Zicklin School of Business, Baruch College
Stan Ross Department of Accountancy
ACC 3200, Cost Accounting, 4 hours; 4 credits
Summer 2024, 6/10/2024 to 8/15/2024

Instructor: Zeljko Sockovic **Office: Online/Zoom**
Email: Zeljko.Sockovic@baruch.cuny.edu **Office hours: By appointment**
Phone: N/A

Class Time and Room: TTH 5:30pm – 8:08pm, Online Synchronous/Zoom
Class Section: S3DA (8106)

Departmental Mission:
The Stan Ross Department of Accountancy educates future accountancy and taxation professionals by developing students' intellectual competence, technical knowledge, and ethical sensibilities through high-quality, high-value academic programs and rigorous and innovative scholarly research.

We strive to accomplish our mission by:

- Capitalizing on the diversity of the Zicklin School of Business and its locations in New York City.
- Attracting, developing, and maintaining an outstanding and diverse student body and faculty.
- Preparing students for careers in professional accountancy and taxation by equipping them with the skills necessary to make effective and ethical decisions.
- Empowering students to work successfully with co-workers and clients, to communicate effectively, and to be productive leaders and team members.
- Offering a high-quality PhD level education that prepares graduates for successful academic careers.
- Conducting innovative research that improves the practice of accounting and enhances the understanding of accountancy's role in the global economy.
- Providing opportunities for faculty and students to interact with the professional accounting and tax communities.

Course Objectives:
Consistent with the department's mission, the Cost/Managerial Accounting course aims to develop the skills that will help convert *data* into *information* that leads to informed decisions, and in turn to improved profitability of a business enterprise. The accounting results generated for financial reporting purposes have limited usefulness: financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP do not help in day-to-day decision making as they are affected by conventions that—although *generally accepted*—are not particularly meaningful for managers. Accordingly, managerial accountants have to work from a different perspective to provide *independent professional services that improve the quality of information, or its context, for decision makers*. At the end of this course, students should:

1) Be comfortable discussing cost and profit estimates arising from many typical business decisions;
2) Understand clearly both the role of overhead and of overhead allocation mechanisms in the measurement of productions costs;
3) Be able to prepare budgets and standards and compute variances from the budget;
4) Understand the role of simple incentive mechanisms and transfer prices in coordinating activities within a multi-division firm.

Course Materials:

Text: ***(Baruch College Edition)*** *Managerial Accounting by* Garrison-Noreen-Brewer, 18th Edition with McGraw Hill Connect ("Connect"). The package includes a loose-leaf printed copy of the textbook and access to Connect (with the smart book included). Online price $79.50. The link where you can buy the textbook and register for our section in Connect is the following: https://connect.mheducation.com/class/z-sockovic-summer-2024-tth

You must use your Baruch email address and your official CUNYfirst roster name when registering for our section in Connect. You first and last names must be listed in a correct order – please follow Connect instructions.

If I cannot easily identify you in the system, you will not get your points for completed Connect assignments, or in the best case you will be penalized 2 points from your class total.

If you buy the physical textbook, there should be a code in the book that you can use to register for our Connect section. You will get a two-week temporary access while waiting for the textbook and the code. Another option is to select the online access only, and in that case, you will get an automatic access to your account and the electronic textbook (but no hard copy of the textbook).

Other Materials: Course materials to be downloaded from *Brightspace*.

Course Assessment:

One midterm (30 points). The midterm exam will be **online in Connect**.
Final Exam (45 points). The final exam will be **online in Connect.**
Online assignments and quizzes (25 pts). For each chapter, there are homework assignments created in Connect. All questions/problems included in HW assignments and quizzes have the same weight in the 25-points total.

Exam Dates: Midterm – Thursday, July 11, 2024, 6:00-8:00pm; **Final** – Thursday, August 15, 2024, 6:00-8:00pm.

Any class conflict with our exams dates and times should be communicated to me as soon as possible.

The Department of Accountancy has determined the grading curve for the summer 2024 session. The grading curve will be applied to all Acc 3200 sections together and will include the following:
"A" max 20-25% of all grades; "A and B" max 40-50%; "A, B, and C" max 75-85%; "Other" grades (D, F, W, INC) will include the remaining percentages to add up to 100%.

The curve above is NOT applied to individual exams or assignments, but only to the final grade at the end of semester.

You can find Baruch's Letter Grades and Grade Point Equivalents here.

Exam proctoring: We will use "Proctorio", a browser-locking and remote proctoring solution designed to protect the integrity of examinations. The instructors of Acc 3200 make a judgment as to any potential academic integrity violation.
The Proctorio system works on desktop, laptop, Chromebook, Microsoft Surface (but not on iPad).
The US Federal Government also requires that all schools have a process in place for verifying student identity to protect against Federal Student Aid (FSA) fraud.
Your privacy is protected with Proctorio, which does not have access to unrelated information and does not retain any information after the exam.
We will not use cameras during the exam.
There will be no payment required for the use of Proctorio in this class.
You can find instructions about the installation and use of the software at the link below:
http://video.mhhe.com/watch/xxVL4YJgjw2jyjSE8aqWvT

Connect Assignments: Connect assignments are very important for successful learning. Most people benefit from working problems more than once. Exam questions are often similar to assignment problems (at least conceptually if not in form). If you cannot do Connect problems on your own, you will not be successful when similar questions are asked on exams.

Assignments must be submitted electronically via Connect.

- Unlimited attempts are allowed to correctly answer each problem. **Only your highest score is counted (not an average of your scores, even though you see the average!!). Quiz(es) are allowed only one attempt.**
- The system does not provide for late submissions, handwritten solutions, print-outs on paper, spreadsheets, e-mails, or excuses. Please pay close attention to the assignment due dates indicated in the course schedule.
- Under no circumstances will a student receive credit for assignments after the submission is due. Therefore, students should not wait until the last minute to do their work.

The Connect system will not accept any assignment submitted after the deadline. All deadlines are Eastern Standard Time and are unaffected by your personal geographic location. All assignments and quizzes are automatically submitted on the due dates at 11:59pm.

You can find instructions on how to view feedback and solutions to assignments you start in Connect after the due date here: https://youtu.be/jJdnOklyzK4

Examination and Grading Policies – Important!

- There will be **no** make-up midterm examinations under any circumstances (except for a conflict with another class).

- In the event of an unforeseeable medical/family emergency (with appropriate written documentation), the following will be applied: (a) if you miss the midterm, the weight from the midterm will be put on the final (i.e., the cumulative final will be worth 75% of your course grade) or (b) if you miss the final, you will be able to make up for it during the following semester. These exceptions will only be made if you provide written documentation showing that you missed the exam due to an emergency; otherwise, you will receive a zero for the missed exam. Any make-up exams might be in person.

- Please be advised that bringing a doctor's note stating you were seen by a doctor is not sufficient documentation for this purpose. The note has to give specific date(s) stating that you should be excused from school on those dates due to illness.

- Technical difficulties with one's personal technology or online access will not qualify for an emergency.

- The weights—identified in the *Course Assessment* above—are identical for every class member such that submitting additional work will **not** be accepted to compensate for poor exam scores.

- **Any form of cheating** will be reported to the Dean of Students and will result in failure in the course and possible suspension from the College. See the formal statement below.

- Once the course grade has been determined (i.e. exams and assignments completed) and assigned, there will be **no change or negotiation of the grade.**

- Matters related to course material are to be addressed during class sessions; questions relating to student-specific concerns should be raised directly with the professor.

Homework Policy:

- No late assignments are accepted under any circumstance.
- Assignments are **submitted automatically** at the time when they are due.
- It is the student's responsibility to work on the homework problems well ahead of the due dates. Excuses such as lost Internet connection or web server problems will not be accepted. **No HW extension due dates are allowed.**

Class Attendance

Fresh links to our Zoom lectures will be posted in Brightspace and emailed to the whole class shortly before each session. Because students are now used to recorded lectures and many students work or have internships during the summer session, I will record our class sessions and post Zoom links of the recordings in Brightspace after each class. Students will need to use @login.cuny.edu accounts to view the recorded lectures in Zoom.

The class attendance will not be mandatory, but since this is a synchronous class, it will be expected. If the class attendance drops below an acceptable level, I will reserve the right to take attendance and add bonus points to students who regularly attend our lectures at the end of the summer session (partial attendance will not qualify). Please use your first and last name when joining our lectures. Any bonus points awarded will be added to the grading curve after the curve has been determined and will not affect the curve or grades for the rest of the class.

Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Cheating, forgery, plagiarism and collusion in dishonest acts undermine the college's educational mission and the students' personal and intellectual growth. Baruch students are expected to bear individual responsibility for their work, to learn the rules and definitions that underlie the practice of academic integrity, and to uphold its ideals. Ignorance of the rules is not an acceptable excuse for disobeying them. Any student who attempts to compromise or devalue the academic process will be sanctioned. **Academic sanctions in this class will range from a zero on the assignment (Quiz and HW) to an F in this course (cheating on exams).** A report of suspected academic dishonesty will be sent to the Office of the Dean of Students and the Zicklin School of Business. Additional information and definitions can be found at:
http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic_honesty.html

Communication:

Brightspace will be the primary method of communication outside the classroom and office hours. It is your responsibility to check the *Brightspace* site regularly.

Rules of Professional Conduct

The Accountancy major at Baruch College prepares students for a career as an accounting professional. As part of that preparation, it is expected that you comport yourself as a professional throughout your studies at Baruch.

E-Mail Etiquette:

- Any email sent to the professor should include a short description in the **subject** area (e.g., ACC 3200 question). The student's full name should be included in the message. Failure to provide this information may result in your email being deleted without being opened.
- Do not use the e-mail list in *Brightspace* for any purpose unrelated to this course.
- E-mails in ACC 3200 are a form of business communication. Therefore, you are expected to compose emails with the same attention to correct grammar and syntax, politeness, and professional tone that apply to all forms of business correspondence. Your professor is unlikely to respond to an e-mail that does not meet the minimum criteria.

Students with Disabilities.

Students with disabilities may be eligible for a reasonable accommodation to enable them to participate fully in courses at Baruch. If you feel you may be in need of an accommodation, please contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities at (646) 312-4590 or Disability.Services@baruch.cuny.edu .

Learning Goals:

BBA Learning Goals	Significant Part of Course	Moderate Part of Course	Minimal Part of Course	Not Part of Course
Analytical Skills	☒	☐	☐	☐
Technological Skills	☐	☒	☐	☐
Communication Skills: Oral	☐	☐	☒	☐
Communication Skills: Written	☐	☐	☒	☐
Civic Awareness and Ethical Decision-Making	☐	☒	☐	☐
Global Awareness	☐	☒	☐	☐

Assignments	***Course Learning Goals***	***BBA Learning Goals***
Pre-Midterm Assignments: see class calendar below	Demonstrate an understanding of cost concepts and classification, CVP analysis, job-order costing, process costing, and ABC. Demonstrate an understanding of budgeting, flexible budgets,	Analytical Skills Technological Skills Civic Awareness and Ethical Decision-Making Global Awareness
Pre-Final Assignments: see class calendar below	Demonstrate an understanding of standard costs and variances, and service department costing, segment reporting, performance measurement, variable costing, relevant costs for decision making, and transfer pricing.	Analytical Skills Technological Skills Written Communication Civic Awareness and Ethical Decision-Making
Lectures	Discuss important concepts and applications on topics in each chapter and the importance of ethics in managerial accounting.	Analytical Skills Oral Communication Civic Awareness and Ethical Decision-Making
Exams (Midterm and final): exam of all readings and PowerPoint presentations	Apply the concepts discussed in class and managerial accounting tools to a variety of business contexts.	Analytical Skills Civic Awareness and Ethical Decision-Making Global Awareness

ACC 3200, Summer 2024
TTH

	Date		Chapter Title	Chapter Number	Homework Due
1	Week 1	T	Introduction & Cost Concepts	Prologue & Chapter 1	June 24,2024
2	Week 1	TH	Cost-Volume-Profit Relationships	Chapter 5 (+ App. 5A)	June 24,2024
3	Week 2	T	Job-Order Costing	Chapter 2 (+ App. 2B)	June 24,2024
4	Week 2	TH	Job-Order Costing	Chapter 3 (no Appendix)	July 1, 2024
5	Week 3	T	Process Costing	Chapter 4 (no Appendix)	July 1, 2024
6	Week 3	TH	Service Department Costing	Appendix 4B & Chapter 11 (p. 509-514)	July 8, 2024
7	Week 4	T	Activity-Based Costing	Chapter 7 (no Appendix)	July 8, 2024
8	Week 4	TH	**No Class – Holiday 7/4**		
9	Week 5	T	Activity-Based Costing	Chapter 7 (no Appendix)	July 8, 2024
10	**July 11**	**TH**	**Midterm Exam**	**(Chapters 1-5, 7, and part 11) Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm, Online Connect**	
11	Week 6	T	Variable Costing	Chapter 6 (p.253-263), (+ App. 6A)	July 22, 2024
12	Week 6	TH	Budgeting	Chapter 8	July 22, 2024
13	Week 7	T	Flexible Budgets	Chapter 9	July 29, 2024
14	Week 7	TH	Standard Costs and Variances	Chapter 10 (+ App. 10A)	July 29, 2024
15	Week 8	T	Performance Measurement and Responsibility Accounting	Chapter 11 (p. 494-503)	August 5, 2024
16	Week 8	TH	Segment Reporting	Chapter 6 (p. 263-273)	August 5, 2024
17	Week 9	T	Differential Analysis-Decision Making	Chapter 13 (no Appendix)	August 12, 2024
18	Week 9	TH	Differential Analysis-Decision Making	Chapter 13 (no Appendix)	August 12, 2024
19	Week 10	T	Transfer Pricing	Chapter 11 (p. 504-509)	August 12, 2024
20	**August 15**	**TH**	**Final Exam**	**(Chapters 6, 8-10, 11, and 13) Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm, Online Connect**	

How to Do Well in ACC 3200 Cost Accounting Class

First, motivation is important – this is an interesting class that covers some important concepts that every business person, and not just an accounting manager, has to be familiar with. As accountants, however, we will cover these concepts in a lot more detail than non-accountants would care about doing.

As described in our Course Objectives above, this class is concerned with the area of managerial accounting, which is very different from financial accounting that we study in our financial accounting classes. In this class, we will look at the operational side of those figures we find in our financial statements, and learn how to best measure and classify our business activities in financial terms and, more importantly, how to use the information we get from our management accounting system to make the best decisions in order to improve our future financial performance. Costs are a major part of any business operation and cost control is the foundation of MA; hence, "cost" accounting class.

There are two main challenges that students experience with this class:

One is that the class covers a large amount of material with many different topics, some of which seem to be completely unrelated to each other. This is especially challenging in the short summer session.

The second challenge is that the material in this class covers a new area of accounting for most students – with a lot of new terminology and unfamiliar concepts compared to the ones we are used to in financial accounting. So, an adjustment will be required.

Here are my suggestions on how to approach the class:

1. Avoid procrastination! – based on the above, you need to study continuously from day one to do well.

2. Attend class – we will cover the topics in detail in our lectures. We will go through many different ways to think about the topics and problems related to them. We will emphasize the most important points students need to know in order to understand the topic. You will likely not be able to do well in the class if you skip our live (or recorded) lectures.

3. Read textbook chapters quickly – the textbook is excellent. Don't get overwhelmed with details (they will be important later on) but get the basic idea first.

4. Use Connect assignments as a learning tool and not just a way to get points. Spend time on understanding topics and problems you are working on.

5. Practice, practice, practice problems and examples from all posted lectures and exercises and Connect assignments until you understand how concepts behind them work. Do not constantly rely on solutions because this might give you a false sense of confidence that you know the material. In order to be able to solve problems on the exams, you will need to understand mistakes you make, consult the solutions only when you get stuck, and finally, repeat the process again until you feel comfortable with the topic. Memorizing problems without understanding concepts behind them will not work.