

## Syllabus

### Course description

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| <b>Course title</b>      | <b>Advanced Accounting</b>       |
| <b>Course code</b>       | <b>25402</b>                     |
| <b>Scientific sector</b> | SECS-P/07                        |
| <b>Degree</b>            | Master in Accounting and Finance |
| <b>Semester</b>          | 1 <sup>st</sup> semester         |
| <b>Year</b>              | 2024/2025                        |
| <b>Credits</b>           | 6                                |
| <b>Modular</b>           | No                               |

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| <b>Total lecturing hours</b> | 36   |
| <b>Total lab hours</b>       | 0  |
| <b>Total exercise hours</b>  | 0  |
| <b>Attendance</b>            | Strongly suggested, but not required   |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>         | The attendance of the courses <i>Introduction to Accounting</i> and <i>Intermediate Accounting</i> is strongly suggested to properly follow the lectures of this course. Students who do not attend or pass these exams are encouraged to self-study the related topics. |
| <b>Course page</b>           |  |

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| <b>Specific educational objectives</b> | At the end of the course, the students should have the comprehensive knowledge and understanding of financial and non-financial reporting necessary to act as professional consultants or financial managers. They should be able to analyse complex transactions encountered in large multinational organisations, and to make decisions as to how they should be reflected in financial reporting, taking into consideration the effect of these decisions on the organisation's stakeholders. |
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| <b>Lecturer</b>                          | Dr. Luca Menicacci<br><br>Office: I206<br>Email: <a href="mailto:luca.menicacci@unibz.it">luca.menicacci@unibz.it</a><br><br><a href="https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/39639-luca-menicacci">https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/39639-luca-menicacci</a> |
| <b>Scientific sector of the lecturer</b> | SECS-P/07  |
| <b>Teaching language</b>                 | English  |

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| <b>Office hours</b>           | please refer to the lecturer's timetable   |
| <b>Lecturing assistant</b>    | None   |
| <b>Teaching assistant</b>     | Dr. Fabio Zanderigo  |
| <b>List of topics covered</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review of financial statements presentation</li> <li>2. Accounting for income taxes</li> <li>3. Impairment of assets</li> <li>4. Financial instruments</li> <li>5. Derivatives</li> <li>6. Business combinations</li> <li>7. Global operations</li> </ol> <p>The emphasis will be on IFRS with some comparison with Italian and US GAAP.</p> |
| <b>Teaching format</b>        | The course will combine in-class explanation of the background material, problem-solving and case discussions. Students will be expected to participate actively in class work, which will give them the opportunity to apply theoretical concepts to realistic situations. In order to benefit from this approach, it is important that all students come to class fully prepared.    |

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| <b>Learning outcomes</b> | <p>Knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced knowledge and understanding of the financial reporting issues, under IFRS, related to the complex and unusual operations of multinational organisations, such as restructuring or mergers and acquisitions.</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of the effects of financial and non-financial reporting on the behaviour of managers, investors and other stakeholders of multinational organisations.</li> </ul> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to apply the international accounting principles to complex business situations encountered by multinational organisations.</li> <li>• Ability to anticipate the reactions of the organisation's stakeholders to various financial and non-financial reporting strategies.</li> </ul> <p>Making judgments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to analyse complex transactions, using all the data that is available, and to choose the appropriate course of action and disclosure strategy, taking into consideration the effect of the choice on the organisation's stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>Communication skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to communicate effectively in writing about technical and quantitative matters, with the various departments of an organisation, with financial market participants and with professionals in the areas of tax and company law.</li> </ul> <p>Learning skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to search for and find the regulatory and economic information necessary to make informed decisions as consultant or financial manager.</li> </ul> |
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| <b>Assessment</b>  | <p><b>Final Exam:</b><br/>The final exam is a combination of cases, exercises, and multiple-choice questions. The questions included in the final exam are aimed at assessing the acquisition of knowledge and understanding and the ability to apply them to new situations as well as to evaluate the ability of the student to analyse and report on complex business transactions.</p> <p><b>Midterm Exam:</b><br/>The midterm exam is a combination of exercises, cases and multiple-choice questions.</p> <p><b>Group Assignment:</b><br/>A case will be assigned during the semester to be completed in writing.</p>   |
| <b>Assessment language</b>                                 | English   |
| <b>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</b> | <p><b>Non-attending students:</b><br/>Final exam: 100%</p> <p><b>Attending students:</b><br/>Final exam: 45-50%<br/>Midterm exam: 30-35%<br/>Group assignment: 20%</p> <p>Attending students' total grade will weigh the final exam more heavily if students do better on the final than on the midterm exam. That is, the final score in the course will be determined using the following formula:<br/>Final score = <math>0.20 \times (\text{group assig.}) + \text{Max} \{0.30 \times \text{midterm exam score} + 0.50 \times \text{final exam score}, 0.35 \times \text{midterm exam score} + 0.45 \times \text{final exam score}\}</math></p> <p><b>Attending students must pass each of the above to have a passing grade in the course.</b></p> |
| <b>Required readings</b>                                   | <p><b>Main textbooks:</b></p> <p>Kieso, Donald E., Jerry J. Weygandt and Terry D. Warfield. Intermediate Accounting: IFRS Edition. 4th edition. Wiley, 2020.</p> <p>Herauf, D. and C. Mbagwu, Modern Advanced Accounting in Canada. 10th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2022.</p>  |
| <b>Supplementary material</b>                              | <p>International Accounting Standard Board. International Financial Reporting Standards, available at <a href="http://www.ifrs.org">www.ifrs.org</a></p> <p>Advance reading of case studies will be required for some sessions and the cases will be handed out in class at least one week in advance. Students are expected to</p>   |

have read the case material before coming to class. Additional material will be available for downloading from the OLE platform.

Some practice problems and exercises are suggested to strengthen technical knowledge. The solutions to these problems will be provided on the OLE platform, as will the slides to be used in class.

Students should be reading a financial newspaper (like the Financial Times, the Wall Street Journal, or The Economist) on a regular basis to find stories related to the material covered in the course. Some of these stories will be posted on the OLE platform and discussed in class.