



**Texas A&M University Commerce  
College of Business  
Fall 2019 Syllabus**

**ACCT 563-31E**  
**Advanced Forensic Accounting**  
6:15 pm--8:55 pm Wednesday  
Dallas Campus ELCOP 302

**Instructor Information**

Instructor: Daniel Hsiao, PhD., CPA, CISA  
Office: BA 229 @Commerce  
Office Hours: 3:00pm-6:00pm Monday @Commerce  
4:00pm-6:00pm Wednesday, and immediately after Wednesday class @Dallas  
(other times by appointment)  
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The best way to reach me is by email. All emails must contain ACCT 563 Advanced Forensic Accounting in the subject line to be treated as high priority. **The syllabus is tentative and subject to change as the semester progresses.**

**Course Information**

**Course Description**

This advanced forensic accounting course builds on topics covered in forensic and investigative accounting course. Students are introduced to in-depth coverage of accounting, investigative auditing techniques, digital forensic, and criminology and courtroom procedures, and are provided an opportunity to gain experience in fraud examination and forensic accounting. Topics include fraud auditing, litigation support, valuation, cybercrime, forensic analytics and other key forensic topics. The objectives include understanding the practices used by public accountants, internal auditors, prosecutors, investigators, and others used to examine and prosecute civil and criminal financial violations. This course is also to help raise your awareness of global issues and identify questions likely to appear on professional examinations, such as the CPA, CIA, or CFE exams. At the end of our class, with minimal extra study, you should be able to pass the CFE exam.

**Prerequisites:** Acct 562 Forensic and investigative accounting or equivalent classes. But Acct 525, Acct 527, and Acct 568, or equivalent classes will be ideal.

**Required Textbook:**

**Forensic and Investigative Accounting**, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, by D. L. Crumbley, E. D. Fenton, G.S. Smith, and L. E. Heitger, CCH Publications Wolters Kluwer 2017. ISBN: 978-08080-46240.

**Detecting Accounting Fraud: Analysis and Ethics**, by C. W. Jackson, Pearson Publishing 2015. ISBN: 978-013-307860-2.

Other supplemental reading materials including case studies will be provided during the semester.

**Course Objectives**

- (1) Students will be able to understand how fraudulent financial practices are implemented and help identify in business and government.
- (2) Students will be able to acquire an understanding of the cybercrime fraud issues and digital forensic methods.
- (3) Students will be able to identify the rules of evidence and civil procedure as they relate to successful forensic investigation and litigation support.
- (4) Students will be able to determine amounts of economic damages.
- (5) Students will be able to understand the practices used by public accountants, internal auditors, investigators, and others used to examine civil and criminal financial violations.
- (6) Students will be able to apply fraud related computer programs and identify potential fraud risk and conduct analysis.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- (1) Identify the fraudulent financial practices and methodology, and illustrate fraud symptoms, prevention, detection, and mitigation measures to apply theory into real cases.
- (2) Demonstrate the basic rules of evidence and analyze the damages litigations and valuations methods from the perspectives of multiple users.
- (3) Analyze the critical factors that impact the vulnerability of organization, and evaluate available information to develop an effective fraud risk assessment.
- (4) Acquire a good understanding of practice of forensic accountants called upon for fraud detection, fraud analysis, fraud prevention, and litigation support services.
- (5) Employ proper accounting methods to conduct investigative auditing and litigation support to develop forensic competency.

**Learning Goal:**

Students are expected to achieve the above learning outcomes and demonstrate core competence in the accounting profession.

**Student Responsibilities:**

- (1) Complete all assignments in a timely manner.
- (2) Devote the necessary time outside of class.
- (3) Read assigned material prior to the class.
- (4) Prepare and actively participate in class and case discussion.

**Grading:**

The final course grade will be based on these following components.

Grading and Assessment	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Available Points
Case Study Analysis -1	(1), (3), (4), (5)	50
Case Study Analysis -2	(1), (2), (3), (4), (5)	50
Fraud Research Project	(1), (2), (3), (4), (5)	60
Data Analysis Project	(1), (2), (3), (4), (5)	60
Presentation/Participation/Discussion	(1), (2), (3), (4), (5)	80
Total Available		300

Grades for the course will be determined by converting each student's points out of a possible 300 points into a percentage and then applying the following ranges:

90%-100%: A, 80%-89%: B, 70%-79%: C, 60%-69%: D and below 60%: F.

**Exams:** Since the essential knowledge of advanced forensic and investigative accounting is rich and cumulative, this class will comprise of two scheduled exams, and one comprehensive final exam to evaluate students' performance.

**Assignment/Quiz/Discussion:** We plan to assign homework assignments, conduct chapter quizzes and class discussions as needed. The format of assignments varies by the nature of each chapter, including but not limited to, mini case study, fraud related events and discussion, research of fraud cases, etc. Quizzes will be scheduled and announced in advance and will cover recently assigned chapters to assess the progress of study. Class discussions will be assigned with related fraud topics and students are required and engaged in posting feedback and responses. **Active classroom participation and knowledge sharing is mandatory.**

**Fraud Research Project:** One fraud research project on selective topic of fraud cases will be assigned to demonstrate students' competency to analyze the critical elements of fraud events, along with related investigation methods and legal issues. Students are expected to show related research literature, demonstrate investigative evidence, analyze litigation procedures, and present their research findings in the class.

**Data Analysis Project:** One data analysis project will be assigned to extract organizational data and perform data analytics and organize the findings. Students are expected to present their analytics knowledge of investigative auditing and apply **CAATs** application to identify fraudulent transactions and data.

\*\*\* Please be aware that many Computer-Assisted Audit Tools and Techniques (**CAATs**, i.e., IDEA-Caseware, ACL) and related accounting programs are usually only compatible to Windows operating systems, but not compatible with *Mac iOS* operation systems thus far. Please prepare yourself for some technical assistance and seek for possible solutions. \*\*\*

**Class Withdrawal:** Be aware that this course is a **Time Consuming class**. Any student who is not progressing satisfactorily in the course is advised to withdraw.

**Note: CPA Exam Candidates – For State of Texas**

Candidates who desire to sit for the CPA in Texas must meet the following educational criteria: 1) Have a bachelor's degree; 2) Completed 150 semester hours of courses; 3) Included in the 150 semester hours, 30 of upper level accounting courses. You must have a minimum of 15-semester credit hours of accounting courses in the traditional format (face-to-face); 24 hours of upper level business courses; 3-semester credit hours of approved ethics; 2-semester credit hours of approved communication and 2-semester credit hours of approved accounting research. For more information visit Exam/Qualification on the State Board's website: <http://www.tsbpa.state.tx.us/>

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

**Browser Support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers. Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products. Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

**Desktop Support**

<b>Browser</b>	<b>Supported Browser Version(s)</b>	<b>Maintenance Browser Version(s)</b>
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A

Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

### Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating Systems	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection.

The minimum computer requirements are:

- 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
  - You must have a:
    - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop/laptop computer
    - Speakers or headphones.
    - For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
  - Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site  
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
  - Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Running the browser check will ensure your Internet browser is supported.  
Pop-ups are allowed.  
JavaScript is enabled.  
Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

- Adobe Flash Player (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - Adobe Shockwave Player <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
  - Apple Quick Time <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

### **Brightspace Support Need Help? Student Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### **Technical Support**



If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the Live Chat or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

### **System Maintenance**

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise announced in advance. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

## ACCT 563 Course Objectives Rubric

Course Objectives	3 Exceeds Expectations	2 Meets Expectations	1 Does Not Meet Expectations
Be able to identify how fraudulent financial practices are implemented.	A student demonstrates great understanding of how fraudulent financial practices are implemented	A student demonstrates partial understanding of how fraudulent financial practices are implemented.	A student does not demonstrate the understanding of how fraudulent financial practices are implemented.
Be able to understand the cybercrime fraud issues and digital forensic methods.	A student demonstrates great understanding of the cybercrime fraud issues and digital forensic methods.	A student demonstrates partial understanding of the cybercrime fraud issues and digital forensic methods.	A student does not demonstrate the understanding of the cybercrime fraud issues and digital forensic methods.
Be able to identify the rules of evidence and civil procedure related to forensic testimony.	A student demonstrates an excellent ability to identify the rules of evidence and civil procedure related to forensic testimony.	A student demonstrates some ability to identify the rules of evidence and civil procedure related to forensic testimony.	A student does not demonstrate the ability to identify the rules of evidence and civil procedure related to forensic testimony.
Be able to determine amounts of economic damages.	A student demonstrates an excellent ability to determine the amounts of economic damages.	A student demonstrates some ability to determine the amounts of economic damages.	A student does not demonstrate ability to determine the amounts of economic damages.
Be able to understand the practices used to examine civil and criminal financial violations.	A student demonstrates great understanding of the practices used to examine civil and criminal financial violations.	A student demonstrates partial understanding of the practices used to examine civil and criminal financial violations.	A student does not demonstrate the understanding of the practices used to examine civil and criminal financial violations.
Be able to apply fraud related computer programs and identify potential fraud risk and conduct analysis.	A student demonstrates great competency of applying fraud related computer programs and conducting analysis.	A student demonstrates some competency of applying fraud related computer programs and conducting analysis.	A student does not demonstrate competency of applying fraud related computer programs and conducting analysis.

### University Policies and Procedures:

#### *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 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

**Ethics:** Integrity is the hallmark of the accounting profession and will be stressed throughout the course. Any type of student breach of ethics, including but not limited to: illegal activity, dishonest conduct, cheating, plagiarism, or collusion, will result in failure of assignment or exam (F) and/or further academic sanction (i.e. failure of course (F), dismissal from class and/or referral to Dean of the College of Business and Technology. All students are required to read, sign and submit the Academic Honesty Policy form via the drop box the first week of class.

*“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.”* (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

**Non-discrimination:** 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.

**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.

### **Concealed Carry Policy**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

(<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

**NOTE: THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS NEEDED TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE OR TO AID IN COURSE ADMINISTRATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR.**



**Fall 2019**  
**ACCT 563 -31E**  
 Advanced Forensic Accounting

**Readings & Assignments Tentative Schedule: subject to change with an advanced notice.**

Week of	Topic	Activity
Aug-26	Overview of Class Chapter 1: Introduction of forensic accounting (Crumbley)	Assignment/Quiz/Discussion
Sep-2	<b>9/2- Labor Day</b> Chapter 2: Forensic education, institutions, and specialties (Crumbley) Chapter 3: Fraudulent Financial Reporting (Crumbley)	Assignment/Quiz/Discussion
Sep-9	Chapter 4: Detecting fraud in financial reporting (Crumbley)	Assignment/Quiz/Discussion
Sep-16	Ch1 Intro to Problems of Accounting Fraud (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Sep-23	Ch2 Ethics at Work (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Sep-30	Ch3 The Sizzling Saga of Sunbeam (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Oct-7	Ch4 Hocus Pocus (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion <b>CAATs Introduction and Practice</b>
Oct-14	Ch5 WorldCom Wizardry (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion <b>CAATs Introduction and Practice</b>
Oct-21	<i>Case Study Analysis -1</i>	
Oct-28	Ch6 Abracadabra (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Nov-4	Ch7 Enron and the Tale of the Golden Goose (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Nov-11	Ch8 Tall Tales (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion <b>Data Analysis Project Due</b>
Nov-18	Ch9 Mortgage Mayhem (Jackson)	Short Case Discussion
Nov-25	Recap and Review	Short Case Discussion
Dec-2	<b>Fraud Research Presentation</b> <i>Case Study Analysis-2</i>	Short Case Discussion <b>Fraud Research Project Due</b>
Dec-9	<i>Case Study Analysis-2</i> <b>Comprehensive Exam (TBA)</b>	