



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

FEK430 Financial Accounting, Second Cycle, 15 credits

Extern redovisning, avancerad nivå, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Business Administration on 2019-12-09 and was last revised on 2020-02-25 to be valid from 2020-08-31, autumn semester of 2020.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Business Administration

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

Business Administration

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires at least 180 credits of which at least 90 credits must be in business administration including a Bachelor's thesis and a specialisation towards accounting including group accounting or equivalent.

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to

1. describe international accounting regulation, and its impact on reporting entities in Europe and Sweden. Be able to discuss the conceptual framework behind accounting standards, and how the concepts are implemented in advanced valuation issues. The student should be able to use a theoretical material, and use it in a real-life situation. The student should be able to select among standards, and

interpret them in relation to specific accounting cases and be able to argue for the chosen solution. Further, the student should be able to explain current research in the field.

2. identify conceptual issues relating to an International Financial Reporting Standard. This involves relating the standard to scientific literature. In addition, the student should have the ability to discuss the conceptual issues with practitioners and identify differences in entities financial reporting.
3. describe and be able to identify and discuss different issues that arise in the auditing process. The student should have the ability to implement audit regulation to a specific situation. Related to this, the student should describe the current debate on ethical issues in accounting. The student should have the ability to discuss different ways of strengthening the ethical behaviour of actors in the accounting system. In addition, the student should be able to discuss considerations that impact integrated reporting and sustainability reporting.

The course includes sections that strengthen the generic skills of students. Analytical skills are acquired by solving theoretical and practical assignments. Oral and written communication skills, as well as training in information search are acquired through written assignments, which are presented and discussed orally.

The qualitative degree targets for a Master of Science (60 credits) with a major in Business Administration relate to the intended learning outcomes for the course as follows.

Qualitative targets	Learning outcomes
<i>Knowledge and understanding</i>	1+2+3
<i>Competence and skills</i>	2+3
<i>Judgement and approach</i>	3

Course content

The course includes two main sections: Accounting standards and their application, and Accounting in context.

Accounting standards and their application. - This part of the course covers how accounting is regulated, and the content of standards. The regulatory bodies focused on are the IASB and the EU, but the national regulation in Sweden is also included. Accounting issues are discussed in relation to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Examples of areas covered include fixed assets, pensions, financial

instruments, and leasing. These areas are discussed both from a theoretical and a practical implementation perspective. Students learn both the conceptual basis of standards, and their technical implementation. In addition, there is a section on accounting for private entities.

Accounting standards must be applied by the producers of accounting, i.e. by reporting companies. The course includes accounting cases, in which students are presented with life-like accounting situations. Students learn how to apply IFRS to such situations, as well as to select among different possible standards. This section also includes the hierarchy of different standards and rules. The application of accounting standards affects reporting of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. This in turn affects entities equity and dividend capacity. Students therefore learn how accounting are linked with other areas, such as association law.

Accounting in context. - In this part of the course, accounting is studied in a broader context, including auditing, ethical aspects and disclosures about corporate social responsibility.

First, an insight into the nature and purpose of auditing is given, and the responsibilities of an auditor in relation to corporate management. Issues in the auditing process are discussed, such as auditor independence, materiality, and the planning and execution of audit work. Auditing is related to ethical issues in accounting. An issue being discussed is what disclosures that are provided on environmental and social responsibility issues. This section covers considerations involving both integrated reporting and sustainability reporting.

Form of teaching

Lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Assessment

Learning outcome 1 is examined via a written exam.

Learning outcomes 2 and 3 are examined via written case assignments and oral presentation in a seminar group. In total, the course includes three written case assignments; one assignment for learning outcome 2 and two assignments for learning outcome 3.

Due to resource constraints, the assignments can only be performed and assessed within the course dates.

If the student has been granted special educational support from the University of Gothenburg because of a disability, the examiner has the right to offer the student an adapted test.

If a student, who has failed the same examined element on two occasions, wishes to change examiner before the next examination session, such a request is to be submitted to the department in writing and granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, though at most two years after the course has ceased/been changed.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Excellent (A), Very good (B), Good (C), Satisfactory (D), Sufficient (E) and Fail (F).

To pass the course, a student must receive a passing grade on all intended learning outcomes. With regard to learning outcome 3, a passing grade must be received on both assignments. All points from the examination elements that are graded by points are added together and translated to grade A-F for the course.

Grade (Definition) Characteristic:

A (Excellent) A distinguished result that is excellent with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

B (Very good) A very good result with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

C (Good) The result is of a good standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought and lives up to expectations.

D (Satisfactory) The result is of a satisfactory standard with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

E (Sufficient) The result satisfies the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought, but not more.

F (Fail) The result does not meet the minimum requirements with regard to theoretical depth, practical relevance, analytical ability and independent thought.

Some occasional examination elements of the course may have the grading scale UG (Fail/Pass).

Course evaluation

A course evaluation is conducted anonymously either digitally via the course website or via a written questionnaire handed out at the last scheduled meeting of the course or in connection with the exam. The results of the evaluation are to be communicated to students via the course committee and course website.

The results of and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.