BFA731
CPA Contemporary Business Issues

12.50 Credit points

Semester 1, 2019

Unit Outline

Dr Claire Horner CPA AFHEA
### CONTACT DETAILS

#### Unit coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit coordinator</td>
<td>Dr Claire Horner CPA AFHEA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus</td>
<td>Sandy Bay, Hobart</td>
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<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Claire.Horner@utas.edu.au">Claire.Horner@utas.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>03 6226 4328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room location and number</td>
<td>Centenary Building room 309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation hours</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
</tr>
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WHAT IS THE UNIT ABOUT?

Unit description

The CPA as an innovator.

The Contemporary Business Issues (CBI) subject examines a number of contemporary and emerging global issues in order to familiarise you with the business environment you are likely to be operating in as an accountant. It also uses contemporary issues as a vehicle for advancing the development of professional values, ethics and attitudes. In particular, attitudes that:

• value learning combined with well-developed personal communication, networking and information technology skills;

• acknowledge the importance of professional curiosity as a means of avoiding imprudent decision-making; and

• welcome divergent opinions and creative approaches to problem-solving as a means of gaining insights into an increasingly complex and dynamic business world.

This subject will offer you the challenges and opportunities presented by contemporary issues—such as operating in a carbon-constrained economy and in an environment of tight liquidity and dwindling resources.

The aims of the subject are to:

• promote the development of professional values, ethics and attitudes by using complex, real-life scenarios that highlight how professional values, ethics and attitudes underpin all facets of an accountant’s work; and

• develop a broader awareness of the origins and effects of contemporary and emerging global issues that are affecting the business environment.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Encourage an attitude of professional curiosity by challenging assumptions about contemporary and emerging issues, and how they should be addressed.
2. Critically evaluate current research and practice on the origins and effects of contemporary and emerging global issues.
3. Judge the effects that disclosure requirements will have on financial and non-financial reporting and consider the overall impact that a shift towards non-financial, sustainability and integrated reporting will have on organisations and accounting functions.
Graduate Quality Statement

Successful completion of this unit supports your development of course learning outcomes, which describe what a graduate of a course knows, understands and is able to do. Course learning outcomes are available from the Course Coordinator. Course learning outcomes are developed with reference to national discipline standards, Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), any professional accreditation requirements and the University of Tasmania’s Graduate Statement.

The University of Tasmania experience unlocks the potential of individuals. Our graduates are equipped and inspired to shape and respond to the opportunities and challenges of the future as accomplished communicators, highly regarded professionals and culturally competent citizens in local, national, and global society. University of Tasmania graduates acquire subject and multidisciplinary knowledge and skills, and develop critical and creative literacies and numeracies and skills of inquiry. They demonstrate the ability to apply this knowledge in changing circumstances. Our graduates recognise and critically evaluate issues of social responsibility, ethical conduct and sustainability, are entrepreneurial and creative, and are mindful of their own wellbeing and that of the community. Through respect for diversity and by working in collaborative ways, our graduates reflect the values of the University of Tasmania.

Alterations to the unit as a result of student feedback

N/A

Prior knowledge &/or skills

N/A
## HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

### Assessment schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment task</th>
<th>Date due</th>
<th>Percent weighting</th>
<th>Links to Intended Learning Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Task 1: Examination</td>
<td>Exam Period</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>LO1, LO2 &amp; LO3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assessment details

**Assessment Task: Examination**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Criterion Description</th>
<th>Measures ILO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The exam comprises 100 per cent multiple-choice questions. Multiple-choice questions include knowledge, application and problem-solving questions which are designed to assess the understanding of <em>Contemporary Business Issues</em> principles.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criterion Number</td>
<td>Criterion Description</td>
<td>Measures ILO:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Critique, evaluate, synthesise and discuss different contemporary issues and their links to the role of the accountant.</td>
<td>LO1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Critique the role of the accountant as a business adviser and the impact on the professional ethics, values and attitudes of the accountant.</td>
<td>LO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reflect on the role of social responsibility and sustainability as contemporary issues in accounting practice.</td>
<td>LO3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Critique and evaluate the continuing impact of social responsibility and sustainability on the role of the accountant both in financial and non financial contexts.</td>
<td>LO3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Task Length**  
As required to respond to the questions in the exam. Guidelines will be provided.

**Due by date**  
Exam Period
How your final result is determined

The ‘weighting’ column in the following table provides an indication of the emphasis placed on each module in the exam.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The accountant as strategic business adviser</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Global business context</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Business crime: Investigation, detection and prevention</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Financial reporting and beyond</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Innovation and risk</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Communication and technology</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Submission of assignments

N/A

Academic referencing

N/A

Academic misconduct

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, allowing another student to copy work for an assignment or an examination, and any other conduct by which a student:

a. seeks to gain, for themselves or for any other person, any academic advantage or advancement to which they or that other person are not entitled; or

b. improperly disadvantages any other student.

Students engaging in any form of academic misconduct may be dealt with under the Ordinance of Student Discipline, and this can include imposition of penalties that range from a deduction/cancellation of marks to exclusion from a unit or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in Ordinance 9: Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct.
WHAT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE?

MyLO

MyLO is the online learning environment at the University of Tasmania. This is the system that will host the online learning materials and activities for this unit.

Getting help with MyLO

It is important that you are able to access and use MyLO as part of your study in this unit. To find out more about the features and functions of MyLO, and to practice using them, visit the Getting Started in MyLO unit.

For access to information about MyLO and a range of step-by-step guides in pdf, word and video format, visit the MyLO Student Support page on the University website. If something is not working as it should, contact the Service Desk (Service.Desk@utas.edu.au, phone 6226 1818), or Request IT Help Online.

Resources

Required readings
CPA Contemporary Business Issues 3rd Edition

Recommended readings
N/A

Reading Lists
N/A

Other Required Resources
N/A
Activities

Learning expectations

The University is committed to high standards of professional conduct in all activities, and holds its commitment and responsibilities to its students as being of paramount importance. Likewise, it holds expectations about the responsibilities students have as they pursue their studies within the special environment the University offers.

Students are expected to participate actively and positively in the teaching/learning environment. They must attend classes when and as required, strive to maintain steady progress within the subject or unit framework, comply with workload expectations, and submit required work on time.

Details of teaching arrangements

There will be 2 x 2 hour workshops each week. Please refer to the Study Schedule for details of the topics to be covered in each workshop.

Specific attendance/performance requirements

You are expected to attend all scheduled workshops.

Work Health and Safety (WHS)

The University is committed to providing a safe and secure teaching and learning environment. In addition to specific requirements of this unit you should refer to the University’s Work Health and Safety website and policy.

Communication

TO KEEP UP WITH ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING THIS UNIT

Check the MyLO Announcement tool at least once every two days. The unit Announcement will appear when you first enter our unit’s MyLO site. Alternatively, click on the Announcement button (towards the top of the MyLO screen) at any time.

WHEN YOU HAVE A QUESTION

Other students may have the same question that you have. Please go to the Ask the Class Discussion forum on the unit’s MyLO site. Check the posts that are already there – someone may have answered your question already. Otherwise, add your question as a new topic. Students are encouraged to support each other using this forum – if you can answer someone’s question, please do. We will attempt to respond to questions within 48 business hours. If your question is related to a personal issue or your performance in the unit, please contact the appropriate teaching staff member by email instead.
Concerns and complaints

The University is committed to providing an environment in which any concerns and complaints will be treated seriously, impartially and resolved as quickly as possible. We are also committed to ensuring that a student may lodge a complaint without fear of disadvantage. If you have a concern, information about who to contact for assistance is available on the ‘How to resolve a student complaint’ page.

Further information and assistance

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life-planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you are advised to raise these with the unit coordinator in the first instance.

There is a range of University-wide support services available to you including Student Learning Support, Student Advisers, Disability Services, and more which can be found on the Student Support and Development page of the University website.

Should you require assistance in accessing the Library, visit their website for more information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE BEGINNING</th>
<th>MODULE</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>The accountant as a strategic business adviser</td>
<td>Module 1 Readings Questions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 1.11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 March</td>
<td>Global business context</td>
<td>Module 2 Readings Questions 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.12, 2.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>Business crime: Investigation, detection and prevention</td>
<td>Module 3 Readings Questions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Financial reporting and beyond</td>
<td>Module 4 Readings Questions 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13, 4.14, 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, 4.18, 4.19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>Innovation and risk</td>
<td>Module 5 Readings Questions 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Communication and technology</td>
<td>Module 6 Readings Questions 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5</td>
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Exam Period 10 - 30 April (inclusive)
AACSB Accreditation

The Tasmanian School of Business and Economics (TSBE) is currently in the process of applying for business accreditation with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) – the lead program for accrediting business schools globally. AACSB seeks to connect educators, students, and business to achieve a common goal – to create the next generation of business leaders.

By joining AACSB and going through the accreditation process, TSBE is joining a global alliance committed to improve the quality of business education around the world, and to share the latest innovations in business education. Gaining Business Accreditation with AACSB is a multi-year process involving TSBE demonstrating our performance against the 15 accreditation standards.

Once complete, TSBE will join a select community of accredited business schools, with only 7% of all business schools globally having completed the AACSB process. This will further enhance the reputation of TSBE, and further enhance the global recognition of your qualifications. To find out more about AACSB click here.