

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH PROJECT

SPRING 2017

The paper must be a minimum of 3 pages, double spaced with no more than 1" margins and type font of no larger than 12.

Write the paper as a narrative and not as a series of questions and answers.

Attachments to show organization charts or forms and tables are desirable, but do not count as part of the 3 page requirement.

THIS PROJECT MUST BE TURNED IN BY Thursday, April 6th. For each day late, 3 points will be taken off of the paper's grade.

Choose one (1) from out of the following three (3) topics. (or see me if you have something else in mind).

(1) Investor Decision Making

Purpose: To expose students to the use of financial and non-financial information by investors.

Assignment: Interview an analyst or someone who invests in stocks. Address the following:

- a) What industries or types of companies does the person follow most closely?
- b) What sources of information are used when a company is evaluated? Are the financial statements the most important source of information?
- c) What steps or tools are used when a company's financial statements are examined?
- d) Is there one financial statement that is most important?
- e) How does ethics play a part of the job?

Based on the results of the interview, prepare a three-page (exclusive of attachments) report on your findings.

(2) **Managerial Decision Making**

Purpose: To illustrate the use of managerial accounting information (financial and non-financial) in internal decision making.

Assignment: Interview a manager at a local company. Discuss the following issues:

- a) What is the nature of the company (products or services offered, customer base, competition, strategy, etc.)?
- b) What are this manager's responsibilities and what types of decisions does the person make?
- c) As this manager makes decisions, what types of information does he or she use?
- d) What are the sources of this information?
- e) Does the manager primarily use financial information (measured in dollars) or non-financial information to make decisions?
- f) If the manager could change one thing about the company's accounting system (to make his or her job easier), what would the change be?
- g) How does ethics play a part of the job?

Based on the results of the interview, please prepare a three-page (exclusive of attachments) report on your findings.

(3) **Making Bank Loans**

Purpose: The use of accounting information by bank loan officers.

Assignment: Interview a loan officer at a local bank. Please discuss the following issues:

- a) What types of customers does the loan officer serve?
- b) As loan requests are evaluated, what types of accounting information does the loan officer use? How is this information used (e.g., plugged into a computer package)?
- c) Is any other information used in deciding whether to grant a loan? If so, what types of information? How is this information used?
- d) How does ethics play a part of the job?

Based on the results of the interview, please prepare a three-page (exclusive of attachments) report on your findings.

Syllabus Quiz SPRING 2017

Name: _____
Accounting 1

Course: Introduction to

Fill in the blanks and turn in Tuesday, February 7th.

1. In this course, there are ____ (how many) tests not counting the Final Exam.
2. Each test represents ____ points of your overall grade.
3. The final exam represents ____ points of your grade.
4. What date and time will the Final Exam be given in class? On _____ @ _____AM (see Class Schedule).
5. Homework is VERY important. It represents _____ points of your grade.
6. The PREFERRED way of contacting your instructor is _____.
7. A LATE homework assignment loses _____ points.
8. A _____ page research paper is due on _____.
9. A LATE research paper loses _____ points per day.
10. If there is severe weather or some local emergency, you can find out if school has been cancelled by checking: _____ or _____ or _____.
11. Cell phones are allowed in class ONLY IF they are set to: _____.
12. Outgoing calls must be made _____.
13. If I wish to DROP this class and receive a "W" grade, I must do so before _____.
14. If my overall course average is 700, my reported grade will be a _____.
15. Students will receive extra points for _____.