



## **DILLARD COLLEGE** **Business Administration**

### **SYLLABUS: Cost Analysis and Control**

**ACCT 5213 Section 270 (Fall 2025)**  
**Wednesday, 7–9:50 p.m., Dillard Building 121**

#### **Contact Information**

Instructor: Catherine Gaharan

Office: Dillard Building 210

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 noon  
Tuesday 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., and by appointment

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#### **Course Materials**

Required Text: *Managerial Accounting for Managers*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. By Noreen, Brewer, Garrison. Also recommended, not required - *Cornerstones of Managerial Accounting* (a fairly recent edition) by Mowen, Hansen, Heitger

**Desire2Learn:** You will find the following at this site:

- Syllabus
- Course content
- Grades

#### **Course Description**

Cost analysis is a graduate level presentation of managerial accounting topics. Through the use of case analysis, the student will apply methods and techniques of cost and managerial accounting to business decision situations. A major objective is an appreciation of the subjective elements in these situations as well as application of quantitative methods presented in the text.

#### **Course Prerequisites**

Accounting 2143 and 2243 or equivalent, and consent of the graduate coordinator.

## Learning Goals

### General Learning Goals:

1. *Teambuilding and collaboration to achieve group objectives:* Students will work in groups to prepare and present the company analyses and the business plans used in this course.
2. *Competency in writing for common business scenarios:* Groups will prepare and submit a grammatically correct set of power point slides for each company and for each business plan. Reports must reflect a clear and logical flow of ideas leading to sound analysis.
3. *Effective communications:* Each member of the group will present part of the company analysis/business plan. The student's score will be based on how effectively the student analyzes the business, identifies problems, and suggests solutions.
4. *Problem solving and decision-making abilities through critical analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of business information:* Students will demonstrate problem solving and decision-making ability as they synthesize information into coherent and defensible analysis.
5. *Adapt knowledge to new and unfamiliar circumstances:* The companies and business plans included in this course represent a mixture of a wide variety of business situations. Students must apply knowledge gained both through education as well as through experience in order to determine optimal analyses to these business problems.

### Course Specific Learning Goals:

After completing this course, students should be able to:

- Recognize and to define different concepts of cost
- Apply different methods of analyzing and accounting for product and service costs
- Understand the relationship between cost, volume, and profit and apply it to planning and budgeting
- Measure and evaluate the differences between budgeted and actual performance
- Determine the costs relevant to specific business situations.

## Course Policies

### Company analysis:

Each team of students will present analyses comparing two specific companies to the class and will submit a power point analysis of the results. Students are responsible for obtaining company data through EDGAR, company websites, and other business sources.

### Analysis of business plan:

Each team of students is responsible for presenting a business plan to the class and for submitting a power point analysis of the plan. Presentations will include a brief background, in-depth identification and

analysis of possible problems, and detailed solutions to the problems. Some plan analyses will require more in-depth study of the text and/or additional research of the business' industry.

Teambuilding:

Each team member is expected to contribute fully in completing the objectives of the team. Team members will be assigned specific parts of the problem to analyze.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is expected, and roll will be taken. Please refer the MSU Student Handbook for Class Attendance Policy and Authorized Absences.

Late Assignments:

Each company/business plan will be presented in class on its assigned date. There will be no opportunity to present an analysis after its assigned date.

Incomplete Grade:

A grade of "incomplete" is given only in the case of emergencies; complete documentation for the situation is required. The rare case of an "incomplete" must be satisfied within 30 days of the beginning of the next long semester.

Extra Credit:

There are no opportunities for extra credit in this class.

Syllabus Change:

This syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change. Syllabus changes will be communicated in class and via Desire2Learn.

Academic Integrity:

All acts of academic dishonesty will result in a **\*failing** grade for the course, and the College and/or University may take further action. Work submitted in this course must be your research. Use of information other than your own must be properly cited. Please note that I take this policy very seriously. For the University policies on academic integrity, refer to the MSU Student Handbook on Standards of Conduct.

Disability policy:

Students with a disability must be registered with Disability Support Services to receive classroom accommodations.

Classroom Behavior:

Refer to Midwestern State University's Code of Student Conduct contained in the Student Handbook.

Grading and Evaluation:

The semester average is based on 250 points, consisting of:

**Company analyses and presentation, worth 100 points based on:**

- the students' ability to develop a cohesive report free from grammatical and formatting errors with an overall clear and logical flow of ideas leading to a sound conclusion
- the appropriateness of the analysis
- the effectiveness of the presentation
- the ability to identify problems
- the quality of the suggested solutions to problems
- the student's ability to defend the proposed solutions.

**Analysis and presentation of business plan, worth 100 points based on:**

- the students' ability to develop a cohesive report free from grammatical and formatting errors with an overall clear and logical flow of ideas leading to a sound conclusion
- the appropriateness of the group's analysis
- the effectiveness of the group's presentation
- the ability to identify problems
- the quality of the suggested solutions to problems
- the group's ability to defend the proposed solutions.

**Team evaluations, worth 50 points based on:**

- team members' evaluations of each member's contribution to the analyses from each of the two teams, for the business plan analysis and for the company analysis.
- Students who do not complete the team evaluation for each teammate will be penalized ten points for each team member not evaluated.

An average of at least 90% results in a grade of A, 80-89% B, 70-79% C, 60-69% D, <60% F.

**Questions Regarding Course Grade:**

Grades are confidential by law. Therefore, grades will be posted only on Desire2Learn for this class.

**Class Procedures**

The class will review cost and managerial accounting concepts from the text and from power point presentations. Selected accounting concepts will be presented at the beginning of the semester. The following topics will be discussed:

- Introductory Material
- Basic Concepts
- Cost Behavior
- Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis
- Job Costing
- Profit Planning
- Standard Costing
- Performance Evaluation
- Short-Run Decision Making
- Cost of quality

During the class meeting after reviewing concepts and during each class meeting thereafter, company analyses and then business plans will be presented.

Students will post to the appropriate discussion board a power point analysis of their portion of the report no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on the day following the presentation. Alternatively, the team may elect to present a single report which includes all parts combined, instead of separate reports. A late submission will not be accepted; however, reports may be submitted early.

### **Course Schedule**

<u>Date, 2025:</u>	<u>Topic and Case</u>
<u>Aug 27 – Sept 10</u>	<u>Introduction, review, prepare analyses</u>
<u>Sept 17 – Oct 15</u>	<u>Company analyses</u>
<u>Oct 22 – Nov 19</u>	<u>Business plan analyses</u>
<u>Dec 3</u>	<u>Final Exam and Semester wrap-up</u>

Notes: Companies/business plans and presenters are included on the schedules of companies/business plans for each group, found in D2L.

Guidelines for presentations and for company and business plan analyses are included separately in D2L.