actual results <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the strategic value of cost information regarding products and services, pricing, and overhead allocations - Communicate in basic writing the results of a financial statement analysis, as well as the outcomes of budgets and forecasts, and provide relevant suggestions for managers and stakeholders <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop and apply problem-solving techniques to managerial questions and exercises as those included in the CMA certification exam - Ability to review the topics listed in the “Content Specification Outlines – CMA Examinations” in an autonomous manner - Identify the most appropriate sources of professional documentation for continuous learning
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Assessment	Individual written test that consists of both theoretical
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	<p>questions and practical exercises. Theoretical questions focus on assessing knowledge and understanding, whereas practical exercises assess the ability to apply knowledge, develop managerial decisions and make business judgments.</p> <p>Attending students: Midterm and final written exam</p> <p>Non-attending students: Final written exam</p>
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>Attending students: Midterm 40% Final written exam 60% The midterm consists of multiple-choice questions (both theoretical and calculation questions). The written exam consists of multiple-choice questions (both theoretical and calculation questions) and one essay question (open question)</p> <p>Non-attending students: Final written exam 100% The written exam consists of multiple-choice questions (both theoretical and calculation questions) and one essay question (open question).</p>
Required readings	tbd
Supplementary readings	Additional readings and exercises will be provided during the course.