UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Balance Sheet & Financial Analysis - 1

2223-2-E1802M117-T1

Learning objectives

The aim of the course is to provide in-depth knowledge of the tools used for the preparation and processing of economic and financial information for the purpose of publishing the financial statements of industrial and commercial companies, with particular reference to national legislation according to the provisions of Legislative Decree 139/2015, an essential objective for a student of the degree course in Economics and Business Administration.

At the end of the course the learner, in particular knows and knows how to apply:

- Statutory legislation on the financial statements of limited liability companies (with updates of Legislative Decree 139/2015), and notes on international accounting standards (IAS 1, IAS 38, IAS 16, FRS 16, IAS 40).
- The changes introduced by Legislative Decree 139/2015 also regarding the assessment of the individual balance sheet items.
- The process of reclassifying the financial statements for the purpose of a static analysis, as well as the main indices and margins useful for the purpose of an economic and financial budget analysis.```

Knowledge and understanding

The course aims to provide adequate knowledge on the preparation of the financial statements of companies from a national perspective (with reference to the IAS / IFRS accounting principles) and to make it clear which are the main areas of difference in the application of the OIC and IAS principles / IFRS, as well as the critical issues and solutions that can be adopted in the representation and evaluation of the financial statement items and the related effects on the financial statement results. The student knows and understands the different information scope of financial statements prepared according to national legislation in comparison with those prepared according to IAS

/ IFRS, and knows the main indicators used in the static analysis of the financial statements. The lectures, the cases presented in the classroom and the individual study of the teaching material allow the student to acquire these disciplinary skills, which are verified both during the written test (closed and open questions referred to both knowledge and understanding), and during the oral exam discussing a financial statement drawn up according to the civil code.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

The course aims to train students with the knowledge necessary for the preparation and interpretation also by means of indicators of the financial statements according to national legislation, including the main differences compared to the financial statements prepared according to IAS / IFRS. The application cases presented in the classroom by the teacher allow the student to acquire these skills, which are verified both during the written test (partly through closed questions, but especially in the open question in which the application of these skills is required) , and finally during the oral exam also discussing a financial statement drawn up according to the civil code.

Judgment autonomy

The course allows the student to acquire a progressive autonomy of judgment in particular in the comparison of financial statements drawn up according to national accounting principles and IAS / IFRs, urges the ability to critically analyze and solve complex problems regarding the processing of economic information and financial statements of companies. The discussion of business cases, the interaction requested by the teacher in the classroom as well as the oral test are moments of verification of the autonomy of judgment.

Communication skills

The student acquires the ability to clearly express technically advanced concepts, with an adequate language to interact with interlocutors with or without specialist knowledge of the subject, to communicate in a complete and effective way and with language properties. The interaction requested by the teacher in the classroom and the oral test represent moments of verification of the communication skills of the learners.

Learning ability

During the course, the student is urged to deepen particular topics by carrying out autonomous regulatory and business case studies, useful skills especially in the future for updates on financial reporting issues required in professional paths or advanced study courses.

Contents

The financial statements of joint stock companies drawn up according to the provisions of the civil code.

Notes on international accounting standards relating to the structure and content of the separate financial statements of companies.

Economic, financial and balance sheet analysis.

There is also an application seminar on "Static and dynamic budget analysis: theory and practice"

Detailed program

- Definition and purpose of the financial statements
- The types of financial statements
- National and international accounting standards
- The decision-making process in the light of the budgetary principles
- Structure of the financial statements according to the civil code and according to international accounting standards
- The content of the balance sheet and the evaluation criteria of the individual items according to the civil code and according to national accounting principles

- Notes on IAS 38 "Intangible assets", IFRS 3 "Business Combination"; IAS 16 "Property, plant and machinery"; IFRS 16 Lease; IAS 40 "Real Estate Investments";
- The content of the income statement and the evaluation criteria of the individual items according to the civil code and according to national accounting principles
- The additional documents that make up the financial statements.
- The filing and publication of the financial statements.
- The static balance sheet analysis: reclassification of the balance sheet, economic, financial and equity indicators.

- Notes on the financial statements in abbreviated form (Article 2435 bis of the Italian Civil Code) and on the financial statements of Micro-Entities (Article 2435 of the Italian Civil Code).

During the course, the latest available financial statements of a joint-stock company drawn up according to the provisions of the Civil Code will be commented and analyzed.

There is also an application seminar on "Static and dynamic budget analysis: theory and practice"

Prerequisites

Financial accounting

Teaching methods

The course will be taught through theoretical and practical classes. Besides theoretical aspects, case studies will be discussed and practical exercises will be developed in order to better illustrate the financial information’s characteristics, potentialities and criticalities.

During the semester there are 2 written intermediate tests. The first took place in the week of suspension of lessons, the second at the end of the lessons. The passing the intermediate tests allows access to the oral exam.

The structure of both intermediate tests is the same as for the written test on official appeal, namely:

8 questions, of which 6 multiple choice (correct answer +1; answer not given 0; wrong answer -0.5) aimed at verify the knowledge and the ability to apply the knowledge, 1 theoretical and 1 applicative, both open-ended (evaluation for each open question from 0 to +2). The written intermediate exam lasts 40 minutes.

Assessment methods

Written and oral exam.

There are no jumps for students who take the written test, but to discourage the student from trying the written exam, the following assessment methods are provided.

Written test with 8 questions, of which 6 multiple choice (correct answer +1; answer not given 0; wrong answer -0.5) aimed at verifying knowledge and the ability to apply knowledge and 2 (one theoretical and one application) with open answer (evaluation from 0 to +2).

To access the oral exam, a written score of at least +6 (which corresponds to 18/30) is required.

The written test lasts 35 minutes.

Students who pass the written test must also take the oral test by discussing a financial reporting prepared according to the civil code (not in abbreviated form).

The oral test consists of at least 3 theoretical questions of application, each question is assigned a score from 0 to 10.

Registration for the exam session (online procedure) is an indispensable condition for being able to take the test (both written and oral). Candidates not regularly enrolled in the exam cannot take the test.

The student enrolled in the appeal but absent during the exam, without having informed the teacher in time, cannot take the exam in the next session.

In the Covid emergency period, exams will only be online. Written exams will be conducted using the online exam platform. The oral exams will be carried out using the WebEx platform and a public link will be shown on the e-learning page of the course for access to the examination of possible virtual attendees.

Measurement of learning and criteria for awarding the final mark

The mark is expressed in thirtieths. The student passes the exam if he obtains a mark of at least 18 even in the oral exam. The highest marks will be awarded with honors (30 with honors).

The exam is considered passed when the student has obtained a mark equal to at least 18 both in the written test and in the oral test. The final mark is determined for 30% by the mark of the written test and for 70% by the mark of the oral test.

The mark of the written test is determined by the sum of the points of the multiple choice questions to which are added the points achieved in the 2 open questions assessed on the basis of a defined scale referred to the completeness of the answer and the seriousness of the mistakes made.

The grade of the oral exam is determined by adding the evaluation (maximum 10/30) attributed to each of the 3 questions submitted to the student. This assessment takes into account the degree of knowledge, understanding and ability to apply the topics covered.

The student who demonstrates a critical, analytical, in-depth and exhaustive understanding of the course content in the oral course, as well as an excellent command of the subject's own terminologies, gets praise.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

- Slides published on the elearning website - page dedicated to the course (http://elearning.unimib.it/course)

- Civil Code, D.Lgs 139/2013,
- Italian Gaap (OIC: www.fondazioneoic.it)
- IAS/IFRS as mentioned in the slides

Semester

Second Semester

Teaching language

Italian

Sustainable Development Goals