

ACCT620

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : ACCT620 **Title :** Forensic Accounting

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : ACCT610 **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course is a study of forensic accounting with an emphasis on using accounting techniques in white collar criminal investigations. The course exposes students to criminology topics such as skimming, cash larceny, check tampering, billing schemes, payroll and expense reimbursement irregularities, non-cash misappropriations, corruption, and interviewing witnesses. The course advances student knowledge of auditing, financial statement analysis, and research techniques in the context of fraud. This course requires the student to purchase additional materials. Please refer to the Course Materials section for additional details on materials and pricing or contact booklist@apus.edu. Prerequisite: ACCT610

Course Scope:

This course is designed to help you understand forensic accounting and fraud. Fraud has become a huge problem around the world. Anyone can commit fraud at any time within any kind of organization. According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiner's Report to the Nation for 2008, "participants in the survey estimated that U.S. organizations lose 7% of their annual revenues to fraud. Applied to the projected 2008 United States Gross Domestic Product, this 7% figure translates to approximately \$994 billion in fraud losses". The causes of these problems will be discussed in this class.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- CO1. Summarize the role of the forensic accountant.
 - CO2. Examine the auditor's responsibility to detect fraud.
 - CO3. Describe how to conduct forensic computer investigations.
 - CO4. Analyze the major financial statement fraud schemes.
 - CO5. Evaluate how to prevent identity theft.
 - CO6. Explain the major money--laundering schemes.
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Outline

Week 1: The Forensic Accountant

Topic

Chapter 1. Introduction to the World of Forensic Accounting

Chapter 2. The Legal Environment of Forensic Accounting

Course Objective

CO1. Summarize the role of the forensic accountant.

CO2. Examine the auditor's responsibility to detect fraud.

Week 2: Screening and Staging Engagements

Topic

Chapter 3. Screening and Staging Engagements

Course Objective

CO1. Summarize the role of the forensic accountant.

CO2. Examine the auditor's responsibility to detect fraud.

Week 3: Evidence & Analysis

Topic

Chapter 4. Gathering Evidence—Interviews and Observations

Chapter 5. Financial Statements Analysis— Reading Between the Lines

Course Objective

CO3. Describe how to conduct forensic computer investigations.

CO4. Analyze the major financial statement fraud schemes.

Week 4: Fraud & White Collar Crime

Topic

Chapter 6. Fraud and White-Collar Crime

Course Objective

CO5. Evaluate how to prevent identity theft.

CO6. Explain the major money--laundering schemes.

Week 5: Fraud Investigation

Topic

Chapter 7. Conducting a Fraud Investigation

Course Objective

CO3. Describe how to conduct forensic computer investigations.

Week 6: Transforming Data into Evidence

Topic

Chapter 8. Transforming Data into Evidence Part 1

Chapter 9. Transforming Data into Evidence Part 2

Course Objective

CO3. Describe how to conduct forensic computer investigations.

CO4. Analyze the major financial statement fraud schemes.

Week 7: Responsibilities & Valuation

Topic

Chapter 10. Professional Responsibilities

Chapter 11. Fundamentals of Business Valuation

Course Objective

CO1. Summarize the role of the forensic accountant.

CO2. Examine the auditor's responsibility to detect fraud.

Week 8: Special Topics

Topic

Chapter 12. Special Topics

Course Objective

CO1. Summarize the role of the forensic accountant.

Evaluation

Method of Assessment

A. Tests & Paper

There will be two (2) tests in the course, a midterm and a final given in modules four and eight respectively. The tests in this class will consist of multiple choice questions and/or short answer problems. Tests will be three hours long and focus on the material covered in the course. Tests may be administered using the Examity test proctoring service. Please verify in the course announcements and/or the Lessons tab if the course will use test proctoring. It is the student's

responsibility to notify the instructor and the test proctoring service regarding any schedule changes or non-disability related accommodations. The course will have a comprehensive paper that will measure student understanding of the course objectives along with research and writing skills. Please refer to the APA Manual 6th edition for the format of the paper.

B. Assignments:

Course assignments will be a series of exercises, problems, and simulations. Assignments will have a specific due date with specific instructions. Please refer to the APA Manual 6th edition for the format of the assignments, if applicable. Late assignments will be subject to the university's Late Work/Make-up Policy detailed in the student handbook. Please be advised the instructor reserves the right to implement their own late assignment policy.

C. Quizzes:

Throughout the term, quizzes will be given in several modules to test student understanding of the material. Quizzes will consist of questions, problems, or simulations. Please be advised the instructor reserves the right to implement their own late assignment policy.

D. Discussion Forums:

Participation in the discussion forums is an essential component of the final grade. All students are expected to engage in lively discussions and answer instructor follow-up questions. The quality of participations along with student netiquette will be a part of the grade.

Assessment of the Course Objectives

Course Objectives	Assessment Methods
1 - 6	Test question, assignment, discussion, and quiz

The following distribution will be used in assigning grades (decimal points will be rounded to the nearest whole number at semester's end).

Grade	Quality Points/Grading Percent
A	4.0/ 100 – 94
A-	3.67/ 93 – 90
B+	3.33/ 89 – 87
B	3.0/ 86 – 84
B-	2.67/ 83 –80
C	2.33/ 79 – 75

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	10.00 %
Week 1 Forum	1.25 %
Week 2 Forum	1.25 %
Week 3 Forum	1.25 %
Week 4 Forum	1.25 %
Week 5 Forum	1.25 %
Week 6 Forum	1.25 %
Week 7 Forum	1.25 %
Week 8 Forum	1.25 %
Quizzes	20.00 %
Week 1 Quiz	3.33 %
Week 2 Quiz	3.33 %
Week 3 Quiz	3.33 %
Week 5 Quiz	3.33 %
Week 6 Quiz	3.33 %
Week 7 Quiz	3.33 %
Assignments	30.00 %
Week 1 Assignment	5.00 %
Week 2 Assignment	5.00 %
Week 3 Assignment	5.00 %
Week 5 Assignment	5.00 %
Week 6 Assignment	5.00 %
Week 7 Assignment	5.00 %
Tests	30.00 %
Midterm	15.00 %
Final	15.00 %
Final Assessment	10.00 %
Week 8 Paper	10.00 %

Materials**Book Title:** Forensic Accounting**Author:** Robert Rufus, Laura Miller, William Hahn**Publication Info:** Pearson**ISBN:** 9780133050479**Book Title:** If you prefer the electronic format, your required book(s) may be available for purchase from the APUS Bookstore in a VitalSource e-book format**Author:**

Publication Info:

ISBN: GRAD NOTE

Websites and Videos

In addition to the required course texts, the following public domain Websites are useful. Please abide by the university's academic honesty policy when using Internet sources. Note website addresses are subject to change.

- [AICPA](#)
 - [FASB](#)
 - [American Psychological Association \(APA\) Style Website](#)
 - [Purdue Online Writing Lab](#)
 - [Turnitin Website](#)
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Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework to the School of Business.
- Please note that no formal citation style is required on forum assignments in the School of Business—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](#) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each assignment.
- Generally speaking, if arrangements are not made in advance, a late penalty of 10% will be assessed for any assignment submitted 1-7 days past the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after the 7th day. No work will be accepted past the final day of class, unless prior arraignments have been made with the instructor. Please be advised the instructor reserves the right to implement their own late assignment policy.
- As a working adult, your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services

such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree" is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.
- The main response to the forum need to be provided mid-week – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations. Late main response posts to a forum will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.
- Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week will not be graded.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your quiz. Weekly quizzes must be submitted by midnight Eastern Time, Day 7 of the assigned week. Late quizzes or exams will not be accepted without prior instructor approval.

Test Proctoring

- Tests may be administered using the Examity test proctoring service. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor and the test proctoring service regarding any schedule changes or non-disability related accommodations.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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