BS0853: Accounting Online

MODULE AIMS

The aim of this module is to develop certain accounting related skills, by explaining the techniques of financial accounting and management accounting, and examining their relevance to the broader issues of financial decision-making and management control in organisations. The module gives students a basic insight into the way that business performance is measured, and how business decisions can be structured and analysed.

MODULE OBJECTIVES

Knowledge Objectives
This is an introductory module. Students are expected to develop a basic knowledge of:

- Balance sheets and profit & loss accounts
- The valuation of assets and liabilities
- Financial ratios and how these can be used to analyse performance of the company as a whole
- Cash flow statements
- Cost concepts and costing systems
- Analytical techniques available for economic decisions in business enterprises
- Budgeting and performance measurement at the operational level

Skills Objectives
The module will facilitate the student development of:

- Interpretative skills in relation to accounting information including a critical attitude to its value and limitations
- Computational and analytical skills in relation to the use of accounting data to facilitate decisions concerning the operation of, and investment in, production systems, and the design and production of products or services

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the module students will be able to:

- Identify the major issues raised by financial and costing accounting data
- Take an effective involvement in business operations

TEACHING METHODS

The module will comprise 10 self-guided sessions as well as live lectures and online tutorials.
ASSESSMENTS

The module will be assessed by:
- Coursework (30%)
- Exam (70%)

CORE TEXT

Jones, M., 2013, Accounting, Wiley, third edition*
* Please, note that the third edition is substantially different from the previous editions, in particular because it includes international accounting standards, which are relevant to this module.

MODULE OUTLINE

The module is structured in two parts (each five weeks):
Part A: Financial Accounting and Part B: Management Accounting

Part A - Financial Accounting
- The nature and roles of financial accounting
- The Balance Sheet
- Valuation of assets and liabilities
- Profit determination
- The Income Statement
- The Statement of Cash Flows
- Types of ratios
- Ratio and annual report analysis

Part B - Management Accounting
- The nature and roles of management accounting
- Basic cost concepts
- Cost accounting systems
- Short-run decision making
- Investment decisions
- Budgetary control
- Performance evaluation