

This course examines the special accounting problems associated with international operations and foreign investment and alternative solutions to these problems. International accounting standards will be emphasized throughout the course. This course will complement the department's initiative to integrate international accounting throughout the accounting curriculum.

**ACCT 7040 Accounting for Decision Making (2,3,0)**

This course stresses the analytical use of accounting information by managers in the modern global economy. Managers need information to aid in planning operations, controlling operations, and making financial decisions in order to compete effectively in world markets. Topics include financial accounting concepts, cash flow analysis, cost driver analysis, relevant costing, and performance evaluation.

**ACCT 7050 Financial Statement Analysis (2,3,0)**

The objective of the course is to develop an understanding of the use of financial information in decision-making contexts, taking into account the incentives of the producers and consumers of financial information. Users of financial information include management at various levels in a firm, corporate boards, individual and institutional equity investors, financial analysts, lenders (banks and bond investors), and regulators. The focus of the course is to sharpen student's analytical abilities in financial statement analysis from a managerial and business strategy standpoint.

**ACCT 7060 Business Accounting (3,3,0)**

This course stresses the analytical use of accounting information from the perspective of business management. Under current business environment, managers need information to aid in planning operations, controlling operations, assessing performance, and making financial decisions in order to compete effectively in world markets. This course will cover topics of financial accounting concepts, accounting policy for major business transactions, financial statements and cash flow analysis, cost determination and control, relevant costing, budgetary control, responsibility accounting, capital budgeting decisions, and performance evaluation.

**ACCT 7110 Principles and Models of Corporate Governance (3,3,0)**

This course aims to enable students to understand relevant principles and models of corporate governance so that they could analyse and solve key issues of modern corporate governance. It provides an understanding of the basic concepts and theories of corporate governance, such as property rights, agency theory, and transaction cost economics and information asymmetry. It also discusses the factors affecting the development of corporate governance models and standards adopted by different nations around the world. Empirical evidence on impacts of good corporate governance will also be discussed. Core corporate governance issues would be highlighted. It further discusses the roles played by major stakeholders of corporations in their governance. The course is expected to adopt an integrated and interdisciplinary approach. Although the focus is on the governance of large Hong Kong listed companies, both widely held and family controlled, this course also touches on the governance of small- and medium-sized enterprises and non-profit organizations. Attention will be paid to the corporate governance systems of the UK, the USA, European countries and mainland China as a comparison.

**ACCT 7120 Legal Framework and Codes of Corporate Governance (3,3,0)**

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the legal framework related to corporate governance. It will discuss the roles of government and regulation in corporate governance. Related laws and regulations such as the Companies Ordinance, the Securities and Futures Ordinance, the Listing Rules, the Code of Best Practice, and the Takeover Code will be covered. Major regional and international codes of corporate governance will

also be discussed. Other topics include major legal issues involved in mergers and acquisitions; shareholders' residual powers; protection of minority shareholders; types of directors; directors' appointment, rotation, disqualification and removal; board of directors' composition, meetings and duties; monitoring the board of directors; interests of other stakeholders such as individual and institutional shareholders, creditors and employees. The course will focus on the laws and regulations of Hong Kong but where appropriate mainland China law and laws of other jurisdictions will be compared and contrasted.

**ACCT 7130 Ownership Structure, Shareholders' Rights and Investor Activism (3,3,0)**

The ownership structure of a corporation determines its power and responsibilities structure. Controlling shareholders have the dominating role and power in formulating many corporate decisions. If these shareholders are acting in accordance with their interests alone rather than those of the corporation, minority shareholders' interests will be expropriated. This course examines the theories and patterns of ownership structure, corporate control and minority shareholders' protection around the world. These theories and patterns highlight the relationship among controlling shareholders, minority shareholders, directors and managers, and thus the potential conflict of interests between a corporation and its shareholders. This course will identify the various means that controlling shareholders may use to expropriate the corporate interests, and discuss the issue of protection of minority shareholders, in particular, the importance of institutional investors' roles, and the recent development of investor activism. It also studies how ownership structure affects the performance of a corporation. As conflict of interest between a corporation and its shareholders and grievance among shareholders are common, this course will introduce the concept of dispute resolution to resolve these conflict and grievance.

**ACCT 7140 Corporate Reporting, Disclosure and Transparency (3,3,0)**

Information contained in corporate reports is the product of corporate accounting and external reporting systems that measure and routinely disclose audited, quantitative data and also non-audited qualitative data concerning the financial position and performance of publicly held firms. Audited balance sheets, income statements, and cash-flow statements, along with many supporting disclosures, form the foundation of the firm-specific information set available to investors and regulators. This course covers selected current topics in corporate reporting, disclosure and transparency. By analysing these selected problems with respect to the corresponding theories and practices of corporate reporting, this course aims at helping students develop their analytical skills and ability to think critically on the accounting standard setting process, the costs and benefits of disclosure, and the users' information needs and the uses of corporate disclosures in various corporate governance contexts. Students will be required to critically evaluate various contemporary accounting valuation, reporting and disclosure issues.

**ACCT 7160 Strategic Financial Policy and Analysis (3,3,0)**

Board directors and senior executives always make important strategic decisions such as investment, mergers and acquisitions, initial public offers, seasonal equity offers and debt restructuring, and predict the future financial performance and position of enterprises. The objective of this course is to integrate various subfields of finance, such as investment, corporate finance, financial markets and institutions, mergers and acquisitions, etc. for formulating financial policies for a corporation. The focus is to learn how to use and analyse financial and non-financial information under various strategic business decision-making contexts. This course attempts to introduce some analytical and decision tools commonly used by managers and professionals. With these tools, these users will have a better understanding of the corporate governance, and financial performance and position of an enterprise.