UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

SYLLABUS DEL CORSO

Bilancio e Scelte Aziendali

2627-1-E1602N001-E1602N00102

Learning objectives

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING
Students will acquire an in-depth knowledge of the theoretical principles and operational logics underlying the preparation of financial statements. The course analyses the formats of the Balance Sheet and the Income Statement, with a focus on drafting criteria and the main economic and financial management operations: financing, investing, purchasing goods and services, personnel management, sales, and credit evaluation. Specific topics such as inventory valuation, provisions for liabilities, and adjustment and integration operations are also covered. Part of the course is dedicated to financial statement reclassification and ratio analysis, enabling students to understand the relationships between different accounting items and the economic and financial meaning of the results.

APPLYING KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING
Students will be able to independently apply the acquired principles for the recording, classification, and presentation of the main economic and financial management operations. They will know how to prepare accounting entries for the most common business transactions, perform the valuation of inventories, receivables, and provisions for risks, and apply amortization criteria. Furthermore, they will be able to carry out financial statement reclassifications and calculate key economic and financial ratios.

MAKING JUDGEMENTS
Students will develop the ability to interpret financial statement data and assess the consistency of accounting operations with the principles set by current regulations. They will be able to formulate independent evaluations of a company's economic, financial, and equity position, identifying any critical issues or areas for improvement.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS
Students will acquire the ability to clearly and effectively present economic and financial information contained in the financial statements, using appropriate technical language. They will be able to describe and explain accounting processes, justify the choices made in the valuation of financial statement items, and present the results of ratio analysis.

LEARNING SKILLS
Students will acquire the theoretical and operational foundations needed to independently continue their studies in business and accounting disciplines, even in more complex or specialized contexts. The course also includes self-managed activities, such as video lectures and independent exercises, as well as classroom exercises with immediate feedback from the instructor. The development of the ability to learn from feedback, multimedia teaching materials, and hands-on practice is strongly encouraged.

Contents

Students are introduced to the language and logic of economic measurement. With particular reference to the tools that are needed to represent a company's dynamics, attention is paid to the accounting systems and to financial statements's preparation.

Detailed program

• The layouts of the public financial statements: balance sheet and income statement; principles for the preparation of the financial statements
• Financing operations: own capital and third party capital
• Investment operations: purchase of tangible and intangible fixed assets, depreciation, alienation
• Purchase of goods and services
• Evaluation of final inventories
• Labour costs
• Sales operations
• The reclassification of the income statement and balance sheet
• Financial statement analysis through financial ratios

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

The course consists of 42 hours, of which approximately 35% with classroom teaching (frontal lessons with the use of slides) and 65% with interactive teaching (video lessons and video exercises, synchronous Q&A sessions with a teaching assistant, exercises to be submitted through the elearning platform). The classroom lessons will be recorded and then made available on the e-learning platform.

Assessment methods

Learning will be assessed through an individual written exam, held in class and divided into three sections, designed to evaluate the skills acquired in relation to the learning objectives of the course. The exam will include:

1. an accounting journal entry exercise, aimed at verifying the ability to apply accounting principles and correctly prepare journal entries;
2. a financial statement reclassification exercise (Income Statement or Balance Sheet), to assess the understanding of the logics underlying the representation of economic and financial data;
3. a set of closed-ended questions (true/false) with a mandatory justification of each answer, to evaluate students' knowledge and their ability to interpret financial ratios.
   A bonus of 2 additional points is awarded to students who, by the deadline specified in the classroom program, submit at least 3 out of 4 sets of exercises assigned as part of the online activities through the e-learning platform. The bonus will be valid for all exam sessions within the academic year.
   There is no differentiated exam program for attending and non-attending students.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Material available on the platform: lessons and recorded exercises, videos, slides, exercises and related solutions, simulations of the exam.

The material is sufficient to acquire all the required knowledge and skills; those who wish to delve into the topic can use this text: Corno F., Lombardi Stocchetti G., General accounting, The composition of the general financial statements, 2012, Guerini e Associati and subsequent edition.

Sustainable Development Goals

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE