

**CFRS 770
Fraud and Forensic Accounting
Fall 2013**

Instructor: Bob Osgood rosgood@gmu.edu

Engr 3255 Office Hours **Friday 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM**
Saturday 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
and also by appointment

Class Meets: **Day:** Net Asynchronous
Time: N/A
Where: On line

Online Discussions Via Blackboard Collaborate: Approximately once per week and usually occurring on a Saturday, I will hold an online discussion forum via Blackboard Collaborate. This discussion forum is voluntary and student driven. We will discuss the lecture topic for that particular week. **All students participating are required to use a microphone/speaker head set. Texting will not be permitted.** The actual dates and times of these sessions will be emailed to you during that week. These sessions will be recorded. Although participation is not mandatory, positive active participation by students is noted.

Course Description: Looks at accounting from a forensic perspective. Financial statement analysis, detection techniques, computer aided investigative processes, fraud detection, money laundering, interviewing, and other topics are covered. The class culminates in a final project where the student will present their findings to the class.

Course Goals: Prepares students to undertake forensic accounting, a specialty practice area of accounting, in such a way that they will develop the necessary expertise, and be prepared to give expert evidence in any resultant trial.

Prerequisites: CFRS 500 and a working knowledge of financial statements and accounting

Course Schedule: (Subject to Change)

Prior to 8/31/2013 - Prep Work - Fraud - An Introduction Skalak - Chapter 1

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignments
Week 1	Async Online 8/31/2013*	Forensic Investigation & Financial Audits – Compare & Contrast	Skalak -Chapter 3/4
Week 2	Async Online 9/7/2013*	Potential Red Flags & Fraud Detection Techniques	Skalak - Chapter 13
Week 3	Async Online 9/14/2013*	Financial Statement Fraud: Revenues and Receivables	Skalak - Chapter 22
Week 4	Async Online 9/21/2013*	Financial Statement Fraud: Other Schemes and Misappropriations	Skalak - Chapter 23/24
Week 5	Async Online 9/28/2013*	Analyzing Financial Statements	Skalak 1 st Ed – Chapter 19
Week 6	Async Online 10/5/2013*	Computer Aided Forensic Accounting Investigative Techniques	Skalak - Chapter 17
Week 7	Async Online 10/12/2013*	Money Laundering	Skalak - Chapter 25/26
Week10	Async Online 10/19/2013*	Psychology of the Fraudster	Skalak - Chapter 2
Week 11	Async Online 10/26/2013*	Financial Reporting Fraud & Other Capital Markets	Skalak - Chapter 21
Week 12	11/2/2013 Saturday 12:00 PM	Midterm On Campus Room TBD	
Week 13	Async Online 11/9/2013*	The Art of the Interview	Skalak - Chapter 16
Week 14	Async Online 11/16/2013	When and Why to Call Forensic Accounting Investigators Project is Due by 12:00 PM	Skalak - Chapter 5
Week 15	11/23/2013 Saturday 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Project Presentations On Campus Room TBD	
Week 16	12/7/2013 Saturday 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Project Presentations On Campus Room TBD	

* The dates are for reference purposes only. You work on your own.

Grading: Mid-term: 40% (On-campus Exam)
Project: 40%
Project Executive Summary 10%
Project Presentation: 10% (On-campus)

Project: See Project Document – In Assignments on Black Board

Midterm Exam: The format of the exam will be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in, and short answer questions. Expect approximately 50 – 70 questions. The exam is open book/notes but **not** open computer. The exam is timed (2 hours). Calculators are allowed.

Required Reading and Reference Material:

Required: A Guide to Forensic Accounting Investigation
Golden, Skalak, and Clayton and Pill (2nd Edition)
Wiley & Sons, Inc
ISBN: 10-0471-46907-6 (1st Edition)
ISBN: 13-978-0-470-59907-5 (2nd Edition)

differences in the editions. The 1st edition is also acceptable; however, the chapter references above are for the 2nd edition. There are

Supplemental: Reading Financial Reports for Dummies
Not Required Lita Epstein, MBA
Wiley & Sons, Inc
ISBN: 978-0-470-37628-7

Financial Statement Analysis – A Practitioner’s Guide
Martin Fridson and Fernando Alvarez
Wiley & Sons Inc
ISBN: 978-0-470-63560-5

References from the Web include the following sites:

www.sec.gov
www.doj.gov
www.aicpa.org
<http://pcaobus.org>
<http://www.cert.org>

Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the GMU Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. See <http://www2.gmu.edu/dpt/unilife/ods/> or call 703-993-2474 to access the ODS.

Note: ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A GMU EMAIL ACCOUNT AND HAVE ACCESS TO BLACKBOARD
(<https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu>) !!!

Note: No Email Traffic Will Take Place on Blackboard!!!
All Email Correspondence Will Take Place From Your GMU Account to rosgood@gmu.edu!!!

Note: All Students Are Responsible for All of the Material in This Course