

ACCT 4016 Tax Planning and Management (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: ACCT 3006 Hong Kong Taxation

This course will provide students with an in-depth study of the law and practice of taxation for planning and management in the Hong Kong environment. The course will give an analytical review of the Hong Kong tax system so that students can advise management on the effect of taxation on decision making. An appreciation of the essential features of mainland China taxation is also included.

ACCT 4017 Auditing II (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: ACCT 4006 Auditing I

Based on ACCT 4006, this course aims to provide students with a further understanding of the statutory audit requirements, extant auditing standards recommended by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, some special audit situations, some special audit topics and some contemporary auditing issues.

ACCT 4025 International Accounting (3,3,0)

Prerequisite: ACCT 2005 Intermediate Accounting I and ACCT 2006 Intermediate Accounting II

This course aims to provide an understanding of accounting principles in different nations and why they were developed. Students will learn how the accounting professions in various countries are structured to meet unique information needs of users. 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.

ACCT 7170 Project (3,3,0)

The objective of this project is to enable students to apply their knowledge and skills learned from the programme to enhance their competence in corporate governance and directorship through investigation and analysis for a real problem. Students may choose an individual or a group project. Those who choose a group project are expected to form a group of not more than three students to work together in the project. Students may benefit from working on the project in a team through improving their interpersonal, leadership, team work and communication skills. Students may, for some reasons, such as confidentiality of their company data, and personal work style and schedule, prefer to work on their own. A supervisor will be assigned to each student to help the student finish the project.

ACCT 7180 Market Intermediaries and Monitoring (2,2,0)

Investors rely mainly on internal control mechanisms established in corporations, such as board of directors and employment contracts, to monitor executives' performance. When these mechanisms are not sufficient to properly monitor executives' acts, investors would rely on external market intermediaries to perform the monitoring and information functions. This course discusses several major types of market intermediaries, including IPO sponsors, auditors, lawyers, financial analysts, brokers, investment banks, credit rating agencies, corporate governance rating agencies, and stock exchanges. It highlights how these intermediaries perform their monitoring and information generating functions and how effective they perform these functions.

ACCT 7210 Advanced Corporate Financial Reporting (3,3,0)

The course covers the more advanced topics in financial accounting and reporting in a group situation to include subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures; and also in a multinational context to include foreign operations, investments and subsidiaries. Main accounting issues for government and other non-profit organizations, as well as debt restructuring and business reorganization will also be introduced. By the analysis of selected problems in the theory and practice of this area of advanced financial accounting and reporting, the course aims at the development of analytical and judgmental skills and the ability to think critically. On completion of the course, students should be able to critically evaluate and resolve various issues on contemporary group and multinational accounting reporting and disclosure and accounting for governments and non-profit organizations.

ACCT 7220 Strategic Management Accounting and Controls (3,3,0)

This course examines the strategy formation and implementation processes, including data gathering structures and SWOT analysis. It aims to provide students with an understanding of strategic management accounting, the management control systems, as well as the use of management accounting information in the financial and operating decision making process. Particular attention is given to the management control environment and process.

ACCT 7230 Issues on Internal and External Auditing (3,3,0)

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the key conceptual and practical issues on both internal and external auditing. Topics include internal control systems, internal auditing function, relation between internal and external auditing, professional ethics, legal liabilities, audit engagements, and current issues and development such as corporate governance, audit committees, the impact of environmental matters and information technology on auditing, social responsibilities and business ethics, and loss prevention and fraud investigation, etc. On completion of the course, students should gain solid knowledge and skills over the main issues on internal and external auditing relating to various kinds of business entities.

ACCT 7240 Accounting Theory and Policy (3,3,0)

This course establishes a framework for evaluating accounting choices by exposing students to the empirical and normative accounting research and studies findings, and by creating an awareness of the endogenous factors affecting accounting policies and decisions. Contemporary accounting research methodologies and theories are introduced to students. It is expected students should understand not only the theoretical foundation of accounting policy and practices but also the development of accounting research in general.

ACCT 7250 Financial Statement Analysis and Business Valuation (3,3,0)

The objective of this course is to develop an understanding of the use of information contained in financial reports in various business decision-making contexts, and how to integrate accounting and finance theories in valuing businesses. This course attempts to introduce some analytical tools commonly used by users of financial statements and business valuation techniques commonly used by professional business analysts and financial brokers. With these tools, users of financial statements will have a better understanding of the financial positions and operating performance of an enterprise. Equipped with a better understanding of the business valuation techniques introduced in this course, students should be able to conduct basic business valuation for different business settings in various industries.

ACCT 7260 International Accounting and Taxation (3,3,0)

This course aims to provide an understanding of the accounting and taxation issues in the international perspectives. The main theoretical and practical issues underlying international accounting will be introduced. By the completion of this course, students will gain an insight into the recent progress of the harmonization of accounting standards and practices in the world and the development of international taxation practices following the growth of multinational enterprises and rapid integration of global economies. In addition, management control and information systems for multinational operations will be elaborated.

ACCT 7270 Corporate Governance and Disclosures (3,3,0)

This course will enable students to understand relevant concepts and theories so that they could analyse and solve key issues of modern corporate governance. It provides an understanding of the basic roles and responsibilities of shareholders, directors and management, and familiarity with the legal, social, economic, moral, and psychological issues they confront in the ordinary course of serving on boards.