ACCT 6263
SEMINAR IN AUDITING
Spring 2012 Course Outline
(W 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.)

Instructor: Dr. K. Moffeit  
Office Hours: M, W 2:00 - 5:00 pm  
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Tu 12:30 - 4:30  
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The policy of the University of West Georgia is that each student is responsible for checking his/her my.westga.edu email account on a regular basis.

I. Catalog Description:

Advanced problems and research in the application of auditing standards; internal control evaluations; applications of statistics; audits of EDP systems; and auditor’s ethical, legal, and reporting obligations.

II. Required Background or Experience:

A. Prerequisite: ACCT 4261.

B. Prerequisite Justification: This graduate seminar applies the theory from ACCT 4261.

C. General Education (Core) Contribution: This course uses the writing skills developed in English, the verbal skills developed in Speech, and the critical thinking and analysis abilities developed in Mathematics. The knowledge gained in core Area IV courses of ACCT 2101 and 2102, CISM 2201 (computer skills), PHIL 4120 (professional ethics) and BUSA 2106 (legal liability) are also used.

III. Expected Outcomes (www.westga.edu/accfin/outcomes.htm):

A. Improve communication effectiveness in oral presentations and writing (LG1);

B. Display critical thinking and analysis abilities through examinations and assignments (LG 4- LO 4.4);

C. Understand the impact of professional, legal, and ethical considerations that affect decision making in the auditing area (LG 3 – LO3.1 and LO3.2)

D. Conduct descriptive research pertinent to auditing (LG1);
IV. **Text(s) and References:**

**Required Texts:**


**Auditing text**

**Other:**

*The Ethics Game* ([www.ethicsgame.com](http://www.ethicsgame.com))

V. **Special or Unique University Facilities:**

Access to word processing needed. The University library and the internet are used.

VI. **Expanded Description of the Course and Instructional Methods:**

A. Expanded Description of the Course:

This class includes the following topics: the history of auditing leading to SOX, accounting ethics, fraud, and the most current auditing pronouncements. These topics represent the most critical elements for understanding the current state of auditing.

B. Instructional Methods:

1) **Lecture and Problem Solving:** All assignments must be prepared using presentation and/or word processing software, enhancing these skills.

2) **Cases:** Cases test critical thinking and analysis abilities.

3) **Presentation/Discussion of Articles:** To achieve greater focus on current issues and enhance oral communication skills.

VII. **Methods of Evaluating Outcomes:**

A. Test 1 (30%); 2) Test 2 (30%); 3) Paper (20%); 4) Ethics Game (10%); 5) Case Presentations (10%).

B. Homework Assignments. You must thoroughly read and prepare all assignments before the class meeting. This will enable us to cover the basics of the procedural material in a short period of time, thus freeing us for discussion and current topics.
C. Paper: The objective of this paper is to identify a real company that is the subject of an SEC Accounting and Auditing Enforcement Release and incorporate any relevant materials from the topics presented in class: Sarbanes-Oxley legislation (SOX), Mintz & Morris - Ethical Obligations and Decision Making (especially Chapter 6), and Schilit - Financial Shenanigans. The paper should be presented in the same format as the case analyses in the above texts:
- Background of the company
- Individuals and their titles who are involved
- Allegations
- Actions taken by the SEC
- Analysis of the facts as they relate to SOX, Mintz & Morris, and Schilit

The paper should be double-spaced, at least 1,000 words, and appropriately organized with headings and sub-headings.

D. Case Presentations: Various cases will be assigned throughout the semester for students to present and discuss

E. Ethics Game: An on-line resource with ordering instructions during semester.

F. Learning Domains:

1) Cognitive: Knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation.
2) Affective: Receiving, responding, valuing, organization, characterization.
3) Psychomotor: Set, complex overt response, adaptation, and origination.

VIII. Daily Schedule:

Jan 11 & 18

*Topic:* PCAOB Standards
*Class Objectives:* a) Knowledge of the most recent PCAOB Standards: AS7, AS8, AS9, AS10, AS11, AS12, AS13, AS14, and AS15;
*Internet:* [http://www.pcaobus.org](http://www.pcaobus.org)

Jan 25

*Class Objective:* Thorough understanding of the implications of this law.
Feb 1 & Feb 8

Text coverage: Auditing After Sarbanes-Oxley; Illustrative Cases
Class Objective: Presentation of cases – SOX

Feb 15 & 22

Text coverage: Ethical Obligations and Decision Making in Accounting
Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5
Class Objective: Discussion

Feb 29

Text coverage: Ethical Obligations and Decision Making in Accounting
Chapters 6 & 7.
Class Objective: Discussion

Mar 2 – last day for W

Mar 7 & Mar 14

Text coverage: Ethical Obligations and Decision Making in Accounting
Class Objective: Presentation of cases – Ethics

Begin Ethics Game

March 19 – 23 Spring Break – no classes

March 28

Exam I due
Text coverage: Financial Shenanigans Chapters 15 – 17 & Appendix
Class Objective: Discussion

April 4

Text coverage: Financial Shenanigans Chapters 1 - 14
Class Objective: Discussion
Ethics Game due
April 11  
Presentation of cases – Fraud

April 18  
Presentation of cases – Fraud  
Paper due

April 25  
Final Exam 8:00 pm