### Class code
ACCT-UB9001.001

### Instructor Details
- **Name:** Giovanni Liberatore  
- **NYU Home Email Address:** gl29@nyu.edu  
- **Office Hours:** by appointment  
- **Villa Ulivi Office Extension:** 312

### Class Details
- **Semester:** Fall 2013  
- **Full Title of Course:** Principles of financial accounting  
- **Meeting Days and Times:** Tuesday 10.30 AM-1.15 PM  
- **Classroom Location:** Viareggio

### Prerequisites
None

### Class Description
Accounting is a profession that specializes in providing information for the making of economic decisions. Accordingly, this course introduces you to the important role that accounting plays in a free enterprise society. You are introduced to the conceptual content of accounting, the overall scope of the accounting function in society, and the uses and limitations of conventional accounting data.

Owing to the globalization of commerce and finance, accounting is increasingly serving decisions that are international in scope. Accordingly, U.S. accounting treatments will also be examined from an international perspective.

We will approach the subject from a user’s point of view, not the accountant, although this does require extensive work on how accounting information is prepared. Throughout the semester, we will be doing problems using real financial statements.

Class sessions will comprise a formal lecture in which we will discuss new concepts and procedures. To benefit from classroom discussion, students should complete the assigned readings prior to the relevant class session. Assigned exercises/problems should be completed by the dates indicated and will be discussed in class. The textbook is needed class, as we will work through problems from the text as far as time permits.

Office hours are provided to clarify concepts that have been introduced in the lectures and to go over assigned homework problems that we did not get to go over in class.

### Desired Outcomes
On completion of this course, students should:
- Have the capability to read and understand a financial statement;
- Be able to perform a comparison between competing companies;
- Make relevant connections between theory and real world examples, through references to media material, readings or case studies
- Find an increased interest to read economic and business related materials in the media.

### Assessment Components
- Attendance and Participation: 10%  
- Midterm Exams: 60%  
- Final Exam: 30%

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
### The Stern Grading System

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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- Minimum requirements for credit
- Failing

### Grade conversion

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### Grading Policy

At NYU Stern, we strive to create courses that challenge students intellectually and that meet the Stern standards of academic excellence. To ensure fairness and clarity of grading, the Stern faculty have adopted a grading guideline for core courses with enrollments of more than 25 students in which approximately 35% of students will receive an “A” or “A-” grade. In core classes of less than 25 students, the instructor is at liberty to give whatever grades they think the students deserve, while maintaining rigorous academic standards.

### Attendance Policy

**Attendance:**

Attendance is expected and required of all students. Any absences will negatively impact upon your course grade.

**Absences:**

In case of absence, regardless of the reason, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments, getting notes and making up missed work in a timely manner based upon a schedule that is mutually agreed upon between the faculty member and the student.

**Absence Due to Illness**

- If you are sick, please see a doctor (contact the OSL for information).
- **Only a medical certificate from a local medical professional will be accepted to justify an absence due to illness.**
- Within 24 hours of your return to class you must bring this note to the Office of Academic Support, located on the ground floor of Villa Ulivi. We will review the medical certificate and we will notify your faculty via email about your justified absence due to illness.
- Absences for short term illness without a medical certificate are not
justified and count as unjustified absences. We will not accept a student email or telephone call regarding an absence due to illness. We will not notify your faculty about these absences

- The Office of Student Life, when assisting you in cases of severe or extended illness, will coordinate with the Office of Academic Support to properly record your absences

**Due to Religious Observance**

- Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the **holiday only** and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday
- Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose

**Due to a class conflict with a program sponsored lecture, event, or activity**

- All students are entitled to miss one class period without any penalty to their grade in order to attend a lecture, event or activity that is sponsored by NYU Florence or La Pietra Dialogues, Acton Miscellany or the Graduate Lecture series.
- Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose

### Late Submission of Work

- All course work must be submitted on time, in class on the date specified on the syllabus.
- To request an extension on a deadline for an assignment, students must speak to the professor one week prior to the due date.
- To receive an incomplete for a course at the end of the semester, two weeks before final exams, both the student and the faculty member must meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs to review the request and if granted, they must both sign an Incomplete Contract detailing the terms for completing missing coursework.

### Plagiarism Policy and Code of Conduct

**PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM:**

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

In the event of suspected or confirmed cases of plagiarism, The faculty member will consult first with the Assistant Director for Academic Affairs as definitions and procedures vary from school to school. Please consult the “Academic Guidelines for Success” distributed on your USB key at Check-in and on the NYU Florence Global Wiki.

For a detailed description of some possible forms of plagiarism and cheating please consult the Community Compact that you signed at Orientation, a copy of which is on the above mentioned Wiki and USB key.

All students are expected to follow the Stern Code of Conduct ([http://www.stern.nyu.edu/uc/codeofconduct](http://www.stern.nyu.edu/uc/codeofconduct))

### Required Text(s)

| **Supplemental Texts(s)**  | - Selected readings from business media.  
| (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library or available online) | - Web page for the course on the NYU Classes where announcements for supplementary required readings will be posted. |

| **Internet Research Guidelines** | The careful use of internet resources is encouraged and a list of recommended websites will be given. Failure to cite internet and other non-traditional media sources in your written work constitutes plagiarism. |

| **Additional Required Equipment** | A pocket calculator is required. Smartphones not allowed |

| **Classroom Etiquette** | - Eating is not permitted in the classrooms. Bottled water is permitted.  
| | - Cell phones should be turned off during class time.  
| | - We recycle! So keep it green! Please dispose of trash in the clearly marked recycle bins located throughout the on campus buildings |

| **Required Co-curricular Activities** | N/A |

| **Suggested Co-curricular Activities** | Suggested optional co-curricular activities will be announced in class and/or via email by the professor throughout the semester. |

| **Session 1** | Financial Accounting and business decisions | Ch 1 |
| [09/03] | |

| **Session 2** | Investing and financing decisions and the balance sheet | Ch 2 |
| [09/10] | |

| **Session 3** | Operating decisions and the income statement | Ch 3 |
| [09/17] | |

<p>| <strong>Session 4</strong> | The adjustment process and financial statement preparation | Ch 4 |
| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/24</td>
<td>Session 5</td>
<td>1st Mid-term exam (class hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/01</td>
<td>Session 6</td>
<td>Statement of cash flows, Reporting and interpreting sales revenue and receivables</td>
<td>Ch 13, Ch 6</td>
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<td>10/08</td>
<td>Session 7</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting cost of goods sold and inventories</td>
<td>Ch 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting property, plant and equipment and intangibles</td>
<td>Ch 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Session 9</td>
<td>2nd Mid-term exam (class hours)</td>
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<td>11/05</td>
<td>Session 10</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting liabilities</td>
<td>Ch 9</td>
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<td>11/12</td>
<td>Session 11</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting bonds</td>
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<td>11/19</td>
<td>Session 12</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting owners’ equity</td>
<td>Ch 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>Session 13</td>
<td>Reporting and interpreting investments</td>
<td>Ch 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/03</td>
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<td>Final Exam (class hours)</td>
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<td>12/10</td>
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15. A lecture to be attended outside of regular class time to meet the 15 week lesson requirement will be suggested during the term.