



Student Success Office

Tips for Success

Reference Guide for Success in Accounting

Keys to success/best practices in accounting:

- Plan out time for the course each week, using the course schedule as a guide. Accounting assignments can take longer than many expect, so planning sufficient time each week helps to ensure you don't fall behind.
- Flash cards can be an excellent resource in accounting, as there are a lot of new terms to learn within the field. Accounting can feel like you are learning a new language at times, the 'language of business'!
- Create a study group with classmates or find friends/family members who are able to help quiz you. Many times working with others can help to put concepts in a different perspective, getting things to 'click'.
- Practice, practice, practice! Accounting is best learned through practice, so the more time you are able to devote to practice problems, the easier things will become. We are always happy to send over solutions from the problems in the back of each chapter, so don't be afraid to ask.
- Reach out early for course assistance, as it can be very hard to catch back up once you fall behind. Concepts in accounting build off prior knowledge, so don't wait if something doesn't make sense. Ask questions, come to office hours, or spend time with the tutors in the accounting lab.

Options for course assistance:

- Reach out to the instructor! Office hours are posted within the course syllabus and can be used to go over course concepts, practice problems, or assignments.
- Visit the Accounting Lab (M813) to seek assistance from the two accounting tutors. They are available both on-campus and through Zoom (find the links on the Accounting Lab door or in the course).

Advice from previous accounting students:

- The first few chapters are the base of everything you will learn the rest of the semester. Make sure to spend a little extra time on these!
- Don't be afraid to ask questions. The Professor is very patient and wants to make sure you understand the material.

- MAKE USE OF THE TUTORS!!!! They are extremely helpful and are there for a reason. They explain the material, help with homework/labs, and will explain how this will help in future material if you are interested.
- The class is well organized and while it moves quickly you will do fine if you keep up. Don't wait until the last minute to do your assignments and always do the SmartBook as it shows you where your weaknesses are. Working and studying with another student was very helpful for me.
- If you keep up with the concepts and start off strong, this course is much less intimidating than it might seem. Use the SmartBook readings and assignments to your advantage as they really help to lock in concepts.
- I would tell them that even though there is a lot of work involved, with effort and a good schedule they will be able to understand and finish the work.
- Focus on the first 2 chapters of the program due to debit and credit being used within each chapter to get a better understanding of each and how they are used.
- Use the learning resources provided, especially the videos provided. They help make things more simple than the book explains them.
- If you struggle with a concept, do the SmartBook assignments for additional support. Do not hesitate to reach out during office hours for one-on-one help. Try to master each concept as they continue to build on one another.
- Make sure to keep up with the content as it can already be difficult and it's hard to keep up once you've gotten behind.