

National University of Singapore

NUS Business School

Department of Accounting

ACC3613 Advanced Assurance and Attestation

Semester 1, 2014-2015

Module Description and Scope

This advanced module on assurance and attestation aims to provide students with a more in-depth understanding of certain advanced auditing topics and specialized audits. These audits are often more complex and additional issues need to be considered. Students will gain an appreciation of the depth and breadth of the scope of work of an auditor. Additionally, it is also important for students to understand the importance of audit quality and the psychological biases that may be present when they are making professional judgments in the course of their audit work and learn how to overcome them.

This module builds on the knowledge, skills and attitudes acquired in ACC3603 Assurance and Attestation and also integrates knowledge gained in other courses including ACC1002 Financial Accounting, BSP1004 Legal Environment of Business, ACC3601 Corporate Accounting and Reporting, ACC3611 Corporate Governance and Ethics and ACC3612 Risk Management and Internal Control.

At the end of this module, students would have a better understanding of the techniques and issues involved in various types of assurance services and other more technical as well as practical aspects of a statutory audit.

Pedagogy

This module meets once a week and comprises lectures by the instructor, seminar discussions and case presentations. Seminar discussions provide students with opportunities to interact and discuss with other seminar participants to discover, learn and assimilate knowledge, refine skills and apply their knowledge in problem solving. Case presentation questions serve the same purpose as seminar discussion except that a group will be responsible for the presentation of the materials (usually a case) which will help develop students' presentation skills.

Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning by doing the assigned readings and completing the seminar discussion questions before class. Students are also expected to contribute to class discussions during the seminars.

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Module Assessment

Seminar Participation 15%

Group Case Presentation 25%

Final Examination 60%

Total 100%

Seminar Participation (15%)

Seminar participation includes individual contributions to discussions in seminars and can take the form of an insightful question, comment, or response. Both the quality and consistency of participation are considered in grading seminar participation. Good performance in seminar participation often reflects excellent preparation, good critical thinking, listening and communication skills, and, most importantly, a willingness to share questions, thoughts and ideas with others.

Seminar Group Presentation (25%)

Students are expected to form themselves into groups of about 4 students (number to be confirmed as it depends on class size). The objective of the group case presentation is to develop students' analytical, critical thinking, research and presentation skills. Each group will be in charge of one case presentation. Students will be graded as a group and the elements that they will be assessed will include (but not limited to): content (originality, accuracy, sound reasoning, relevance and ability to respond to queries from the class/instructor) and presentation skills (e.g., professionalism, active engagement of the class, clarity, coherence and appropriate use of audio-visual aids).

Final Examination (60%)

The final examination is case-based and will be OPEN book. Students will be tested on their understanding of the key auditing concepts and methodologies covered in this module as well as their ability to address issues and/or solve problems. Current developments and events reported in the press, business periodicals and professional journals may also be covered.

References

There is no prescribed text book for this module. Relevant readings will be assigned for each topic.

Week Number	Week Beginning	Topics	Instructor
1	11 Aug 2014	Manipulation of Financial Reports	Larry Lam
2	18 Aug 2014	Forensic Accounting	Larry Lam
3	25 Aug 2014	Anti-Money Laundering	Larry Lam
4	1 Sept 2014	Internal Audit	Larry Lam
5	8 Sept 2014	Attestation Engagements	Larry Lam
6	15 Sept 2014	IBTRM Assurance	Larry Lam
Recess Week 20 Sept 2014 – 28 Sept 2014			
7	29 Sept 2014	IPO Valuation	Larry Lam
8	6 Oct 2014	Corporate Finance Advisory	Larry Lam
9	13 Oct 2014	Merger and Acquisition Due Diligence	Larry Lam
10	20 Oct 2014	Audit Sampling Quality Review	Tan Wee Cheng
11	27 Oct 2014	Audit of Consolidated Financial Statements	Tan Wee Cheng
12	3 Nov 2014	Audit of Companies in Restructuring	Tan Wee Cheng
13	10 Nov 2014	Case Presentations (2) and Exam Briefing	Tan Wee Cheng
Read Week 15 Nov 2014 – 21 Nov 2014			
Final Examination 22 Nov 2014 – 6 Dec 2014 (2 Weeks)			