Forensic Accounting

53:010:530:T1
Term: Summer 2024

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Office: Remote – Washington State
Office Hours: Zoom Appointment

COURSE SPECIFICS

Course Description

This course introduces the field of forensic accounting and the role it plays in preventing, detecting, and investigating incidents of fraud. This course aims to equip accountants with the ability to recognize and respond to fraud in order to minimize its impact and likelihood. Anti-Fraud disciplines provide many relevant opportunities in the field of accounting and can be used to aid fraud detection in the private sector, public accounting, and government organizations. Topics include ethics, financial statement fraud, asset misappropriation, corruption, data / identity theft, complex financial fraud examinations and investigations, compliance and financial audits, money laundering, net worth analysis, the psychology of a fraudster white collar crime, red flags, internal controls, and more.

Prerequisite: For students without an accounting undergraduate degree, 53:010:505 and 53:010:507 (zero-credit seminar courses) are required.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:
1. Understand the ethical standards and expectations of accountants to ensure the information recorded and communicated is free of fraud and misstatement.
2. Describe the discipline of forensic accounting and define the major categories of fraud.
3. Use their judgment to evaluate assets and transactions for potential red flags and determine the appropriate steps to investigate suspected fraud.
4. Understand how to install preventative, detective and corrective controls to mitigate fraud risk.
5. Communicate about fraud incidents and investigative tactics and compliance standards.

Course Materials

LECTURES	TEXTBOOK	SUPPLEMENTAL
Narrated Lectures provided by Professor Robinson Special Guests Subject Mater Experts	Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examinations (3rd Edition) Author: Kranacher & Riley Publisher: Wiley ISBN: 978-1-394-20096-2	Periodicals Publications Websites White Papers

All class materials can be obtained via Canvas. Note that the PowerPoint class materials for a particular week will be posted by noon on Monday, usually one (1) week ahead of schedule (except for the first week or two.) Students are strongly encouraged to access this course via Canvas several times a week. Class "runs" from Monday (day 1) to Sunday (day 7).

Assessments

Homework

There are homework assignments for each week that consist of review questions and practice exercises, case studies, article analysis and case simulations. Students earn points on their homework depending upon the format of the assignment. Refer to the following sections to learn more information about points earned for each type of homework assignment. Students are encouraged to work with peers, but they need to submit a separate assignment for their own work. Homework assignments are 100 points each.

Review Questions & Practice Exercises
End of chapter exercises and problems will be assigned for each section of the course. These questions may or may not be exactly as presented in the book, so it is best that students read the questions carefully and use critical thinking to answer the questions in their own words.

Case Study
By applying the chapter concepts and viewing information from external resources, students will be asked to complete a case study assignment. Students will use the expectations outlined in the *Discussions* section to complete these assignments.

Article Analysis
Students will be asked to use their analytical skills to review publications, articles or stories that consider the material being taught within the course. The instructions for each specific article analysis will be on the homework assignment.

Cases Simulation
Students will have the ability to practice their skills as a fraud examiner and forensic accountant in a 9-week case simulation from a practice scenario adapted from a case study at Deloitte.

Discussion Boards
The discussions give students the opportunity to analyze the topics in this course, share thoughts and to learn from the opinions of others. The minimum discussion expectation is to post an original substantive initial response (minimum of 250 words) 3-4 days before the due date in Canvas and provide one substantive reply (minimum 150 words) to at least one other classmate by the Canvas due date. A substantive post is one that shows use of the student's critical thinking skills, and it builds on the conversation. Students need to abide by the following guidelines:

- *Ensure that the posting contributes to the overall discussion thread that is being developed. Responses should contain some reference back to the original discussion question.*
- *Try to use response post to add value to the discussion. This is more effective than simply responding to meet a requirement. Particularly with discussion responses to classmates', just confirming or denying what someone else said unfortunately will not earn any credit.*
- *Check to see that the posting expands on the main theme (in the discussion question, or assignment posting).*
- *When replying to a classmate's discussion post, please use that person's preferred name and be mindful of personal pronouns.*

Quizzes
The 100-point chapter quizzes consist of multiple-choice questions. Student will take the sixty (60)-minute, 20-25 question quiz once all other learning has been completed for the chapter. Students have one (1) attempt.

Exams
Students will complete three (3) exams in this course. These exams will require the student to apply their knowledge learned in the preceding chapters using deductive reasoning and critical thinking. Grade feedback will be provided in Canvas after the due date for the exam.

Extra Credit
There will be opportunities to earn extra credit during this course. The extra credit will appear in Canvas Announcements and detailed instructions will be given on how to earn the extra credit points towards the highest weighted part of their overall grade.

Exam Make-up Policy/Late Policy
If, for a university approved reason, you cannot take an exam at the scheduled time you must give the professor written notice at least one week in advance so that other arrangements can be made. If the situation does not allow for advance notification (for example, emergency hospitalization), contact the professor as soon as possible after a missed exam. Make-up exams for non-university approved reasons are not guaranteed. The professor reserves the right to request written documentation to support your absence (such as a doctor's note, an obituary, or military orders).

Grade Scheme

Final grades will be calculated using the weights below:

- Homework - 20%
- Quizzes - 20%
- Exams - 60%
- Total Percentage Possible - 100%

The percentage in Canvas will be matched to the grading scale below to determine the final Letter Grade. Grades will be rounded up at .45 and above (e.g., 89.45% rounds up to 90%, 89.44% remains at 89%).

Grade	Range
A	94.5% to 100%
A-	89.5% to < 94.5%
B+	86.5% to < 89.5%
B	82.5% to < 86.5%
B-	79.5% to < 82.5%
C+	76.5% to < 79.5%
C	69.5% to < 76.5%
C-	66.5% to < 69.5%
D	59.5% to < 66.5%
F	0% to < 59.5%

How to succeed in this course

- Listen to the lectures posted for the course.
- Become familiar with the concepts in the textbook and how the information is arranged in comparison to the order of the lectures.
- Follow instructions in all assignments. Use them to practice and absorb the material.
- Ask for feedback from the instructor and your peers.
- Consult/meet with the professor immediately when you need help.
- Notify the instructor if you are having technical issues.

Week #	Module Topics	Assignments
Section 1 – Accounting for Fraud		
Week 1 May 28 Classes Begin	Module 1 - What is Fraud and an Accountant's Ethical Obligations? (Chapter 1 & 14)	Ch 1 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 1 Ch 14 Homework – • Review Questions Ch 1 Quiz Ch 14 Quiz
Week 2 June 3	Module 2 - Who Commits Fraud and Why? (Chapter 2)	Ch 2 Homework – • Case Simulation Part 2 • Case Study (Discussion) Ch 2 Quiz
Week 3 June 10	Module 3 - Fraud Risk Management (Chapter 3 & 8)	Ch 3 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 3 Ch 8 Homework – • Article Analysis (Discussion) Ch 3 Quiz Ch 8 Quiz
Week 4 June 17	Livestream Zoom Meeting June 20, 2024 @ 6PM EST Zoom ID: 967 5055 4766, PC: 367993	Section 1 Exam
Section 2 - Fraud Types & Categories		
Week 5 June 24	Module 4 - Asset Misappropriation (Chapter 4 & 5)	Ch 4 Homework – • Review Questions Ch 5 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 4 Ch 4 Quiz Ch 5 Quiz

Week #	Module Topics	Assignments
Week 6 July 1	Module 5 - Corruption & Financial Statement Fraud (Chapter 6 & 7)	Ch 6 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Study (Discussion) Ch 7 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 5 Ch 6 Quiz Ch 7 Quiz
Week 7 July 8	Module 6 - Identity & Data Theft (Chapter 13)	Ch 13 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 6 Ch 13 Quiz
Week 8 July 15	Livestream Zoom Meeting July 18, 2024 @ 6PM EST Zoom ID: 926 6733 4919, PC: 822077	Section 2 Exam
Section 3 - Fraud Investigations		
Week 9 July 22	Module 7 - Fraud Incident Response and Investigation (Chapter 9 & 16)	Ch 9 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 7 Ch 16 Homework – • Article Analysis (Discussion) Ch 9 Quiz Ch 16 Quiz
Week 10 July 29	Module 8 - Evidence Collection through Interviews (Chapter 10)	Ch 10 Homework – • Case Study (Discussion) • Case Simulation Part 8 Ch 10 Quiz
Week 11 August 5	Module 9 - Evidence Collection through Data and Research (Chapter 11) Livestream Zoom Meeting August 8, 2024 @ 6PM EST Zoom ID: 963 9762 8179, PC: 129719	Ch 11 Homework – • Review Questions • Case Simulation Part 9 Ch 11 Quiz Section 3 Exam

GENERAL/ADMINISTRATIVE
Key Summer 2024 Dates

Summer Session Begins	Tuesday, May 28
Last Day to WITHDRAW with 50% refund	Monday, June 3
Juneteenth Holiday - University Closed, No classes	Friday, June 21
Independence Day - University Closed	Thursday, July 4
Last Day to WITHDRAW from a class with a W grade. Deadline 5:00 p.m.	Wednesday, August 7
Summer Session Ends	Wednesday, August 14

Attendance & Participation
This course does not contain an attendance requirement, which offers the student the flexibility to complete the work as their schedule permits. Due dates are placed on items to help pace students through the learning in the course. The student demonstrates their participation in this course by logging into Canvas on a regular basis, utilizing the learning resources available in Canvas Modules and completing assignments by the specified due date.

Communication
The primary means of communication in this class is the Canvas course and Canvas Inbox. Please log into

Canvas every 24-48 hours. Keep in mind administration will send messages to student e-mail inboxes rather than through the Canvas Inbox, so check it regularly.

Chosen Name
If students have a chosen name or preferred name other than what is listed on the roster, then let the instructor know. If the student's name needs to be changed within the rosters officially, then go to: belonging.camden.rutgers.edu/chosen-name-process.

Artificial Intelligence
The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Dall-e, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities:
- Brainstorming and refining ideas.
- Fine tuning research questions.
- Finding information on a topic.
- Drafting an outline to organize student's thoughts.
- Checking grammar and statements.

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:
- Impersonating the student in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts assigned or content put into a discussions or chat settings.
- Completing group work that the student's group has assigned to them, unless it is mutually agreed upon that the student may utilize the tool.
- Writing a draft of a writing assignment.
- Writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class assignments.

Students are responsible for the information submitted based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). A student's use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited to stay within university policies on academic honesty. Any assignment that is found to have used generative AI tools in unauthorized ways based on guidelines in this syllabus, will be subject to report of a violation of Academic Integrity and thus the appropriate adjudication. When in doubt about permitted usage, please ask for clarification.

Support for Students
Disability Services/Accommodations
The University is committed to supporting the learning of all students and faculty will provide accommodations as indicated in a Letter of Accommodation issued by the Office of Disability Services (ODS). If you have already registered with ODS and have your letter of accommodations, please share this with me early in the course. If you have or think you have a disability (learning, sensory, physical, chronic health, mental health or attentional), please contact https://success.camden.rutgers.edu/disability-services. Accommodation will be provided only for students with a letter of accommodation from ODS. Their services are free and confidential. Letters only provide information about the accommodation, not about the disability or diagnosis.

Institutional Policies
Diversity Statement
This class strives to be an inclusive community, learning from the many perspectives that come from having differing backgrounds and beliefs. As a community, we aim to be respectful to all. We reject all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including but not limited to those based on age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, and veteran status. Faculty and students are expected to commit to creating an environment that facilitates inquiry and self-expression, while also demonstrating diligence in understanding how others' viewpoints may be different from their own.

Our goal as a learning community is to create a safe environment that fosters open and honest dialogue. We are all expected to contribute to creating a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment. To this end, classroom discussions should always be conducted in a way that shows honor, respect, and dignity to all members of the class. Moreover, disagreements should be pursued without personal attack and aggression, and instead, should be handled with grace and care. This will allow for rigorous intellectual engagement and a deeper learning experience for all.

Academic Integrity

The Academic Integrity policy can be found at https://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/processes/university-code-student-conduct http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/student-conduct-processes/academic-integrity/ *Students are responsible for understanding the principles of academic integrity and abiding by them in all aspects of their work at the University.* Students are also encouraged to help educate fellow students about academic integrity and to bring all alleged violations of academic integrity they encounter to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

Academic Integrity means that you (the student) must:
- properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others,
- properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work,
- make sure that all work submitted as your own in a course activity is your own and not from some-one else.
- obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately.
- treat all other students fairly with no encouragement of academic dishonesty.

Adherence to these principles is necessary in order to ensure that:
- Everyone is given proper credit for his or her ideas, words, results, and other scholarly accomplishments.
- All student work is fairly evaluated, and no student has an inappropriate advantage over others.
- the academic and ethical development of all students is fostered.
- The reputation of the University for integrity is maintained and enhanced.

Failure to uphold these principles of academic integrity threatens both the reputation of the University and the value of the degrees awarded to its students.

Code of Student Conduct

Rutgers University-Camden seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community, including in classroom space. As a student at the University, you are expected adhere to the Code of Student Conduct. To review the code, go to the Office of Community Standards: https://deanofstudents.camden.rutgers.edu/student-conduct