# Financial Accounting

## Prof. Claudio Sottoriva

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Following are the two main instructional objectives for the course: to ensure the student grasps the basic principles underlying the preparation of financial statements; to ensure the student rounds out his knowledge of the reasoning behind accounting entries and the double-entry method.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

* understand the scopes and the principles guiding the drafting of financial statements, and become familiar with the content of balance sheets, according to the regulations established by the Civil Code and national accounting principles;
* make all the assessments that are necessary to draft financial statements, according to the regulations established by the Civil Code and national accounting principles;
* make full use of accounting records, and apply the correct method to collect and classify data, both in drafting financial statements and summary tables (*tavole di sintesi*);
* read accounting documents in order to understand the patrimonial, financial, and income situation of a company;
* use a proper terminology while exposing their newly acquired knowledge.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The first part of the course outlines the objectives and the principles for the preparation of financial statements, and introduces accounting principles national (OIC) and international (IAS/IFRS).

The second part of the course studies the structure of the financial statements, examining the current rules for preparation contained in the Italian Civil Code. The student will thus analyse the content of the balance sheet, income statement and notes to the financial statements. Furthermore, the aims of the Report on Operations and Cash Flow Statement will also be analysed.

The *third part* of the course refers to the evaluations for the financial statement within the framework of Civil Code, accounting principles and tax legislation.

A specific part of the course, i.e. an integrated practical class module, will be aimed at promoting mastery of the logics of accounting surveys and double-entry bookkeeping methodology.

Specific references will be made to systems for computing earnings, capital and financial position within organisations operating in the arts and entertainment sector; such references may be introduced through class presentations, class discussion of business studies, development of specific projects.

***READING LIST***

P. Russo-E. Cantù-A.K. Pettinicchio-M. Daniele (edited by), *Il bilancio d’esercizio*, Mc Graw Hill, 2022.

*Note didattiche di contabilità*, only available on *Blackboard.*

Suggested text:

A.Cerri, M. Daniele, *Appunti di Contabilità e bilancio, Educatt,* 2020.

Further material will be made available on Blackboard during the course, in order to help students in the study of the subject.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures aimed to convey basic knowledge, the logic and methodology required to prepare and analyse financial statements. Lectures will be completed with:

– practical classes to foster students' mastery of the logics of accounting surveys and the double-entry bookkeeping system, thus completing the didactic path started with the teaching of Business Economics, attended in the first year.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be tested through a written exam:

– aimed at ascertaining the understanding of the reasoning behind accounting entries and the double-entry method (applications part);

– aimed at evaluating the knowledge of other topics reported in the course syllabus (theoretical part).

All students may choose to take the exam in two parts involving:

– an interim test, which will take place in the middle of the semester, and will cover the topics related to the first two parts of the course;

– a final test.

If positive, the mark obtained in the interim test will be valid only during the winter exam session (January and February 2023).

If students don’t pass the final test during the session indicated above, the mark obtained in the interim test will be no longer valid, and they will have to take the whole exam in one of the following sessions.

During the following winter session (January-February 2023), students will be allowed to take the final exam just once. If they don’t pass it, the mark obtained in the interim test will be no longer valid, and they will have to take the whole exam again.

Students are also allowed to refuse the mark obtained in the interim test by answering all the questions contained in the final exam.

For the students taking the interim test, the final mark will result from the weighted average between the interim test (40%) and the final test (60%).

The detailed course syllabus and other information about the grading method are available on the University's Blackboard platform. It is strongly recommended that the student take a look at it and consider it as a reference point for self-assessment as part of the exam preparation. Regular class attendance, completion of assignments, and participation in the other instructional activities are strongly recommended.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.