



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2022

3,135: Accounting, Controlling, Auditing

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Central - Written examination (MidTerm) (70%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Written examination (with individual examination duration) (15%)

Examination time: term time

Decentral - Written examination (with individual examination duration) (15%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[3,135.1.00 Accounting, Controlling, Auditing](#) -- Englisch -- [Fehrenbacher Dennis](#), [Eugster Florian](#)

[3,135.2.01 Accounting, Controlling, Auditing: Exercises and Independent Studies, Group 1](#) -- Englisch -- [Fehrenbacher Dennis](#), [Tinner Daniel](#)

[3,135.2.02 Accounting, Controlling, Auditing: Exercises and Independent Studies, Group 2](#) -- Englisch -- [Fehrenbacher Dennis](#), [Tinner Daniel](#)

[3,135.2.03 Accounting, Controlling, Auditing: Exercises and Independent Studies, Group 3](#) -- Englisch -- [Jugl Janik](#), [Tinner Daniel](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

The course requires the successful attendance of the courses "Principles of Financial Accounting" and "Financial Management" (in the Assessment Year).

Please note: the course is offered twice. One in German in the spring semester (Prof. Möller/Prof. Leibfried) and one in English in the autumn semester (Prof. Dinh/Prof. Eugster/Prof. Grüner). You can choose a course according to your preference during the bidding process.

Learning objectives

After visiting the course, you are able to:

- distinguish between different sets of accounting rules, their objectives, their history, and describe their institutional framework,
- understand consolidated financial statements and their purpose, and perform consolidation independently,
- carry out the initial and subsequent valuation of selected assets and liabilities (leasing agreements, financial assets, pension liabilities, impairment test, revaluations),
- understand the purpose of further mandatory components of accounting and assess the impact of significant problems on these, describe the basic principles of auditing and the most important tasks of the auditor, understand how management accounting helps firms to make strategic decisions (management accounting), understand cost accounting conceptually and apply it practically (cost-volume-profit analysis, job costing, activity-based costing),
- understand how companies make pricing decisions (pricing decisions and cost management),
- understand how companies manage their spending goals and growth targets (budgeting, variance analysis, capital budgeting, strategy implementation), and assess the further development of performance management.



Course content

The course portrays the fundamentals of financial management and focuses on the areas of controlling accounting, and auditing. The financial accounting of a company provides all the essential information necessary to make internal and external decisions (management, capital providers, and business partners). The resulting consolidation and depiction of reality are subject to internationally varying and partially very extensive regulations (SWISS GAAP FER, IFRS, US GAAP, etc.). Based on the information provided by financial accounting, management accounting helps managers make decisions to manage the business. Managers of organizations are the primary users of management accounting. The information provided by management accounting includes information about functions and segments of the organization, about the identification of relevant value drivers, and the performance of the organization. Coordination, planning, and evaluation are the primary responsibilities of management accountants. Finally, the independent external audit of the annual financial statements is a crucial aspect of well-functioning corporate governance. In addition to institutional questions, the course discusses the specific requirements of the auditors, the main audit procedures as well as the reporting of the audit results.

The course is carried out by the Institute for Accounting, Controlling and Auditing and their professorships. The Institute is also the sponsor of the Bachelor degree "Accounting" and of the Master degree in Accounting and Finance (MAccFin), in which the topics of the course are applied in a practice-oriented manner.

The career prospects in accounting can be characterized by a high degree of stability. As a job-profile, a management-oriented role in the context of controlling or consulting is conceivable on the one hand, but also in highly specialized careers in the field of accounting or auditing on the other.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course will take place in the first half of the semester (Corporate Finance in the second half) and consists of lectures, exercises, and self-study supplemented with online teaching content.

The course will be taught using the Flipped-Classroom concept. The content of the learning modules is conveyed in guided self-study. In Canvas you get access to:

- Video tutorials to help you get started with the modules to be covered relevant literature and exercises to test your knowledge.

The course consists of six lecture and exercise units in six weeks, three focusing on accounting/auditing and three focusing on controlling:

Accounting/Auditing Part: Consists of 3 Units

Week 1: Company Reporting and Group Accounting

Week 2: Accounting for Selected Assets and Liabilities

Week 3: Auditing

Controlling Part: Consists of 9 Modules (3 Modules per Week)

Week 4: Management Accounting (Module 1), Calculation and Cost Systems (Module 2), Pricing Decisions and Cost Management (Module 3)

Week 5: Budgeting (Module 4), Direct-Cost Variances (Module 5), Overhead Cost Variances (Module 6)

Week 6: Capital Budgeting and Cost Analysis (Module 7), Balanced Scorecard (Module 8), Performance Management (Module 9)

Independent Studies: The self-study in this course includes an upstream self-study in preparation for lectures and a subsequent guided self-study, including excel-tools and animated video tutorials, to deepen the treated material. By solving the tasks independently, the material is reinforced and a comprehensive understanding of the interrelationships can be facilitated.

This course counts 4 ECTS credits. Accordingly, the total average workload for students is 120 hours. This includes self-study, campus time and all examinations.

The structure of the classes is planned as follows:



- 9 hours of lectures in a weekly rhythm (6x1.5h)
- 9 hours of exercises (6x1.5h)

The structure of the self-study is intended as follows:

- 12 hours of preparation time for the lectures
- 12 hours of preparation time for the exercises
- 35 hours for the examination part I (Central-Written examination)
- and 14 hours for the examination part II (Quizzes online in Canvas)
- and 29 hours in blended learning.

The course is conducted in-person in St. Gallen. The lectures will be recorded and the recordings will be made available for 30 days.

Course literature

Accounting/Auditing Part:

Melville, International Financial Reporting, 7th Edition, Pearson International, 2019. The e-book is available through a special offer by Pearson (details provided on Canvas), which also includes Chapter 1 of the book Hayes et al, Principles of Auditing, 3rd edition Pearson International 2014.

Controlling Part:

Hornigren et al., Controlling and Accounting Pearson Custom Publication (2021), which is available as an e-book through a special offer by Pearson (details provided on Canvas).

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/3)

Examination time and form

Central - Written examination (MidTerm) (70%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: term time

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Extended Closed Book

The use of aids is limited; any additional aids permitted are exhaustively listed under "Supplementary aids". Basically, the following is applicable:

- At such examinations, all the pocket calculators of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and mono- or bilingual dictionaries (no subject-specific dictionaries) without hand-written notes are admissible. Any other pocket calculator models and any electronic dictionaries are inadmissible.
- In addition, any type of communication, as well as any electronic devices that can be programmed and are capable of communication such as notebooks, tablets, mobile telephones and others, are inadmissible.
- Students are themselves responsible for the procurement of examination aids.

Supplementary aids

None



Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

2. Examination sub part (2/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (with individual examination duration) (15%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Weekly quiz on StudyNet

Examination-aid rule

Online remote examination - Open book

Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- Calculator models which do not belong to the Texas Instruments TI-30 series are explicitly not allowed.
- In addition, any type of communication is inadmissible, as are all electronic devices that can be programmed and enable communication, such as electronic dictionaries, additional notebooks, tablets, mobile phones and other devices, which have not been explicitly permitted by the faculty member in charge.

The procurement of the electronic aids as well as ensuring their functionality and fulfillment of the technical requirements is the responsibility of the students.

The examination must be carried out using the programs defined in advance by the faculty member in charge. Mastery of the operation of the programs is part of the examination.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

3. Examination sub part (3/3)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Written examination (with individual examination duration) (15%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

Weekly quiz on StudyNet

Examination-aid rule

Online remote examination - Open book

Students are free to choose aids but will have to comply with the following restrictions:

- Calculator models which do not belong to the Texas Instruments TI-30 series are explicitly not allowed.
- In addition, any type of communication is inadmissible, as are all electronic devices that can be programmed and enable communication, such as electronic dictionaries, additional notebooks, tablets, mobile phones and other devices, which have not been explicitly permitted by the faculty member in charge.

The procurement of the electronic aids as well as ensuring their functionality and fulfillment of the technical requirements is the responsibility of the students.

The examination must be carried out using the programs defined in advance by the faculty member in charge. Mastery of the



operation of the programs is part of the examination.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

The entire course content is exam-relevant. This includes all lectures, exercises, and self-studies as well as the compulsory course literature.

Examination relevant literature

Accounting/Auditing Part:

Melville, International Financial Reporting, 7th Edition, Pearson International, 2019. The e-book is available through a special offer by Pearson (details provided on Canvas), which also includes Chapter 1 of the book Hayes et al, Principles of Auditing, 3rd edition Pearson International 2014.

Controlling Part:

Hornigren et al., Controlling and Accounting Pearson Custom Publication (2021), which is available as e-book through a special offer by Pearson (details provided on Canvas).

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 34 (Thursday, 25 August 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 42 (Monday, 17 October 2022);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 7 November 2022).