APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2006/2007

GRA 6211 Financial Accounting - theories and methods

Program
Master of Science in Business and Economics, Master of Science in Business and Economics (Business Law, Tax and Accounting), Specialization Course

Responsible for the course
Erlend Kvaal

Department
Accounting - Auditing and Law

Term
According to study plan

ECTS Credits
6

Objective
The course aims to provide insights into the connections between the accounting information of enterprises and their surroundings. We will discuss how the accounts reflect the financial conditions of the enterprises that prepare them, and also study how accounting information from these enterprises affects the companies' surroundings. The course provides a background for understanding the contents of concrete accounting standards, to enable the students to apply and analyse accounting data correctly, and gain an insight into how accounting information is used by accounts users (in particular investors) and what conclusions may be drawn as regards appropriate accounting regulations. The course covers the history of accounting, the reasons for public regulation of the statutory obligation to keep accounting records, institutional conditions of accounting regulations and international comparisons. The course is identical to GRA 6252.

Prerequisites
The prerequisites are similar to the admission requirements for the master's programme in public accounting.

Compulsory literature
Books:
Scott, William R. 2006. Financial Accounting Theory. 4th ed. Toronto: Prentice Hall.

Other:
Utvalgte tidsskriftsartikler og/eller bokkapitler. Nærmere informasjon om endelig pensumliste gis i forelesningene og eventuelt på kursets hjemmeside/Blackboardside.

Recommended literature
Books:
Elling, Jens O.. 2002. Årsrapporten: Teori og regulering. København: Gads Forlag.

Course outline
History of the accounting discipline
Connection to economic factors
Accounting models
The financial statement as a source of information for the stock market
Performance management and other externalities in the accounting function
Institutional conditions for accounting regulations, in Norway and abroad
Comparative accounting studies

Computer-based tools
Blackboard

Course structure
36 hours of lectures, discussions and exercises.

Evaluation

A 3-hour written examination.

Evaluation code(s)
GRA 62521

Aids at the examination
Simple calculator

Makeup exam
A re-take is held in connection with the regular scheduled exam in the course. If the course evaluation consists of class participation or process elements, the whole course must be evaluated if a student wants to retake an exam.

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and they are encouraged and promoted by the honor system. This is a most significant university tradition. The honor system is the responsibility of students. As faculty, we share the commitment to the ideals of the honor system.

At no time should notes or papers or personal consultations based on previous semesters of this course be used. As part of the honor code papers handed in as part of the course is, at the discretion of the professor, scanned for plagiarism. We are using Safe Assignment in Black Board for this purpose. Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures on cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the program. They are at the heart of the Honor Code and academy integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.