

Dillard College of Business Administration

SYLLABUS: Cost Analysis and Control

ACCT 5213 Section 270

Spring 2023

Wednesday in Dillard Building 121

7:00 p.m. until 9:50 p.m.

Contact Information

Instructor: Catherine Gaharan

Office: Dillard Building 210

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and by appointment

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Course Materials

Text: A fairly recent edition of a good undergraduate managerial accounting text.

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:

Teambuilding and collaboration to achieve group objectives: Students will work in groups to prepare and present the cases and the company analyses used in this course.

Competency in writing for common business scenarios: Groups will prepare and submit a grammatically correct written report for each case and for each company. These reports must reflect an overall clear and logical flow of ideas leading to a sound conclusion.

Effective oral communications: Each member of the group will present part of the case/company analysis. The student's score will be based on how effectively the student presents the problems of the case/company and the suggested solutions to those problems.

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 their information into a coherent and defensible case/company analysis.

Adapt knowledge to new and unfamiliar circumstances: The cases/companies included in this course represent a mixture of problems experienced in a wide variety of business situations. Students must apply knowledge gained both through education as well as through experience in order to determine optimal solutions 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 decision situations.

Course Policies

Case analyses: Each team of students is responsible for presenting an assigned case to the class and for submitting a formal written analysis of the case. Presentations and written analyses will include a brief background of the case, in-depth identification and analysis of the problems, and detailed solutions to the problems. Some case analyses will require more in-depth study of the text and/or additional research of the case problems. Visual aids are not required but usually improve the presentations.

Company analyses: Each team of students will present an analysis of a specific company to the class and will submit a formal written analysis of the company. Students are responsible for obtaining company data through EDGAR, company websites, and other business sources.

Discussants: Discussants are responsible for leading the class discussion of an assigned case/company. Class discussions should include questions about the presenters' identification of the problems and their proposed solutions as well as possible identification of additional problems and suggested alternative solutions. Visual aids are not expected.

Participation: Each member of the class is expected to contribute to the discussion of each case/company in their group.

Teambuilding: Each team member is expected to contribute fully in completing the objectives of the team.

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 case/company analysis will be presented in class on its assigned date. There will be no opportunity to present a case/company analysis after its assigned date. The written case/company analysis is due via email before class one week after it is scheduled to be presented and will not be accepted after the due 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 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. 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.

Concealed handguns: Senate Bill 11 allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus. Areas excluded from concealed carry are marked.

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 450 total points, consisting of:

Case analysis and presentation, worth 100 points based on:

- the appropriateness of the group's analysis
- the effectiveness of the group's presentation
- the quality of the suggested solutions to problems
- the group's ability to defend the proposed solutions.

Company analysis and presentation, worth 100 points based on:

- the appropriateness of the analysis
- the effectiveness of the presentation
- the quality of the suggested solutions to problems
- the student's ability to defend the proposed solutions.

A formal written report of each case and of each company, worth 50 points each 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.

Discussant duties, worth 50 points based on:

- the ability to evaluate the presentations
- the ability to involve the class in the evaluation (for example, by posing questions; by asking for comments; by suggesting alternative views).
- Do not re-present the case.

Class participation, worth 50 points based on:

- the quality of the student's evaluations of the presentation (for example, merely restating someone else's comments is not quality; however, adding substantially to previous comments and/or rationally disagreeing with previous comments could be of quality).

Before class, each participant must submit by email one written question or suggestion concerning the case/company.

Team evaluations, worth 50 points based on:

- team members' evaluations of the student's contribution to the analyses from each of the two teams, for the case 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.

Note: For any team whose members cannot work together, each member must prepare a separate case/company analysis and a separate formal report. The grade for each member of that team will be reduced.

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

During the fifth class meeting and during each class meeting thereafter, case and company analyses will be presented. Following each presentation, critiques of the presentation and additional discussions will be led by the discussants with full participation by the class.

Students will submit as a Word document by email the formal case/company report within one week after the case presentation, but before class time.

Course Schedule

<u>Date, 2023:</u>	<u>Topic and Case</u>
Jan. 18 – Feb. 8	Introduction, review, prepare analyses
Feb 15 – Mar. 22	Case analyses
Mar. 29 – Apr. 26	Company analyses
May 3	Final Exam and Semester wrap-up

Notes:

Presenters, and discussants for case analyses are included on the schedule of case presentations.

Presenters and discussants for company analyses are included on the schedule of company presentations.

Guidelines for presentations, for discussants, for report write-up, and for company and case analyses are included separately.