

Financial Accounting Capstone: ACC 460C
Shidler College of Business
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Term: Fall 2022

Instructor: You-il (Chris) Park, Ph.D.

Times: Tue, 9:00–10:45 am (Section 1); 11:00 am–12:45 pm (Section 2) Office: 808-956-7028

Class venue: George Hall 215

Email: youil@hawaii.edu

Office location: BudAd C402b

Office Hours: Tue, 12:45 pm–1:45 pm or by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This course focuses on how to use authoritative financial accounting sources to support accounting positions and judgments. We will learn to implement a professional judgment framework to document conclusions requiring professional judgments and decisions. The objectives of this course are to help you (1) acquire knowledge for financial accounting research and analysis; (2) conduct research by accessing information effectively and efficiently; (3) think critically and problem-solve creatively; (4) communicate and report effectively; and (5) engage in continuous learning with agility and adaptability.

Fulfilling these objectives involves the following: (a) acquiring a working knowledge of financial accounting authoritative literature and ethical standards in financial accounting practice; (b) developing skills in identifying, comprehending, and applying relevant portions of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Codification; (c) identifying financial accounting issues and apply logical, analytical reasoning using the FASB Codification to address them; (d) understanding the format for documenting support for accounting judgments and build practical team collaboration skills; and (e) applying critical thinking to current events within and impacting the profession. Stated objectives will be achieved primarily through class lectures and notes, the FASB Codification, academic research papers, real-life cases, group discussions and presentations, and a final exam.

Please **bring** (1) a **calculator** and (2) a **laptop** or **tablet PC** capable of accessing the internet available **for each class**.

This course is designed for accounting-major students who have completed (with C- or better) or are concurrently taking ACC 418. No waiver is possible. ACC 460D is a co-requisite.¹

Course Materials

Laulima	I will upload the syllabus, cases for team assignments, and other relevant materials to Laulima under the Resources tab as the course progresses.
FASB Codification	On July 1, 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) released the authoritative version of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification as the single source of authoritative nongovernmental U.S.

¹ Students who do not meet these prerequisites will be administratively dropped after the drop or add period and will not be eligible for a tuition refund.

	Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). I will give you directions on how to access the FASB Codification.
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Class Format and Evaluation

The course format will consist of both out-of-class and in-class readings, lectures, group discussions and presentations, and a final exam on academic research and real-life cases. A breakdown of the grading evaluation is provided below:

Class Participation	10%	<p>Assessment is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance, preparedness, and contribution to class discussions, including actively <i>responding to in-class questions</i>, • Punctuality, and • Respect for the other students in a class, including refraining from phone or online chat and eating food, except during break time.
Presentations	20%	<p>Each team member will be evaluated <i>individually</i> based on presentation skills, including professionalism, clear articulation of their reasoning, and the ability to engage with the audience (i.e., without having to look at memos continuously). If absent on the presentation day, you will receive zero for the assignment, except in extreme situations with prior approval. All excuses for illness must be supported by a doctor's note.</p>
Team Assignments	30%	<p>There will be <i>three</i> group assignments. The team will receive identical scores according to the quality of your team's written reports and how well your group worked together based on the instructor's observations and the team's peer evaluations (see "teamwork and evaluation" below for more detail).</p> <p>These assignments should be completed and submitted before midnight before each of the three group presentation dates.</p> <p>Each team is required to submit a PDF copy of the written report (<u>with a maximum of five pages for the main essay part and another maximum of five pages for a cover letter, references, or appendixes</u>) to youil@hawaii.edu before midnight prior to classes 3, 5, and 7 (i.e., on or before 11:59 pm, Sep 5 (Mon), Sep 19 (Mon), and Oct 3 (Mon), respectively). The file name must be labeled using the following convention: "ACC460C-SectionX-TeamY" where X is your section number, and Y is the team number. For example, if you are in Team 3 of Section 2, your file name must be ACC460C-Section2-Team3.</p> <p>In fairness to other teams, <i>late work will not be accepted.</i></p> <p><u>All teammates must work on all questions together for the team project.</u></p>

		To complete these assignments, you can use lecture notes, textbooks, the FASB Codification, and in-class and online reference materials, including academic research papers. <u>To be considered complete, specific evidence or calculations supporting your team's responses must be included in appendices.</u>
Final Exam	40%	<u>For the final exam, all students are required to bring their laptops.</u> The final exam is cumulative. All materials covered in class are fair game. The final exam format is open-book and open-notes. A basic calculator (that performs basic mathematical operations) is required for the final exam. However, any internet use, except for the FASB codification website, or any collaboration, will not be permitted during the final exam. No make-ups will be allowed, except in extreme situations with prior approval. All excuses for illness must be supported by a doctor's note.

Teamwork and evaluation: Please form your teams for group assignments voluntarily. At the end of Class 7, you will be asked to assess **the contribution of the other team members confidentially**. As such, team members must be maintained throughout the course.

Your team's peer evaluation will adjust your grade for the team assignments. For example, if your team has a perfect score (100% points) on all team assignments, but all your team members believe you contributed only 50% of what other team members have contributed, your score for the team cases will only be 50% points.

The final grades will employ plus and minuses within the A, B, C, D, and F framework. As for an "incomplete" status, you must submit in writing the following: (1) a request (i.e., does NOT mean it will be granted); (2) the justification for the request; and (3) the date you expect to complete the course. If you do not fulfill this requirement, you will not be allowed to receive an "incomplete" status and earn a grade based on the above. Requests from students who have already failed one or two exams will not be granted.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all sessions in the sections you are registered for and be on time, having prepared beforehand. Each class covers a significant amount of material, and understanding each concept is crucial in grasping subsequent material. Students who get behind early in the course tend to struggle to catch up and perform well. [That said, I am happy to do whatever I can to help students who miss class for acceptable reasons.](#)

The University recognizes that certain emergency events are beyond students' control, such as illness, family emergency, bereavement, and specific religious observations that may result in a student's absence from course activity. Additionally, this course also recognizes conflicts that arise for students with regard to University-sanctioned athletic events and other competitions. All such events must be supported by proper documentation from an authorized professional or agency. Failure to notify the instructor on time that a class will be missed will be grounds for refusing to provide the student with a make-up assignment.

Absences for any other reasons will be considered unexcused-absences and result in a 1%-point reduction in your course grade (along with a score of “zero” on any graded assignments/activities missed as a result of the absence) and do not require any consideration by the instructor. Students are responsible for obtaining material from their classmates on missed days.

Students are expected to be attentive during other student presentations. The instructor may ask non-presenting students for their comments and questions on other group presentations. Your participation in these activities will make up a significant portion of this element of your grade.

There will be a 1% reduction in your course grade for each occurrence of the following learning-disturbing activities:

- Disrupting other students’ questions or comments in a disrespected manner;
- Sleeping in class;
- Not coming to class or coming to class late without advanced and approved notice;
- Leaving early without advanced and approved notice;
- Doing non-class-related work; or
- Having ongoing conversations on topics irrelevant to the course
 - with classmates or
 - via social media

Alternative Meeting Place: In case of a disturbance during class time (e.g., bomb threat), meet the instructor in the grassy area on the south (makai) side of George Hall. You will be given further instructions at that point. On days of scheduled exams, you may be directed to a temporary classroom to take the exam.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty (UH Mānoa Student Conduct Code): *“The University expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of this institution; to respect the rights, privileges, and property of others; and to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations.”*

No make-up quizzes will be given unless scheduled in advance or because of a medical or family emergency. Students needing to take the final exam outside the regularly scheduled time must submit prior approval from the academic dean.

Shidler and SOA also have an Honor Code Policy. Please do not copy from another person’s homework, quiz, or exam. Please do not fail to cite sources of material that you have quoted or substantially paraphrased. Do not use unauthorized assistance. Do not hesitate to ask questions. Students are expected to behave with integrity in all academic endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and any other form of academic dishonesty are not tolerated. All incidents will be handled per the UH Student Code of Conduct. Please review the Student Conduct Code so you can make conscience and informed choices: [www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct code/](http://www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/)

Acts of dishonesty, types of behavior that conflict with the community standards that the UH values and expects of students, include but are not limited to the following:

1. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty;
2. Furnishing false information to any UH official, faculty member, or office; and
3. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any UH document, record, or form of identification.

The term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) use of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (3) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the UH faculty, staff or student (4) engaging in any behavior prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion.

The term “**plagiarism**” includes, but is not limited to, **using another person’s published or unpublished work without full and clear acknowledgment**. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials. In addition to the above, the instructor prohibits the following behaviors explicitly and includes them within the definition of academic dishonesty: (1) providing another student with any form of direct or indirect, unauthorized assistance on any assignment, quiz, test, or exam; and (2) copying, or recording in any manner, test or exam questions or answers.

Please NOTE that UH disciplinary proceedings can be instituted against a student charged with conduct that potentially violates both the criminal law and this Student Conduct Code (that is, if both possible violations result from the same factual situation) without regard to the pendency of civil or criminal litigation in court or unlawful arrest and prosecution.

If a student is caught committing an act of Academic Dishonesty, he or she will receive a grade of “F” for the course and be referred for disciplinary action as provided by the University Student Conduct Code.

Withdrawal/Drop Policy: Review Shidler College information for the last day to drop without a “W” and the last day to withdraw with a “W.” If a student stops attending class and does not drop the course, a grade of “F” will be assigned at the end of the semester. The student has the responsibility to withdraw from the course.

Statement on Disability: The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and provides equal access to its programs, services, and activities to students with disabilities. If you have a disability and related access needs, please contact the *KOKUA* Program (UH Disabled Student Services Office) at 808-956-7511, kokua@hawaii.edu, or go to Room 013 in the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services. I will work with you and *KOKUA* to meet your access needs based on disability documentation.

TITLE IX: The University of Hawaii is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms

of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, the University has staff and resources on your campus to support and assist you. Staff can also direct you to resources that are in the community.

- If you wish to remain *ANONYMOUS*, speak with someone *CONFIDENTIALLY*, or would like to receive information and support in a *CONFIDENTIAL* setting, contact the confidential resources available here:

<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/resources.html#confidential>

- If you wish to **REPORT** an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, as well as to receive information and support, contact:

Dee Uwono

Director and Title IX Coordinator
 2500 Campus Road, Hawai‘i Hall 124
 Honolulu, HI 96822
 (808) 956-2299
t9uhm@hawaii.edu

- As a UH faculty member, I must immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about handling your case. My goal is to ensure you know the range of options available to you and access the resources and support you need. For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources, and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to <http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/>

Course Schedule

Class	Date	Schedule
1	Tue, Aug 23	Introduction, lecture, and overview of the FASB Codification
2	Tue, Aug 30	Lecture and case discussion 1
3	Tue, Sep 6	Group presentation 1
4	Tue, Sep 13	Lecture and case discussion 2
5	Tue, Sep 20	Group presentation 2
6	Tue, Sep 27	Lecture and case discussion 3
7	Tue, Oct 4	Group presentation 3
8	Tue, Oct 11	Final Exam