



## Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

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**Semester:** Fall

**Course Prefix:** ACC

**Course Title:** Financial Reporting and Analysis

**Year:** 2025

**Course and Section #:** 6250 Sec 601

**Credits:** 3

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### ***Course Description***

This graduate course teaches about financial reporting requirements and choices that impact the evaluation of firm performance and strategy. Students will learn to examine the role of management and corporate governance in financial reporting along with how to analyze firm financial performance and valuation. The course teaches skills for analyzing financial reports, disclosures, and management communication of financial performance. The course focuses on financial reports prepared for external stakeholders to a firm.

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### ***Course Attributes***

This course has the following attributes:

- ☐ General Education Requirements
- ☐ Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- ☐ Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- ☒ Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Elective Core Requirements in Program
- ☐ Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

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### ***Instructor Information***

**Instructor Name:** Joel Helquist

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### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

1. Describe financial reporting requirements for publicly listed firms
  2. Describe the role of management and corporate governance in financial reporting
  3. Explain various external stakeholders' interests in financial reports
  4. Evaluate the impact of financial reporting choices related to accounting judgments and financial statement disclosures
  5. Analyze management communication of firms' financial performance
  6. Analyze firm financial performance and valuation
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### ***Course Materials and Texts***

All course readings are provided on Canvas.

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## Course Requirements

### Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Performance in ACCT 6250 will be evaluated based on the following:

Group Midterm:	150 points
Individual Final:	200 points
Term Project:	150 points
Participation:	100 points
Course Evaluation:	10 points
<u>Readings Quizzes:</u>	<u>90 points</u>
Total:	700 points

Letter grades for the course are determined based on your course performance consistent with the following scale:

A 94 %	B- 80 %	D+ 67 %
A- 90 %	C+ 77 %	D 64 %
B+ 87 %	C 74 %	D- 60 %
B 84 %	C- 70 %	F < 60 %

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### Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

All course readings are provided on Canvas.

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### General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

Week	Session	Tuesdays	MAJOR TOPIC	Sub-Topic
1	1	01/07/25	Introduction	What is Financial Reporting?
2	2	01/14/25	Earnings	Earnings Quality
3	3	01/21/25	Earnings	Earnings Management
4	4	01/28/25	Earnings	Accruals and Cash Flows
5	5	02/04/25	Disclosures	Stock-based Compensation
6	6	02/11/25	Disclosures	Disclosure Choice and Presentation
7	7	02/18/25	Disclosures	Management Forecasts / Non-GAAP Earnings
8		<del>02/25/25</del>	<b>No class meeting. Midterm due.</b>	
9	8	03/04/25	Analysis & Valuation	Firm Performance Analysis

10		03/11/25	<b>No class meeting. Spring Break.</b>	
11	9	03/18/25	Analysis & Valuation	Term Project Checkup & Intangible Assets
12	10	03/25/25	Analysis & Valuation	Value Investing
13		04/01/25	<b>No class meeting. Work on Term Projects.</b>	
14	11	04/08/25	Analysis & Valuation	Textual Analysis
15	12	04/15/25	Analysis & Valuation	ESG Reporting / Corporate Governance
16	13	04/22/25	Term Project Presentations	
17			<b>Final Due April 30.</b>	

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## ***Required Course Syllabus Statements***

### **Generative AI**

This course is designed to provide opportunities to develop your critical thinking and communication skills. AI tools are very useful for creating high-quality deliverables with greater efficiency. However, in this class, the deliverables are not the goal. The goal is for you to go through the process to create the deliverables yourself. By doing so, you will learn and grow. For this reason, you should not use artificial intelligence tools for your assignments including the midterm and final exam. For writing support, I encourage you to use the free WSB writing lab in KB202b.

Although you should not use AI tools for your assignments, I encourage you to use artificial intelligence as a tutor for understanding concepts. If you are having trouble understanding a phrase or concept in a case, I encourage you to use AI tools to get a better understanding of the concept. For example, imagine a business case discusses a “risk-free rate”. You don’t understand what that means. Feel free to access an AI tool like ChatGPT and ask, “What is the risk-free rate?” The tool will usually give you a helpful answer to which you could ask follow-up questions.

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### **Using Remote Testing Software**

☒ This course does not use remote testing software.

☐ This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers’ immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

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## ***Required University Syllabus Statements***

### **Accommodations/Students with Disabilities**

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu) or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at [DHHservices@uvu.edu](mailto:DHHservices@uvu.edu)

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

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### **Academic Integrity**

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

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### **Equity and Title IX**

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – [TitleIX@uvu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@uvu.edu) – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

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### **Religious Accommodation**

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as

participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu). If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.