Unit Outline*

ACCT8504 Management Accounting

D5A-OFF, 2011
Shanghai

Professor Vincent K Chong

Business School
www.business.uwa.edu.au

* This Unit Outline should be read in conjunction with the Business School Unit Outline Supplement available on the Current Students web site http://www.business.uwa.edu.au/students
UNIT DESCRIPTION

Introduction
Welcome to ACCT8504 Management Accounting! This unit will enable you with a comprehensive study of management accounting and will include cost accounting, planning, management control managerial decision making and strategic management.

Unit content
This unit focuses on the many significant developments that have occurred in the practice of management accounting. We will initially examine the major conceptual and applied management accounting techniques (e.g., cost elements, cost behaviour, product and service costing, cost volume profit analysis) and supplement this discussion by examining some of the more recent developments (e.g., the Balanced Scorecard and activity based costing). Wherever relevant, ACCT8504 Management Accounting will consolidate upon the technical understanding of how these tools are applied in practice by taking a more strategic orientation to the application of these techniques to managerial decision-making.

The goals of the unit
The goal of this unit is to enable you to learn the fundamental aspects of management accounting. For those of you who intend to pursue accounting careers, this unit will help to prepare you for an advanced study of management accounting. For those of you who intend to pursue careers in managerial positions, this unit will enable you to obtain a working knowledge of management accounting.

Learning outcomes
On completion of this unit, you should be able to:

• Describe the role of accountants in the organization;
• Explain the different types of cost terms and purposes;
• Apply cost-volume-profit analysis techniques;
• Employ various cost accumulation systems;
• Prepare the operating budgets and its supporting schedules;
• Compute and interpret variances;
• Apply various cost estimation techniques;
• Distinguish relevant from irrelevant information in decision situations;
• Use various pricing approaches;
• Critically evaluate and understand some of the fundamental aspects of empirical research in management accounting.

Educational principles and graduate attributes
In this unit, you will be encouraged and facilitated to develop the ability and desire to:

• Work effectively with fellow group members in developing your understanding and knowledge of important management accounting concepts;
• Write clearly and concisely when capturing and communicating your knowledge about management accounting and its application to business management.
• Think strategically about the collection and use of management accounting information in planning for and achieving improved business performance.
• Explore and appreciate how the application of management accounting information can be of value to your Master of Logistics Engineering and Management thesis.
TEACHING AND LEARNING RESPONSIBILITIES

Teaching and learning strategies
Students will be required to attend 36 hours of seminars. In order to obtain maximum benefit from the seminar discussions, students are expected to come prepared by having read the appropriate reading materials and chapters.

Your attendance at every class session is expected. Sound preparation and the ability to verbally present your reasoning are important skills expected in many workplaces, the class participation mark will be influenced by your preparation for class and the consistency, regularity and quality of your verbal and other contributions to class discussions and other in-class activities.

Teaching and learning evaluation
You may be asked to complete two evaluations during this unit. The Student Perception of Teaching (SPOT) and the Students’ Unit Reflective Feedback (SURF). The SPOT is optional and is an evaluation of the lecturer and the unit. The SURF is completed online and is a university wide survey and deals only with the unit. You will receive an email from the SURF office inviting you to complete the SURF when it is activated. I personally encourage you to complete each survey as your feedback is extremely important to me and can be used to make changes to the unit or lecturing style when appropriate.

Attendance
Participation in class, whether it be listening to a lecture or getting involved in other activities, is an important part of the learning process, therefore it is important that you attend classes. More formally, the University regulations state that ‘to complete a course or unit students shall attend prescribed classes, lectures, seminars and tutorials’. Where a student, due to exceptional circumstances, is unable to attend a scheduled class, they are required to obtain prior approval of the unit coordinator to be absent from that class. Any student absent from class without having had such absence approved by the unit coordinator may be referred to the faculty for advice and may be required to withdraw from the unit.

CONTACT DETAILS
We strongly advise students to regularly access their student email accounts. Important information regarding the unit is often communicated by email and will not be automatically forwarded to private email addresses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit coordinator/lecturer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td>Professor Vincent K Chong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Vincent.Chong@uwa.edu.au">Vincent.Chong@uwa.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>+61 8 6488 2914</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
TEXTBOOK(S) & RESOURCES

Recommended/required text(s)


Reading List:

Empirical Research in Management Accounting (1), (2) & (3)

Topic: Issues on Budgetary Control Systems

Topic: Managerial Judgment and Decision-Making

Strategic issues and balanced scorecard


Approved calculators for examinations

The University only permits the use of calculators in examinations when the calculator has an approved sticker and the examiner permits their use. If the student does not have an approved sticker on their calculator, they will not be permitted to use the calculator. Calculators can be approved at the Undergraduate Student Centre, the Postgraduate Student Centre or at Student Administration. Further information is available on the Business School web site, see http://www.business.uwa.edu.au/students/assessments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<tr>
<td>14 May (Sat)</td>
<td>08:30-10:00</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Introduction to the Unit The accountant’s role in the organization</td>
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<td>10:15-11:45</td>
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<td>Introduction to cost terms and purposes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Cost-volume-profit analysis (1)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15:15-16:45</td>
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<td>Cost-volume-profit analysis (2)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>15 May (Sun)</td>
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<td>Job costing system (1)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10:15-11:45</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Job costing system (2)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Activity-based costing Activity-Based management</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15:15-16:45</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Master budget (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 May (Mon)</td>
<td>18:30-20:05</td>
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<td>Quiz#1</td>
<td>1, 2, 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>20:15-21:45</td>
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<td>Master budget (2)</td>
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<td>18 May (Wed)</td>
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<td>Flexible budgets &amp; variance analysis (1)</td>
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<td>20:15-21:45</td>
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<td>Flexible budgets &amp; variance analysis (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 May (Fri)</td>
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<td>Flexible budgets &amp; variance analysis (3)</td>
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<td>20:15-21:45</td>
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<td>Quiz#2</td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 May (Sat)</td>
<td>08:30-10:00</td>
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<td>Empirical Research in Management Accounting (1)</td>
<td>See reading list</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:15-11:45</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Empirical Research in Management Accounting (2)</td>
<td>See reading list</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Duration</td>
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<td>21 May (Sat) cont.</td>
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<td>Empirical Research in Management Accounting (3)</td>
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<td>Quiz#3- Empirical Research in Management Accounting</td>
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<td>22 May (Sun)</td>
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<td>Decision making and relevant information</td>
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<td>Pricing decisions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13:30-15:00</td>
<td>1½ hours</td>
<td>Strategic issues and balanced scorecard</td>
<td>13 &amp; 19 See reading list</td>
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<td>15:15-16:45</td>
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<td>Revision</td>
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**ASSESSMENT MECHANISM**

### Assessment mechanism summary

<table>
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<th>Item</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes #1, #2 &amp; #3</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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**Note 1:** Results may be subject to scaling and standardisation under faculty policy and are not necessarily the sum of the component parts.

**Note 2:** Your assessed work may also be used for quality assurance purposes, such as to assess the level of achievement of learning outcomes as required for accreditation and audit purposes. The findings may be used to inform changes aimed at improving the quality of Business School programs. All material used for such processes will be treated as confidential, and the outcome will not affect your grade for the unit.
Assessment components

Seminar Activities (15%)

Seminar attendance is compulsory. You must attend and participate in the seminar activities. Except for extenuating circumstances, absence from classes will not be permitted. Permission will NOT be granted for reasons due to work commitment. Please note that students who come late and/or leave early for each seminar session will be deemed absent.

Seminar activities represent an important part of your learning experience. Seminar activities consist of questions which will be discussed in each seminar session. These questions consist of multiple-choice types, problem-type questions and/or cases, and will be handed out only at the beginning of each seminar session. Students will be grouped into teams of 2-3 people for seminar activities.

The aims of these seminar activities are to give you an opportunity to improve your understanding and technical competence and to develop your generic skills in the following areas: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and interpersonal.

Quizzes #1, #2 & #3 (Total 30%)

Quizzes #1 and #2 will comprise both theoretical and practical questions and are designed to assess your understanding of management accounting concepts and techniques. Quiz#3 will test your understanding and appreciation of the empirical research in management accounting. More details will be provided.

Final examination (55%)

The final exam will comprise both theoretical and practical questions. The materials covered in the final examination will be drawn from ALL the seminars. More details will be provided.

Student Guild

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Website: http://www.guild.uwa.edu.au

Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities


Appeals against academic assessment

The University provides the opportunity for students to lodge an appeal against assessment results and/or progress status (refer http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/appeals ).