UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Balance Sheet & Financial Analysis - 1

2526-2-E1802M160-T1

Learning objectives

The aim of the course is to provide an in-depth knowledge of the tools used for the preparation and processing of business and financial disclosures for the purpose of publishing the financial statements of manufacturing and trading companies, with particular reference to the national regulations in accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree 139/2015, an indispensable objective for a student in the Bachelor of Business Administration and Economics course.

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

- Civil law regulations on financial statements of corporations (with updates of Legislative Decree 139/2015), and hints on international accounting standards (IAS 1, IAS 38, IAS 16, IFRS 16 , IAS 40).
- the valuation of individual financial statement items according to civil code and Italian GAAPS.
- The process of reclassifying financial statements for the purpose of static analysis, as well as the main ratios and margins for financial statement economic and financial analysis.

Knowledge and understanding
The course aims to provide adequate knowledge on the subject of preparing the financial statements of companies from a national perspective (with some mention of IAS/IFRS accounting standards) and to provide an understanding of the main areas of difference in the application of the OIC and IAS/IFRS standards, as well as the critical issues and solutions that can be adopted in the representation and valuation of financial statement captions and their impact on the results of the financial statements. The learner knows and understands the different information scope of financial statements prepared according to national regulations in comparison with those prepared according to IAS/IFRS, and knows the main indicators used in static financial statement analysis. The lectures, cases presented in the classroom and individual study of the teaching material enable the student to acquire these disciplinary skills, which are tested both during the written test (closed and open questions referring to both knowledge and understanding) and during the oral test by discussing a financial statement prepared 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 through indicators, of financial statements according to national regulations, understanding the main differences from financial statements prepared according to IAS/IFRS. The application cases presented in the classroom by the lecturer enable the student to acquire these skills, which are verified both during the written test (partly through the closed questions, but especially in the open question in which the application of these skills is required), and finally during the oral test also by discussing a financial statement prepared according to the Civil Code.

Autonomy of judgment
The teaching allows the student to acquire a progressive autonomy of judgment in particular in the comparison of financial statements prepared according to national accounting standards and IAS/IFRS, it urges his ability to critically analyze and solve complex problems in the field of elaboration of economic and financial reporting of companies. The discussion of business cases, interaction solicited by the lecturer in the classroom as well as the oral test constitute moments of verification of independent judgment.

Communicative skills
The student acquires the ability to clearly express technically advanced concepts, with language suitable for interacting with interlocutors with or without specialized knowledge in the subject matter, to communicate in an accomplished and effective manner and with propriety of language. The interaction stimulated in the classroom by the lecturer and the oral test represent moments of verification of the learners' communication skills.

Learning skills
The student is encouraged to investigate particular topics already during the course by conducting regulatory and business case research independently, skills that are especially useful in the future for updating on financial statement issues required in professional or advanced study programs.

Contents

The financial statements of corporations prepared in accordance with the Civil Code.

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

The economic, financial and asset analysis of financial statements with a practical application on a case stydy.

Detailed program

- Definition and purpose of financial statements
- The types of financial statements
- National and international accounting standards
- The decision-making process in accordance with the principles of financial statements
- Structure of financial statements according to the Civil Code and according to international accounting standards
- The content of the balance sheet and the valuation criteria of individual captions according to the Civil Code and according to national accounting standards

- Hints on Ias 38 "Intangible Assets; Ias 16 "Property, Plant and Equipment"; IFRS 16 Lease; Ias 40 "Investment Property."
- The contents of the income statement and the measurement criteria of individual items according to the Civil Code and national accounting standards
- The additional documents that make up the financial statements.

- The filing and publication of the financial statements.
- The static analysis of financial statements: reclassification of financial statements, economic, financial and equity indicators.

- Hints on abbreviated financial statements (art. 2435 bis civil code) and the financial statements of Micro-Enterprises (art. 2435 ter civil code).

During the course, the latest available financial statements of a Joint Stock Company prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Code will be commented on and analyzed.

An applied seminar on "Static Financial Statement Analysis: theory and practice" is also planned.

Prerequisites

Financial accounting

Teaching methods

The course is conducted with lectures with theoretical and practical content. In order to illustrate the characteristics, potential and criticality of financial statement information for the purpose of its proper analysis and interpretation, practical applications and business cases will be carried out and discussed in addition to theoretical aspects.

The 63 hours of training activities are broken down as follows:

- 3 lectures of 3 hours carried out in face-to-face delivery mode
- 17 lessons of 3 hours carried out in delivery mode in the initial part in order to involve the students interactively in the subsequent part with case studies, simulations, practical applications; the 17 lessons are carried out in presence for at least 80%;
- 1 lecture of 2 hours in interactive mode with discussion of cases conducted in presence
- 1 asynchronous interactive online simulation activity lasting 1 hour.
  The use of telematic mode for teaching is limited to 30% of the total teaching hours.

In the semester of course delivery, 2 written midterm tests are scheduled. The first one is conducted in the week of interruption of classes to allow the tests to be held. The second one at the end of the lectures. The
passing of the midterm tests allows access to the oral.
The structure of both midterm tests is the same as that for the written test on official appeal, that is:
8 questions, **6 of which are multiple-choice** (**correct answer +1; answer not given 0; incorrect answer -0.5**) aimed at test knowledge and ability to apply knowledge, **1 theoretical and 1 applied both open-ended **(rating for each open question 0 to +2).
The written midterm test lasts 40 minutes.

Assessment methods

Mandatory written and oral examination.
Registration for the exam roll call (online procedure) is a prerequisite for taking the test (both written and oral). Candidates who are not regularly registered for the exam cannot take the test.

A roll call skip is applied to the student registered for the exam, who doesn't show up for the exam without unsubscribing from the roll call or without having informed the teacher in time.

There are no roll call skips for students taking the written test, but to discourage students from attempting the written exam, the following assessment methods are provided.

Written test with 8 questions, of which **6** are multiple-choice (correct answer +1; answer not given 0; incorrect answer -0.5) aimed at testing knowledge and ability to apply knowledge and **2** (one theoretical and one applied) are open-ended (rated 0 to +2). A written paper score of at least +6 (corresponding to 18/30) is required to enter the oral.

The written test lasts 35 minutes.

A student who passes the written test must also take the oral test by discussing a financial statement prepared according to the Civil Code (not abbreviated).

The **oral test** consists of at least 3 theoretical application questions, with each question being given a score from 0 to 10.

Measurement of learning and criteria for awarding the final grade.
The grade is expressed in thirtieths. The student passes the exam if he/she obtains a grade of at least 18 in the oral test as well. The award of the highest grade with honors (30 cum laude) is applicable.

The examination is considered passed when the student has obtained a grade of at least 18 in both the written test and the oral test. The final grade is determined 30% by the grade in the written test and 70% by the grade in the oral test.

The grade 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-ended questions evaluated on the basis of a defined scale referring to the completeness of the answer and the severity of the errors made. The grade for the oral test is determined by summing the assessment (maximum 10/30) given to each of the 3 questions submitted to the student. This evaluation takes into account the degree of knowledge, understanding and ability to apply the topics covered by the questions. A student who demonstrates in the oral examination a critical, analytical, thorough and exhaustive understanding of the course content, as well as an excellent command of the terminologies inherent in the subject is awarded honors.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

- Slides published on the elearning website - page dedicated to the 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

QUALITY EDUCATION | INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE | RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION