

Academic Year 2024/2025

Cost Accounting, Planning & Control

Master of Science in Business Administration

Syllabus

Prof. Antonio Chirico



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Course Purpose

This course will focus on the use of accounting information for cost analysis, internal planning and control purposes.

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Course Description

1. Concepts and fundamentals of Management Accounting which pervade business decisions (i.e. financial accounting vs management accounting; direct cost, variable cost, etc...);
2. Cost Accounting System (i.e. full costing vs direct costing);
3. The planning function (i.e. how to build budgets);
4. Relevant Cost for Decision Making (the use of information to make alternative choices in non-routine decision situations)

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Main Course Topics

Management Accounting Concepts

Key words: cost objects, direct/indirect costs, cost drivers, variable/fixed costs, contribution margin, breakeven point, and cost-volume-profit analysis.

Cost Accounting Systems

Key words: job costing and process costing, cost allocation and computation of overhead rates.

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**Main Course
Topics**

Activity-Based Costing and Cost Allocation

Key words: hierarchy of costs; traditional cost systems and Activity-Based Costing (ABC)

Budgets and Standard Cost Systems

Key words: standard costing systems; flexible budgets and standard costs; analysis of Variances (i.e. volume variances, price variances, etc...)

Relevant Cost Analysis

Key words: relevant/ non relevant costs; analysis of decision problems

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Course Structure (1/2)

The course is divided into two modules:

MODULE 1: COST ACCOUNTING

MODULE 2: PROFIT PLANNING

Each module is divided into 3 sections

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Course Structure (2/2)

1. COST ACCOUNTING:

- Section I: Concepts and Fundamentals of Management Accounting;
- Section II: Cost Accounting Systems and Cost Analysis;
- Section III: Relevant Costs for Decision Making and Control.

2. PROFIT PLANNING

- Section IV: Budgeting Process for Planning and Controlling
- Section V: Segment Reporting, Decentralization and the Balanced Scorecard
- Section VI: Managerial Accounting in practice: cases study on budgeting (final case study discussion)

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Teaching Methods

The course will be a combination of lectures, problem-solving, case work, and interactive class discussion.

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Main References

Books:

Garrison, Norreen, Brewer, *Managerial Accounting* (17th Edition, McGraw/Hill International Edition). Students are requested to study chapters: 1-14.

Articles:

Reading materials and articles will be provided by the lecturer.

Class materials:

Slides downloaded from the course web page

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Criteria for student evaluation: assessment

Assessment	Assessment Task	No. of Times
1.	Assignment and Class discussion	almost 3
2.	Mid Term Examination - I	1
3.	Mid Term Examination - II	1
4.	Presentation of a budget case study (*)	1
5.	Final Examination (*)	1

(*) Mandatory

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Criteria for student evaluation: final examination

Final examination is divided into written and oral parts.

Written exam is always mandatory if:

- a. the average mark of the mid term examinations is less than 18/30; or
- b. students will not participate to mid term examinations; or
- c. students will refuse the mark of the mid term examinations.

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Criteria for student evaluation: written and oral exam

Written exam – The format will be the follow:

- Part A: multiple choice quizzes and true/false quizzes;
Part B: exercise (“Managerial Accounting in practice”);
Part C: open questions (from 1 to 3).

Oral exam - Students may be asked to discuss their written answers and to focus on some specific theoretical issues.

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Course Schedule

Mon.–Tue.– Wed. 9:00–11:00 Room P5

Applications Schedule (dott. Gabriele Saponaro)

Thursday 9:00 –11:00

Office Hours

Prof. Antonio Chirico: Monday 15:00–17:00

For further information please contact me at this mail
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