FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY
Course Outline

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Course number: ACG 5505
Credit hours: 3 credit hours for course, Tuesdays, 6:30 PM – 9:40 PM.
Term: Summer 2011
Course title: Governmental Accounting

**PROFESSOR INFORMATION**

Professor name: Michael J. Gauci, CPA
Professor office location: FL 408
Professor office hours: Thursdays, 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM, by appointment only
Professor telephone: (561) 297-3636
Professor fax: (561) 451-9920
Professor e-mail address: mgauci@fau.edu (the preferred method to contact me)

**Course Information**

**Course Description**
Governmental Accounting is an advanced level study of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. The course is a detailed review of the accounting and financial reporting standards promulgated by the authoritative body (GASB) influencing the accounting and reporting for state and local governmental entities. Course material covers fund accounting concepts and practices as well as government-wide financial reporting similar to private business consolidated reporting and the relationships between the two. Class discussions will include explaining the material in the text as well as real life application of these standards as personally experienced by the professor.

**Prerequisites**
ACG 6137 Minimum Grade of C or ACG 3141 Minimum Grade of C and
ACG 3341 Minimum Grade of C or ACG 6347 Minimum Grade of C or Transient Exemption 1

**Restrictions**
Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels:
  Graduate
Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges:
  Col of Business
Textbooks and/or Bibliography

Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting - Theory and Practice, Update, 9/E
Copyright 2011
Publisher: Prentice Hall

Course Core Objectives

- To review the foundational aspects of governmental accounting and financial reporting standards and to bring their practical application to the classroom.
- To introduce students to state and local government accounting and financial reporting model allowing them to understand and apply the model.
- To provide students with an in-depth understanding of governmental accounting in preparation for the Uniform CPA Examination.

Course Policies

Consider these school policies part of this syllabus. They can be found at
http://business.fau.edu/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=uniformpolicies&category=Accounting&submenu=departments_Accounting
### Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Exercises</th>
<th>Problems</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>E1-1, E1-2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<td>P2-2</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E2-8, E2-9</td>
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<td>3.</td>
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<td>P3-2, P3-4, P3-7, P3-8</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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<td>E8-4, E8-5</td>
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<td>9.</td>
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<td>E9-1, E9-2</td>
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<td>P12-1, P12-2, P12-4, P12-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
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<td>E14-1, E14-2</td>
<td>P14-1, P14-5, P14-6</td>
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**Tentative Class Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/17</td>
<td>Introduction, review chapter 1, review chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/24</td>
<td>Ch. 1 HW, Ch. 2 HW, Review Ch. 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>Ch. 3 HW, Ch. 4 HW, Review Ch. 5 &amp; 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/7</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/14</td>
<td>Ch. 5 HW, Ch. 6 HW, Review Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/21</td>
<td>Test #1 (Ch. 1 through 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/28</td>
<td>Ch. 7 HW, Ch. 8 HW, Review Ch. 9 &amp; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/5</td>
<td>Ch. 9 HW, Ch. 10 HW, Review Ch. 11 &amp; 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/12</td>
<td>Ch. 11 HW, Ch. 12 HW, Review Ch. 13, 14, 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/19</td>
<td>Test #2 (Ch. 7 through 12)</td>
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<td>7/26</td>
<td>Ch. 13 HW, Ch. 14 HW, Ch. 15 HW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/2</td>
<td>Final Exam (Ch. 13 through 15)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Class Methodology**

There is a lot more material in the text than we will have time to cover in class. However, all chapter material assigned in this syllabus from the text will be tested on the exams! Class format will consist of lecture, class discussion and problem solving. Class discussion and problem solving will focus on *selected* chapter material and homework illustrations. I will be using unannounced chapter exercises and problems for illustration. Please be prepared to work example problems in class (you will need your text and a calculator as well as paper and pencil). Please remember, it is your responsibility to let me know if something we are doing is not clear to you. No one in class is more important than you! Don’t wait until after class if you don’t understand a point or if I start going too fast. Get my attention and ask me to explain in a different way or slow down if necessary.

**Grading**

*Your final grade will be made up as follows:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both exams will be in class. Your term paper should be 10-12 typewritten pages, double spaced. It should contain no clutter, and only a limited amount of historical information. Present your position and then build on your information. The body of your paper should support your opening in a logical and supportive manner. Stay focused and make no points that are irrelevant or become lost in the clutter. Write simply and directly.

Paper topics need to be approved by me before you begin work. Topics should include anything relevant to current events in Governmental finance or accounting. All students must have an approved topic by June 14, 2011.
Your paper must be well researched, with at least 5 sources cited in your bibliography from current academic and practitioner journals. You should reference GASB statements, newspaper articles, etc., if you rely on them. I expect primary sources written by credible individuals. Please keep in mind, while there are good “stories” in newspaper articles, there is very little in-depth accounting or finance. Double check your sources.

Do your research well in advance and do not start writing at the last moment. You have the option to produce a rough draft for review at least three class sessions before the paper is due.

More than two unexcused absences will reduce your grade by one level (for example, a “B” to a “B-“). Your grade will continue to be reduced by one grade level for each unexcused absence greater than two.

A+ = doesn’t exist
A = 91-100%
A- = 90-90.9%
B+ = 89-89.9%
B = 81-88.9%
B- = 80-80.9%
C+ = 79-79.9%
C = 72-78.9%
C- = 70-71.9%
D+ = 69-69.9%
D = 61-68.9%
D- = 60-60.9%
F = Below 60%

**Blackboard**
I will not bring handouts to class. I will post all the supplemental material and changes in the class schedule to Blackboard. You are responsible for assuring you have the material when we cover it in class and for taking quizzes and the final in a timely manner.
**Professionalism**  
You are in a degree program that will lead you to a professional career. To be successful in that career, you must possess knowledge of the subject matter and act as a professional. Therefore, I expect you to act as a professional in class. Professionals:

- Come to meetings (class) on time and stay for the entire meeting (class).
- Come to meetings (class) prepared. This means that you have read and studied the material and worked the assigned exercise and problems before coming to class, and you are ready to participate.
- Do not disrupt meetings (class) talking about topics not related to the discussion or disrupt meetings (class) with phones or other electronic devices.
- In video conference classes, it is extremely important that only one person speaks at a time. If you habitually talk while others are talking, I will require you to leave the classroom.
- Are courteous to others when they speak.
- Meet commitments.
- Perform all their work in an ethical and honest manner.
- Enjoy their work (readings and assignments) and their co-workers (classmates).
- Participate in class discussions.

**Class Attendance**  
Students are expected to attend all courses and course activities for which they are registered. Any class meeting missed, regardless of cause, reduces the opportunity of learning and may adversely affect a student's achievement in the course. An accurate record of attendance will be kept for each class.

Students will be granted excused absences in the case of a substantiated emergency such as a confining illness, a serious accident or the death of an immediate relative. I will decide on the validity of the excuses and provide opportunities for students to complete any required make-up work. Students are responsible for immediately informing me when they must miss class sessions for emergency absences.

**Academic Honesty**


I will not tolerate any amount of cheating or dishonesty. If you engage in cheating or dishonesty in any form regardless of how much it could potentially affect your final grade or if you engage in plagiarism, you will receive an F in the course. You are encouraged to work with others throughout this course. However, you should not submit the work of others for grading. All outside assignments require that each student complete his/her own work. You may discuss the course material with others, but you may not print more than one copy of the same solution and submit it with different names, and you may not exchange computer files. You may not have someone else complete your work. If you submit the work of others as your own, or if you allow others to submit your work, you are guilty of cheating. All students involved in cheating will receive a failing grade (F) in the course.
Cheating on the exams includes, but is not limited to, copying the work of others, allowing others to copy your work, using unauthorized notes or hand held computers, or receiving outside assistance in any manner. If you have any material at your desk other than allowed material, you are guilty of cheating and will receive an F for the course. Dishonesty includes lying about reasons for missing exams and quizzes and lying about reasons for submitting assignments late.

**Cell Phones**
Unfortunately, a few students allow their cell phones to disrupt class. You should turn your cell phone off before coming to class. If your cell phone rings during class, you must turn it off immediately.

**Suggested Study Approach**
This course requires a large time commitment outside class. Most students will need 9-12 hours per week outside class. If you do not have the time or are unwilling to devote the time necessary, you will fail the course. The following approach should help you be successful.

- Read the entire chapter prior to the first classroom coverage.
- Be sure you can answer the questions listed on the outline before you begin working exercises and problems.
- Work the exercises and problems in the order shown on the class outline.
- If you e-mail me with questions as you work through the material, you will be able to get over any hurdles in a more timely fashion and continue working on the material.
- Come schedule an office visit with me for help when needed.
- Ask questions in class.
- Review the material covered in class as soon as possible.
- Begin all graded assignments early enough so that you can get help if you need it. I am willing to help you with any of the outside assignments, but you must begin the assignment in time to get help.

Although individuals learn differently, no one is successful in Governmental Accounting without reading the material and working many problems outside class.

**ADA**
Students may seek accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should review the University’s ADA Policy and work the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the OSD and follow all OSD procedures.

**Late assignment policy**
No late assignments will be accepted, except in the rare case of an excused absence (see “Class Attendance” section). All assignments must be completed by the due dates.

**Make-up exam policy**
No make-up exams will be given, except in the rare case of an excused absence (see “Class Attendance” section).

**Withdrawal Policy for Individual Courses**
The last day to withdraw without receiving an “F” grade is June 24, 2011.