

**Texas A & M University – Commerce**  
**College of Business**  
**Department of Accounting**  
**Syllabus**  
***Financial Statement Analysis for Global Entrepreneurs***  
**ACCT 311-01W**  
**Call #40141**  
**Summer I 2016**

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Office: This is an online course. I have no set office hours and there are no set class times. You may schedule and appointment to see me in my office at the main campus.

Office Hours: Online chats that will be scheduled weekly. You are *not* required to attend, but you should listen to the archived copy when you have time. I will log on and be available for live chat. If no one joins after 10 minutes, I will log off.

Questions can be emailed to me or posted to the online forum. Posting is preferred if it is a question that other students may benefit as well.

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide an overview of financial statement analysis with a focus on global entrepreneurship. It presents a framework for analyzing business opportunities and risks through the use of financial statement analysis, ratio analysis, and trend analysis and valuation methods. Prerequisite ACCT 222 and a minimum of 55-semester credit hours.

**Required for:** BBA, MBA

**Course Materials:**

**Required Text:**

Fraser, Lyn, M., Ormiston, Aileen. 11<sup>th</sup> Edition. *Understanding Financial Statements*. Pearson (ISBN-13: 978-0-13-387403-7).

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 6e*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5 (softcover). Note that there are multiple formats available with different ISBNs.

Financial Calculator: Any type is acceptable.

### **Course Embedded Objectives:**

Your achievement level for each objective will be measured by your success in completing the homework, quizzes and examinations. The successful student, upon completion of this course, will be expected to have achieved the following as a result of this course:

- Understand financial statements, both from a historical viewpoint and the relationship between the Income Statement, the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Cash Flows.
- Be able to analyze financial statements and identify the strengths and weaknesses of firms using the techniques such as ratio analysis, common size analysis and cash flows.
- Exposure to global entrepreneurship financial environment.

### **Student Responsibilities:**

1. Read assigned material on schedule
2. Complete all homework assignments on time
3. Prepare for class, examinations.
4. Participate in all discussions

### **Course Evaluation:**

Grades will be based upon the following items:

Discussion Participation	20%
First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%
Group Project	40%

Grading scale: 90 - 100% =A, 80 - 89% =B, 70 - 79% =C, 60 - 69% =D and <60% =F. Your grade will be based on the activities above and weighted accordingly.

### **Assignments:**

Reading assignments will be approximately one chapter every week. Homework will be assigned after every unit so that you may reinforce the concepts learned so please attempt the problems. The solutions are located in the back of the book in Appendix B. Although they are not graded they will help you to study for the exams and be able to answer the questions for the discussion on the cases as we cover each Unit. If you have difficulty with a problem, please email me or make an appointment to receive help. Completing the problems will be beneficial to helping you prepare for examinations. The homework assignments are not required to be turned in, unless specified by the Professor at the beginning of the Unit.

### **Discussions**

We will be using **Class Live Pro** at times during the semester however we will mostly be having weekly discussions on the Discussion tab of each unit so everyone has the ability to respond to the question/topic being covered in that unit and focusing primarily on the group project. Participation in the discussion for each chapter (unit) is mandatory and everyone is expected to provide insightful comments and recommendations as well as respond to at least one other student's response. This does ***NOT*** mean simply responding "I agree or disagree" but providing an explanation/ reasoning as to your answer. Please watch for **announcements** in eCollege and in emails for reminders relating to the discussions and any other requirements. All discussion postings need to be posted at the latest 2 days before the due date in order to give everyone a chance to post a response to other students' comments.

### **Examinations:**

Two exams will be given during the semester. The exams will cover specific chapters as we cover the material during the semester. The exams will require working out problems or analyze a case like those assigned as homework as well as multiple questions related to concepts and terminology. There are no make-ups for the two exams.

### **Group Project:**

You will be required to complete a group project and submit a written report. The project will be completed throughout the semester as we cover the material. All group members are expected to participate equally in the project work and will be required to turn in team evaluations. **Only one member of each group should submit the section of the project that is due with a cover sheet attached indicating the name of the company and the members of the group.** I will return the submitted report to the member of that group, and it will be that member's responsibility to distribute the feedback to each member of the group.

To complete this project you will work in groups of 3-4 students depending on the size of the class. I will assign the members to each group and all students are equally responsible for the work that is turned in. I will grade the weekly submission of the group project and will assume all those members on the cover sheet have contributed to the project. A document rating each of the group member's efforts will also be provided to ensure that each person is graded fairly and that your comments have been taken into account in the grading. Each group may select the industry and companies they wish to analyze, so long as that company has not already been selected by another group and approved by the instructor. Be sure to select a publicly traded U.S. company with one identifiable comparable firm.

This project will require you to make use of numerous outside resources, including company web pages, annual reports, analyst reports, etc. Be sure to appropriately cite relevant resources. You must cite any information or idea that is not yours and

obtained from these sources that you are using in your project.

### Data

The time period for the financial statement analysis should include three years for 2 companies (the main company you choose to analyze, and the other company you will use as an industry comparison). In addition you will need to obtain industry ratios as a point of comparison. In addition to the financial statements and other material in the annual and 10-K reports, you should review relevant materials from outside sources such as newspapers, periodicals, and investment resources.

### Outline

The following outline is provided for guidance, but the analysis should be adjusted, as appropriate, to conform to the individual characteristics of the firm. Each section encompasses providing the necessary information and calculations for all 3 companies being analyzed (the main company you have chosen and the other 2 chosen as a comparison). For example, if you are writing the section on the firm and industry, I expect a description for all 3 companies).

### **Suggested Outline for the Financial Statement Analysis**

- I. Introduction
  - A. Objective of paper
  - B. Summary of findings
  
- II. Firm, Industry, and Environment
  - A. Description of firm and its management
  - B. Discussion of competitive environment (Porter's 5 forces)
  - C. Economic climate and outlook
  - D. Other factors, e.g. governmental regulations, labor relations, litigation
  
- III. Balance Sheet Analysis
  - A. Common-size analysis
  - B. Horizontal analysis
  
- IV. Income Statement Analysis
  - A. Common-size Analysis
  - B. Horizontal Analysis
  
- V. Cash Flow Statement Analysis
  - A. Analyze the 3 sections of the cash flow statements as well as overall.
  
- VI. Ratio Calculation of Financial Statements
  - A. Liquidity Ratios
  - B. Asset Ratios
  - C. Leverage (debt) ratios
  - D. Profitability ratios

- F. Market ratios
- VII. Summary, and Conclusions
- VIII. Appendix (All tables and figures)
- IX. Bibliography/References

### **Written Report**

The final written report should be between 20-40 pages in length however it can be longer, if necessary. It should include all the sections mentioned above in the outline. With the exception of Section I and VII, all the others will have been performed throughout the semester. The final group project will be submitted the last week of class and consist of all the sections combined into one paper along with Sections I and VII which should be prepared once your final calculations are completed. An unlimited number of attachments are allowed and will not be counted in the minimum number of pages however, you should include only those attachments that are relevant for the analysis and discussed in the text. *The document should use a font size of 12 and one-inch margins.* The summary page should give the reader a basic understanding of the firm, its past performance, its expected future performance, and the justification for your overall conclusion of the firm. This page should be able to stand alone as a summary of your analysis.

### ***Academic Honesty Policy***

The College of Business at Texas A & M University-Commerce will strive to be recognized as a community with legal, ethical, and moral principles and to practice professionalism in all that we do. Failure to abide by these principles will result in sanctions up to and including dismissal. Five different types of activities that will bring sanctions are as follows:

- **Illegal activity** – Violation of any local, state, or federal laws that prohibit the offender from performance of his or her duty.
- **Dishonest Conduct:** Seeking or obtaining unfair advantage by stealing or receiving copies of tests or intentionally preventing others from completing their work. In addition, falsifying of records to enter or complete a program will also be considered dishonest conduct.
- **Cheating:** The unauthorized use of another’s work and reporting it as your own.
- **Plagiarism:** Using someone else’s ideas and not giving proper credit.
- **Collusion:** Acting with others to perpetrate any of the above actions regardless of personal gain.

## ***Student Conduct***

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## ***Students with Disabilities***

The Americans with Disabilities act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
**Texas A&M University – Commerce**  
**Gee Library**  
**Room 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

***Other:*** University policy will be followed in regards to withdrawals during the semester. It is the student's responsibility to conform with the university rules relating to dropping or withdrawing from the course.

## **Communication and Support**

Texas A&M University – Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on "Live Support" on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 to speak with an eCollege Technical Support Representative
- Email: [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with an eCollege Technical Support Representative.

- Help: Click on the “Help” button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege.

### **Email Policy**

This is a web-enhanced course utilizing eCollege. You may e-mail me as well as any student in the class by utilizing the e-mail feature in eCollege. Please write the number of the course and your name on all correspondence and any homework you submit. I will be communicating with you using your myLeo account that is provided by the university. Please check your e-mail frequently. The professor is NOT responsible for any technical difficulties experienced during the course. The quickest manner in which to get in touch with me is through email as I check the class in the mornings and in the evenings only.

The following schedule lists the specific assignments for the course. This syllabus is subject to change as needed to meet the objectives or administration of the course at the discretion of the Professor. It is not anticipated that there will be any substantive changes.

### **Class Schedule and Assignments Financial Statement Analysis ACCT 311 – Summer 2016 (June 6, 2016 – July 7, 2016)**

#### **Unit 1 Financial Statements (June 6 – June 12, 2013)**

- Read Chapter 1 on Financial Statements (including Appendix 1A on the Sage Inc. Case)
- Answer the self-test questions at the end of the chapter (do not submit answers)
- Discussion: Case 1.4 Biolase, Inc. will be the topic of discussion for Unit 1. Respond to the posting by June 12th.
- Group Project: Begin forming a group of 3-4 individuals and choose 3 companies to analyze (a main company to analyze and 2 others to use as a means of comparison). Obtain approval for the companies you have chosen and begin downloading the Forms 10-K for the 3 most recent years for both companies. Complete Part II of the outline for the 2 companies by June 12th.

#### **Unit 2 & 3 Balance Sheet & Income Statement (June 13– June 19th)**

- Read Chapter 2 Balance Sheet & Chapter 3 Income Statement and Statement of Stockholder’s Equity.
- Answer the self-test questions at the end of each chapter.
- Discussion: Post your comments related to Case 2.4 Hidrogenics Corporation questions posted by the professor on the discussion page.
- Group project: Perform common-size and horizontal analysis for the balance sheet and income statements for both companies and submit a written report along with the calculations by June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **Exam 1 (Chapters 1-3) due by June 19<sup>rd</sup>.**

#### **Unit 4 Statement of Cash Flows (June 20 – June 26th)**

- Read Chapter 4 on Statement of Cash Flows
- Answer the self-test questions at the end of the chapter, and any other additional homework assigned.
- Discussion: Post your comments related to Case 4.4 Hydrogenics Corporation questions posted by the professor on the discussion page.
- Group Project: Perform an analysis on the 3 sections of the cash flow statement for both companies and submit the cash flows and a written analysis by June 26th.

#### **Unit 5 Ratio Analysis (June 27<sup>th</sup>-July 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

- Read Chapter 5 on Financial Statement Analysis and ratio calculations.
- Answer the self-test questions at the end of the chapter.
- Group Project:
  - Calculate liquidity ratios and asset ratios for both companies and submit the calculations along with a written report.
  - Calculate leverage ratios for both companies and submit calculations and a written analysis.
  - Calculate Profitability ratios and Market ratios for both companies and submit calculation and written report.
    - These 3 reports may be turned in separately or combined into a report to be submitted by July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Final Project and Final Exam (July 4<sup>th</sup>- July 6<sup>th</sup>)**

- Combine all parts of the group project and incorporate Part I, VII and VIII of the outline as well as any comments by the professor. Submit final group project by **July 5<sup>th</sup>**.
- **Exam II (Chapters 4-5) due by July 6<sup>th</sup>.**

Note: A list of ratios will be provided for each type of ratio when we cover Unit 5.

### **ACCT 311 Course Objectives Rubric**

#### **ACCT 311 Financial Statement Analysis for Global Entrepreneurs**

<b>Criteria (Course Objectives)</b>	<b>1 (Unsatisfactory)</b>	<b>2 (Emerging)</b>	<b>3 (Proficient)</b>	<b>4 (Exemplary)</b>
Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the income statement, balance sheet	Student cannot demonstrate an understanding of the financial statements.	Student can demonstrate an understanding of two financial statements.	Student can demonstrate an understanding of financial statements but not their	Student can identify all the financial statements and their relationships.



and cash flow statement.			relationships.	
Analyze financial statements and identify strengths and weaknesses if firms using ratio analysis, common size and cash flows.	Student cannot analyze the financial statements using any of the methods.	Student can identify some of the ratios and use them in their analysis of the F/S.	Student can perform common size analysis and ratios analysis.	Student can perform all type of analysis on financial statements.
Exposure to global entrepreneurship financial environment.	Student cannot identify nor demonstrate an understanding of the financial environment.	Students can identify one aspect of the 1 of the financial environment.	Students can identify a few of the financial aspects of the financial environment.	Students can identify and demonstrate an understanding of the majority of financial aspects of the financial environment.

## Financial Statement Analysis 311 – Grading Rubric

	<b>Exceeds Standards</b>	<b>Meets Minimum Standards</b>	<b>Fails to Meet Standards</b>
<p><b>Discussion/Participation (20%)</b> Participation in discussion of case assignments, application of concepts learned.</p>	Completed all discussion assignments, was able to apply the proper concepts and formulas in order to resolve the problems.	Attempted the discussion and partially resolved the case, shows some understanding of the topics covered	Did not participate in classroom discussions.
<p><b>Exams (20% each first and second exams) – total 40%</b> There are three exams, each covering specific chapters assigned. Grade will be based on correctness of answer as well as the process and formulas/concepts used to arrive at answer.</p>	Answer was correct and student demonstrated knowledge of proper concepts/formulas in resolving the exercises.	Answer was correct however did not apply the proper concepts/formula in resolving the exercise.	Fails to answer the problem correctly and shows minimal knowledge of subject matter.
<p><b>Group Project (40%)</b></p>			
	<b>Exceeds Standards</b>	<b>Meets Minimum Standards</b>	<b>Fails to Meet Standards</b>
<p><b>Effective written communication</b> Paper was prepared according to written instructions, followed APA format and proper use of punctuation and grammar. 5 points</p>	Paper was clear and prepared according to the outline. Followed APA format, and had minimal grammatical mistakes.	Meets basic criteria of Outline and follows APA format. Has many grammatical mistakes.	Meets some of the basic criteria for the Outline, but fails to follow APA format. Has many grammatical mistakes and hard to read and understand.

<p><b>Analysis of Various Sections of Paper</b>  Use of financial concepts/ tools – Uses concepts from each chapter to analyze the company chosen and its industry and competitors. – 30 points.</p>	<p>Prepares each of the sections as indicated in the outline and applies the proper financial analysis theories/concepts to the company analysis. Supporting calculations and explanations are included.</p>	<p>Prepares two of the four sections. Fails to demonstrate knowledge of, and/or capability to apply, financial concepts/financial analysis to the companies.</p>	<p>Prepares one or less of the four sections of the paper. Fails to demonstrate knowledge of, or capability to apply, theories &amp; tools needed to address most of the analysis required in the project.</p>
<p><b>Peer Evaluation</b>  All group members are expected to contribute to the group project. To this end, each group member will evaluate the contribution of their peers. – 5 points.</p>	<p>Was involved in all aspects of group project analysis.</p>	<p>Partially contributed to group project analysis</p>	<p>Did not contribute to written project analysis.</p>