straighterline

Syllabus

ACC150 | **Managerial Accounting**

Course Text

No need to track down a textbook; this text is provided digitally as part of the course enrollment.

Wild, John, J., and Ken W. Shaw. *Managerial Accounting*., McGraw Hill Education, 2025 Release.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the internal use of accounting data to support strategic business decisions, operational planning, and organizational control. Unlike financial accounting, which focuses on reporting to external stakeholders, this course emphasizes the generation, interpretation, and communication of actionable financial information for internal managers and executives. Students will explore cost behavior analysis, job-order and process costing systems, and budgeting frameworks. The curriculum covers performance measurement through responsibility accounting and Balanced Scorecards, differential analysis for short-term decision-making, and long-term capital budgeting techniques. Additionally, students will learn to analyze statements of cash flows and apply financial ratio analysis to evaluate overall corporate health. Through practical problem-solving and case studies, students develop the analytical skills required to steer day-to-day operations and shape long-term corporate strategy.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast managerial accounting and financial accounting, and assess how managerial accounting supports various management functions
2. Describe job-order costing systems and evaluate their suitability in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing firms; similarly, describe process costing and assess its suitability in both contexts
3. Interpret cost behavior patterns to estimate costs and assess the need for a contribution approach to income statements
4. Design and implement an activity-based costing (ABC) model to accurately allocate corporate overhead, analyze cost pools, and leverage activity-based management (ABM) data to optimize strategic pricing and operational efficiency
5. Evaluate cost behavior and perform Cost-Volume-Profit (CVP) analysis to forecast profitability and guide corporate decision-making
6. Prepare and analyze an income statement using absorption costing and variable costing
7. Describe the elements of a budgeting framework and assess the need for budgeting in an organization
8. Interpret flexible budgeting and standard costing to evaluate performance, isolate inefficiencies, and inform managerial decisions
9. Evaluate divisional performance using responsibility accounting framework principles, determine appropriate transfer pricing strategies for intra-company transactions, and implement a Balanced Scorecard to align financial and non-financial metrics with corporate strategy
10. Identify and isolate relevant costs and revenues, eliminate sunk and allocated fixed costs, and apply differential analysis to make short-term business decisions regarding special orders, outsourcing (make-or-

buy), dropping a segment, and constrained resource allocation
11. Evaluate long-term investment opportunities by applying capital budgeting techniques, accounting for the time value of money using Net Present Value (NPV) and Internal Rate of Return (IRR), and comparing results against non-discounting methods like payback period and accounting rate of return
12. Prepare, analyze, and utilize a Statement of Cash Flows by distinguishing between operating, investing, and financing activities, and utilize both the direct and indirect methods to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities
13. Perform a comprehensive financial analysis of a corporation by utilizing horizontal, vertical, and trend analysis techniques, and calculate and interpret key financial ratios to evaluate an organization's liquidity, solvency, profitability, and market performance

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest, truthful and responsible manner. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and academic misconduct. Failure to comply with the Academic Integrity Policy can result in a failure and/or zero on the attempted assignment/examination, a removal from the course, disqualification to enroll in future courses, and/or revocation of an academic transcript.

Course Completion Policy

In order for a course to be considered complete, **all required coursework must be attempted, submitted, and graded.** Required coursework consists of graded assignments. Any Academic Integrity Policy violations may prevent a course from being considered complete.

Assessment Types

StraighterLine courses may include any combination of the assessment types described below. Review the descriptions to learn about each type, then review the Course Evaluation Criteria to understand how your learning will be measured in this course.

Benchmarks
Benchmarks test your mastery of course concepts. You have 3 attempts, and your highest score counts. **Note:** Cumulative Benchmarks (final exams) only allow 1 attempt and use a browser-based examination integrity tool.

Capstones
Capstones are project-based assessments that help you apply concepts to real-world scenarios. You have 2 attempts, and your highest score counts.

Checkpoints
Checkpoints are quick knowledge checks on important course concepts. All are open-book, and most have 1-3 attempts.

AI Use-Case Policies

StraighterLine Capstone assessments operate under one of three AI Use-Case Policies. These designations are selected intentionally to support learners in developing digital literacy, ethical reasoning, and authentic communication skills. Each model requires students to engage meaningfully with the course outcomes while adhering to academic standards.

Independent Work Requirement: Capstones with this designation must be completed independently without using AI tools. The goal is for learners to showcase their own understanding and skills without AI assistance. Students are expected to generate and submit original work developed solely through their own reasoning and effort.

AI-Assisted Planning Option: Capstones with this designation may allow AI tools to support brainstorming and assessment planning. If allowed, students will be asked to document any AI assistance by noting how it informed their work. Documentation must be included within the assignment or in a designated reflection field. Examples include describing how an AI tool helped organize an outline, generate ideas, or surface sources for further exploration.

AI-Integration Requirement: Capstones with this designation require AI tools as part of the learning process. Students will be asked to reflect upon their AI interactions and AI contributions to the assessment. Reflections must include which tools were used, how they were used, and what insights students gained from the process. This promotes transparency, ethical use, and metacognitive skill-building.

Course Evaluation Criteria

Your score provides a percentage score and letter grade for each course. A passing percentage is 70% or higher.

There are a total of 1000 points in the course:

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Checkpoint 1: Managerial Accounting Concepts and Principles	5	1
Chapter 1: Do More Activity 1	5	1
Chapter 1: Do More Activity 2	5	1
Chapter 1: Accounting Analysis	5	1
Chapter 1: Problem Set A	5	1
Benchmark 1: Checkpoint 1	30	1
Checkpoint 2: Job Order Costing	5	2
Chapter 2: Do More Activity 1	5	2
Chapter 2: Do More Activity 2	5	2
Chapter 2: Accounting Analysis	5	2
Chapter 2: Problem Set A	5	2
Benchmark 2: Checkpoint 2	30	2
Checkpoint 3: Process Costing and Analysis	5	3

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Chapter 3: Do More Activity 1	5	3
Chapter 3: Do More Activity 2	5	3
Chapter 3: Do More Activity 3	5	3
Chapter 3: Accounting Analysis	5	3
Chapter 3: Problem Set A	5	3
Benchmark 3: Checkpoint 3	30	3
Checkpoint 4: Activity-Based Costing and Analysis	5	4
Chapter 4: Do More Activity 1	5	4
Chapter 4: Do More Activity 2	5	4
Chapter 4: Do More Activity 3	5	4
Chapter 4: Accounting Analysis	5	4
Chapter 4: Problem Set A	5	4
Benchmark 4: Checkpoint 4	30	4
Checkpoint 5: Cost Behavior and Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis	5	5
Chapter 5: Do More Activity 1	5	5
Chapter 5: Do More Activity 2	5	5
Chapter 5: Accounting Analysis	5	5
Chapter 5: Problem Set A	5	5
Benchmark 5: Checkpoint 5	30	5
Checkpoint 6: Variable Costing and Analysis	5	6
Chapter 6: Do More Activity 1	5	6
Chapter 6: Do More Activity 2	5	6
Chapter 6: Accounting Analysis	5	6
Chapter 6: Problem Set A	5	6
Benchmark 6: Checkpoint 6	30	6
Checkpoint 7: Master Budgets and Planning	5	7
Chapter 7: Do More Activity 1	5	7
Chapter 7: Do More Activity 2	5	7
Chapter 7: Accounting Analysis	5	7
Chapter 7: Problem Set B	5	7
Benchmark 7: Checkpoint 7	30	7

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Checkpoint 8: Flexible Budgets and Standard Costs	5	8
Chapter 8: Do More Activity 1	5	8
Chapter 8: Do More Activity 2	5	8
Chapter 8: Accounting Analysis	5	8
Chapter 8: Problem Set A	5	8
Benchmark 8: Checkpoint 8	30	8
Checkpoint 9: Performance Measurement and Responsibility Accounting	5	9
Chapter 9: Do More Activity 1	5	9
Chapter 9: Do More Activity 2	5	9
Chapter 9: Accounting Analysis	5	9
Chapter 9: Problem Set A	5	9
Benchmark 9: Checkpoint 9	5	9
Checkpoint 10: Relevant Costs for Managerial Decisions	30	10
Chapter 10: Do More Activity 1	5	10
Chapter 10: Do More Activity 2	5	10
Chapter 10: Accounting Analysis	5	10
Chapter 10: Problem Set A	5	10
Benchmark 10: Checkpoint 10	30	10
Checkpoint 11: Capital Budgeting and Investing Analysis	5	11
Chapter 11: Do More Activity 1	5	11
Chapter 11: Do More Activity 2	5	11
Chapter 11: Accounting Analysis	5	11
Chapter 11: Problem Set A	5	11
Benchmark 11: Checkpoint 11	30	11
Checkpoint 12: Reporting Cash Flows	5	12
Chapter 12: Do More Activity 1	5	12
Chapter 12: Do More Activity 2	5	12
Chapter 12: Accounting Analysis	5	12
Chapter 12: Problem Set A	5	12
Benchmark 12: Checkpoint 12	30	12
Checkpoint 13: Analysis of Financial Statements	5	13

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Chapter 13: Do More Activity 1	5	13
Chapter 13: Do More Activity 2	5	13
Chapter 13: Accounting Analysis	5	13
Chapter 13: Problem Set A	5	13
Benchmark 13: Checkpoint 13	30	13
Benchmark 14: Checkpoints 1-13	275	1-13
Total	1000	

Course Roadmap

This roadmap provides an overview of the checkpoints and lessons covered in this course.

Checkpoint 1: Managerial Accounting Concepts and Principles

- Checkpoint 1: Managerial Accounting Concepts
- Chapter 1: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 1: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 1: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 1: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 1: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 1: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 1: Problem Set A
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 1 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 2: Job Order Costing

- Checkpoint 1: Job Costing
- Chapter 2: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 2: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 2: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 2: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 2: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 2: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 2: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 2
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 2 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 3: Process Costing and Analysis

- Checkpoint 3: Process Costing and Analysis
- Chapter 3: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 3: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 3: Do More Activity 1

- Chapter 3: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 3: Do More Activity 3
- Chapter 3: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 3: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 3: Problem Set A
- Chapter 3: Appendix 3A
- Summary Tip Sheet 3
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 3 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 4: Activity-Based Costing and Analysis

- Checkpoint 4: Activity-Based Costing and Analysis
- Chapter 4: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 4: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 4: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 4: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 4: Do More Activity 3
- Chapter 4: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 4: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 4: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 4
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 4 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 5: Cost Behavior and Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis

- Checkpoint 5: Cost Behavior and Cost-Volume-Profit Analysis
- Chapter 5: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 5: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 5: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 5: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 5: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 5: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 5: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 5
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 5 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 6: Variable Costing and Analysis

- Checkpoint 6: Variable Costing and Analysis
- Chapter 6: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 6: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 6: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 6: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 6: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 6: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 6: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 6
- Chapter 6: Appendix 6A
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 6 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 7: Master Budgets and Planning

- Checkpoint 7: Master Budgets and Planning
- Chapter 7: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 7: Need to Know Videos

- Chapter 7: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 7: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 7: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 7: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 7: Problem Set B
- Summary Tip Sheet 7
- Chapter 7: Appendix 7A
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 7 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 8: Flexible Budgets and Standard Costs

- Checkpoint 8: Flexible Budgets and Standard Costs
- Chapter 8: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 8: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 8: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 8: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 8: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 8: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 8: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 8
- Chapter 8: Appendix 8A
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 8 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 9: Performance Management and Responsibility Accounting

- Checkpoint 9: Performance Management and Responsibility Accounting
- Chapter 9: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 9: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 9: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 9: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 9: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 9: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 9: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 9
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 9 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 10: Relevant Costs for Managerial Decisions

- Checkpoint 10: Relevant Costs for Managerial Decisions
- Chapter 10: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 10: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 10: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 10: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 10: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 10: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 10: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 10
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 10 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 11: Capital Budgeting and Investing Analysis

- Checkpoint 11: Capital Budgeting and Investing Analysis
- Chapter 11: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 11: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 11: Do More Activity 1

- Chapter 11: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 11: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 11: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 11: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 11
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 11 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 12: Reporting Cash Flows

- Checkpoint 12: Reporting Cash Flows
- Chapter 12: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 12: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 12: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 12: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 12: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 12: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 12: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 12
- Chapter 12: Appendix A
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 12 PowerPoint

Checkpoint 13: Analysis of Financial Statements

- Checkpoint 13: Analysis of Financial Statements
- Chapter 13: SmartBook Reading
- Chapter 13: Need to Know Videos
- Chapter 13: Do More Activity 1
- Chapter 13: Do More Activity 2
- Chapter 13: Accounting Analysis
- Chapter 13: Practice Quiz
- Chapter 13: Problem Set A
- Summary Tip Sheet 13
- Chapter 13: Appendix A and B
- Supplemental Reading: Chapter 13 PowerPoint

Related Courses

ACC151
Financial Accounting
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BUS105
Business Communications
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BUS106
Business Ethics
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