

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
NUS Business School  
Department of Accountancy

## **ACC3613 – Advanced Assurance and Attestation, Sem 2, AY2014/15**

### **Instructors**

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### **Lecture Time:**

Group	Location	Day/Time
H1	BIZ1-0304	Thu/1300-1600
H2	BIZ2-0413B	Tue/1100-1400
H3	BIZ2-0201	Wed/1200-1500

### **Course Objectives 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. This module 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 statutory audit and other specialized audit areas.

## **Pedagogy**

This module meets once a week and comprises of lectures by the instructor, seminar discussions and case presentations. Seminar discussions provide students with opportunities for interactions and discussions 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 material (usually a case) which will help to hone the 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.

## **Assessment Methods**

Your final grade of the course will be calculated as follows:

Seminar Participation	15%
Group Case presentation	25%
Final examination	<u>60%</u>
	<u>100%</u>

### **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 reflect 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 3-4 members of a group(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 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 audit-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 and research articles pertaining to the topic will be assigned.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Instructor</b>
1	12 Jan - 16 Jan	Forensic Audit	TCK
2	19 Jan - 23 Jan	Internal Audit/Operational audit	TCK
3	26 Jan - 30 Jan	Government Audit	TCK
4	2 Feb - 6 Feb	Auditors' legal environment	SKS
5	9 Feb - 13 Feb	Audit Quality and Ethics	SKS
6	16 Feb -20 Feb	Materiality and audit risk assessment	SKS
7	2 Mar – 6 Mar	Impact of Information Technology on the audit process	SKS
8	9 Mar – 13 Mar	Audit sampling	SKS
9	16 Mar – 20 Mar	Reviewing for subsequent events	SKS
10	23 Mar -27 Mar	Group audit,& audit of fair market value	SKS
11	30 Mar – 3 Apr	Audit of reconstruction, loan covenants & related-party transactions	SKS
12	6 Apr – 10 Apr	Audit of intangible assets, derivative instruments	SKS
13	13 Apr – 17 Apr	Audit of lease accounting, impairments, complex transactions & revision	SKS

## **NUS Code of Student Conduct**

As a widely respected institution of higher learning, the National University of Singapore (NUS) is dedicated to cultivating academic and personal excellence in a way that is inclusive and supportive, where communal values as well as the dignity and rights of each person are respected.

NUS students are expected to maintain and uphold the highest standard of integrity and honesty at all times, as well as embracing community standards, diversity and mutual respect for each other, both within the University and the wider Singapore community.

This Code of Student Conduct is intended to guide students' conduct in both the academic and non-academic aspects of their University life by providing an overview of the behavior generally expected of them as members of the University community. It is meant to serve as a broad framework, and should not be treated as an exhaustive list.

In line with the above, the University expects students to uphold both the spirit and letter of this Code of Student Conduct at all times.

## **Academic, Professional, and Personal Integrity**

The University is committed to nurturing an environment conducive for the exchange of ideas, advancement of knowledge and intellectual development. Academic honesty and integrity are essential conditions for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge, and the University expects each student to maintain and uphold the highest standards of integrity and academic honesty at all times.

The University takes a strict view of cheating in any form, deceptive fabrication, plagiarism and violation of intellectual property and copyright laws. Any student who is found to have engaged in such misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

It is important to note that all students share the responsibility of protecting the academic standards and reputation of the University. This responsibility can extend beyond each student's own conduct, and can include reporting incidents of suspected academic dishonesty through the appropriate channels. Students who have reasonable grounds to suspect academic dishonesty should raise their concerns directly to the relevant Head of Department, Dean of faculty, registrar, Vice Provost or Provost.