Boston College Mission Statement
Strengthened by more than a century and a half of dedication to academic excellence, Boston College commits itself to the highest standards of teaching and research in undergraduate, graduate and professional programs and to the pursuit of a just society through its own accomplishments, the work of its faculty and staff, and the achievements of its graduates. It seeks both to advance its place among the nation's finest universities and to bring to the company of its distinguished peers and to contemporary society the richness of the Catholic intellectual ideal of a mutually illuminating relationship between religious faith and free intellectual inquiry.

Boston College draws inspiration for its academic societal mission from its distinctive religious tradition. As a Catholic and Jesuit university, it is rooted in a world view that encounters God in all creation and through all human activity, especially in the search for truth in every discipline, in the desire to learn, and in the call to live justly together. In this spirit, the University regards the contribution of different religious traditions and value systems as essential to the fullness of its intellectual life and to the continuous development of its distinctive intellectual heritage.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
The course is designed to emphasize the importance of basic accounting in the business world as it shapes the potential business decisions made throughout your professional careers. The course is designed to teach you about accounting as an information system and how it supports economic decision making. It is also meant to gain a basic understanding of the nature of financial statements and how to analyze them using basic concepts such as trend and ratio analysis.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
The majority of each class period will follow a similar format:
   - Weekly quiz – 45 minutes
   - Review of prior week’s reading and homework assignment – 30 minutes
   - Current week’s lesson – 75 minutes
Also, discussion of relevant current financial events will be included time permitting.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
All students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate. The level of preparedness will be achieved by completing weekly reading assignments and homework problems. A review of the prior week’s homework assignment will be conducted each class period. The classroom will be a lively forum where real world examples and case studies will be discussed. Your participation, questions and comments will help facilitate these conversations and make the classroom an enjoyable place to learn.
Specific learning objectives:
1. The student will learn the basics of financial accounting, which is essential towards understanding the framework and purpose of the three corporate financial statements: the balance sheet, income statement and statement of cash flows.

2. The student will learn to apply course material to their own personal finances and decision making process as some of the concepts discussed in basic financial accounting can be compared to the methodology of maintaining a checkbook. Also, the balance sheet of certain companies will be compared to a personal balance sheet of an individual.

Additionally:
1. The student will demonstrate knowledge across cultural settings and will learn the impact of culture in the study of Accounting as demonstrated by ongoing comparisons of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

2. The student will demonstrate ethical knowledge, pertaining to the roles of financial accounting as demonstrated by our weekly review of current events and occasion discussion on previous accounting fraud cases.

WCAS Grading System
The undergraduate grading system consists of twelve categories: A (4.00), A- (3.67), excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), B- (2.67), good; C+ (2.33), C (2.00), C- (1.67), satisfactory; D+ (1.33), D (1.00), D- (0.67), passing but unsatisfactory; F (0.00), failure; I (0.00), incomplete; F (0.00), course dropped without notifying office; W (0.00), official withdrawal from course. The graduate grading system is A (4.00), A- (3.67), Excellent; B+ (3.33), B (3.00), good; B- (2.67), C (2.00), passing but not for degree credit; F (0.00), failure.

Grade Reports. All students are required to log in to the web through Agora to access their semester grades. Students must utilize their BC username and password to log on. If your username or password is not known, the Student Learning and Support Center in the O’Neill Library Computer Center will issue a new one. The SLSC requires a valid picture ID (a BC ID, driver’s license or passport) to obtain your password.

Grading Specific to Class:
Weekly quizzes 35%
Final exam 30%
Cases 30%
Student commentary during “interactive” class time 5%
Consistent participation in class may raise grades at the sole discretion of the professor.
Any missed quizzes must be made up by the start of class the following week.

Important Policies
http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/advstudies/guide/academicinteg.html

Written Work
Graduate and undergraduate students are expected to prepare professional, polished written work. Written materials must be typed in the format required by your instructor. Strive for a thorough, yet concise style. Cite literature appropriately, using APA, MLA, CLA format per instructors decision. Develop your thoughts fully, clearly, logically and specifically. Proofread all materials to ensure the use
of proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You are encouraged to make use of campus resources for refining writing skills as needed [http://www.bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html].

Cases:
Two cases will be completed during the semester. The cases are meant to be used as a method to apply a series of concepts discussed in class to apply to the overall understanding of financial statements. Any cases turned in late will be penalized 10% for each week late.

Scholarship and Academic Integrity
It is expected that students will produce original work and cite references appropriately. Failure to reference properly is plagiarism. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not necessarily limited to, plagiarism, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, cheating on examinations or assignments, and submitting the same paper or substantially similar papers to meet the requirements of more than one course without seeking permission of all instructors concerned. Scholastic misconduct may also involve, but is not necessarily limited to, acts that violate the rights of other students, such as depriving another student of course materials or interfering with another student’s work.

Request for Accommodations
If you have a disability and will be requesting accommodations for this course, please register with either Dr. Kathy Duggan (dugganka@bc.edu), Associate Director, Connors Family Learning Center (learning disabilities or AHD) or Dean Paulette Durrett, (paulette.durrett@bc.edu), Assistant Dean for students with disabilities, (all other disabilities). Advance notice and appropriate documentation are required for accommodations. For further information, you can locate the disability resources on the web at http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/libraries/help/tutoring/specialservices.html.

Attendance
Class attendance is an important component of learning. Students are expected to attend all classes and to arrive by the beginning of and remain for the entire class period. When an occasion occurs that prevents a student from attending class, it is the student’s obligation to inform the instructor of the conflict before the class meets. The student is still expected to meet all assignment deadlines. If a student knows that he or she will be absent on a particular day, the student is responsible for seeing the instructor beforehand to obtain the assignments for that day. If a student misses a class, he or she is responsible for making up the work by obtaining a classmate's notes and handouts and turning in any assignments due. Furthermore, many instructors give points for participation in class. If you miss class, you cannot make up participation points associated with that class. Types of absences that are not typically excused include weddings, showers, vacations, birthday parties, graduations, etc. Additional assignments, penalties and correctives are at the discretion of the instructor. If circumstances necessitate excessive absence from class, the student should consider withdrawing from the class. In all cases, students are expected to accept the decision of the instructor regarding attendance policies specific to the class.

Consistent with our commitment of creating an academic community that is respectful of and welcoming to persons of differing backgrounds, we believe that every reasonable effort should be made to allow members of the university community to observe their religious holidays without jeopardizing the fulfillment of their academic obligations. It is the responsibility of students to review course syllabi as soon as they are distributed and to consult the faculty member promptly regarding any possible conflicts with observed religious holidays. If asked, the student should provide accurate information about the obligations entailed in the observance of that particular holiday. However, it is the responsibility of the student to complete any and all class requirements for days that are missed due to conflicts due to religious holidays.
There may be circumstances that necessitate a departure from this policy. Feel free to contact the WCAS at 617-552-3900 for consultation.

**Deadlines**
Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the specified dates. Late assignments will be graded accordingly.

**Course Assignments** (readings, exercises and/or experiences)
Class periods are 2 hours and 30 minutes. Additionally, we will be “meeting interactively”, on a weekly basis. Articles along with discussion questions will be posted by Thursday evening each week to Blackboard Vista. Students are expected to post commentary and responses to these questions by Sunday at noon. I will be monitoring the responses and add additional commentary as a means to continue the dialogue. All students are expected to post on a weekly basis. The content of those posts will factor into the final grade, as shown above.

On average, assignments are expected to take up to eight hours each week. The assignments will include reading of assigned chapters, completion of assigned problems and studying for scheduled quizzes. In certain weeks it will be less, and in certain weeks (especially the two weeks where cases are due) it will be more.

Students are expected to complete the following out of class course assignments:

**Week 1 – September 1st**
Introductions
Chapter 1: *Accounting in Action*

**Week 2 – September 8th**
Review of Chapter 1 Homework Assignment
Chapter 2: *The Recording Process*

**Week 3 – September 15th**
Review of Chapter 2 Homework Assignment
Chapter 3: *Adjusting the Accounts*

**Week 4 – September 22nd**
Weekly Quiz – Chapters 1 and 2
Review of Chapter 3 Homework Assignment
Chapter 3: *Adjusting the Accounts (continued)*

**Week 5 – September 29th**
Review of Chapter 3 Homework Assignment
Chapters 4 and 5 (Partial pgs. 234-238): *Completing the Accounting Cycle*
Week 6 – October 6th

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 3
Review of Chapters 4 and 5 Homework Assignment
Chapter 14: Financial Statement Analysis
Case #1 Assigned

Week 7 – October 13th

NO CLASS

Week 8 – October 20th

Case #1 to be collected
Weekly Quiz – Chapters 4 and 5 (Partial)
Review of Chapter 14 Homework Assignment
Chapter 9: Plant Assets, Natural Resources and Intangible Assets

Week 9 – October 27th

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 14
Review of Chapter 9 Homework Assignment
Chapter 13: Statement of Cash Flows
Case #2 assigned

Week 10 – November 3rd

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 9
Review of Chapter 13 Homework Assignment
Chapter 13: Statement of Cash Flows (continued)

Week 11 – November 10th

Case #2 to be collected
Review of Chapter 13 Homework Assignment
Chapter 5: Accounting for Merchandising Operations

Week 12 – November 17th

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 13
Review of Chapter 5 Homework Assignment
Chapter 6: Inventories

Week 13 – November 24th

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 5
Review of Chapter 6 Homework Assignment
Chapter 8: Accounting for Receivables
Week 14 – December 1st

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 6
Review of Chapter 8 Homework Assignment

Week 15 – December 8th

Weekly Quiz – Chapter 8
Review of Cash and Liabilities
Preparation for Final Exam

Week 16 – December 15th
FINAL EXAM