

### ACCT 505: BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING & ANALYSIS

"What gets measured gets managed"

As humanity faces growing environmental and social challenges, stakeholders in businesses are increasingly demanding information on sustainability impacts and risks. Businesses have responded with a dizzying array of reports and metrics that are often criticized as 'greenwashing'.

This course provides a critical analysis of current practices in business sustainability reporting and analysis. Topics covered include • dimensions of sustainability • the sustainability reporting ecosystem • key sustainability metrics • GHG accounting • sustainability reporting standards • ESG ratings • ESG activism • and more.

> For more information, please contact Professor Richard Sloan, sloanr@marshall.usc.edu



## **ACCT-528**

Fair Value Accounting

1.5 units, second half class

### **TEXTBOOKS**

Fair Value Measurement, 3rd Edition, Mark Zyla, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., December 2019.



#### DELIVERABLES

Midterm, Final, Team Project



## YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE TO...

- Identify and apply the basics of valuation theory, as well as business and intangibles appraisal
- Identify and apply use of the Income, Market and Cost Approaches to value businesses and intangible assets
- Identify which Accounting Standards in the Accounting Standards Codification database provide guidance on fair value issues. Identify the provisions guiding the application of fair value standards under ASC 820, 805, 350 and 360.
- Identify examples of "non GAAP" best practices Fair Value materials provided by the AICPA and also The Appraisal Foundation Working Groups, which operate under the oversight of The Appraisal Foundation Business Valuation Resource Panel.
- Describe the roles of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and other stakeholders as related to prospective possible changes to US GAAP Fair Value accounting standards. Identify fair value areas that the FASB has currently identified for possible change.
- Identify the role of the PCAOB in regulating auditors, the trends in results of inspection reports by the PCAOB inspection report assessing performance of auditing firms, and the role of problems auditing of fair value issues in the identified audit deficiencies
- Define those fair value guidance areas which are converged under GAAP and IFRS, and describe important "non-converged" fair value guidance areas. Identify the topics addressed in International Accounting Standard (IAS) 36.

# ACCT-532 & 533

Mergers ¢ Acquisitions

Each class is a half semester in length, 1.5 units each

TEXTBOOKS Course Readers



### DELIVERABLES

Group Case Studies, Quizzes, Exams



### **COURSE GOALS...**

#### 532

- Explain and apply the rules to prepare and report financial statement information as it relates to business combinations by solving problems and analyzing transactions. This will include consolidation and equity basis accounting.
- Evaluate how a business combination effects earnings and other important financial metrics
- Explain disclosures and filing requirements for public companies related to a business combination.

#### 533

- Design a tax efficient M&A transcation structure and identify the price range (valuation) of the transaction
- Understand the tax implications to all parties in M&A and divestitures under different structures.

#### ACCT-559 Strategy and Operations Through a CFO Lens

*Strategy and Operations Through a CFO Lens* provides a unique opportunity for students to hear from and interact with chief financial officers from companies of various sizes and industries, We address strategic and operational issues that each of these entities and their industries face, the role of the CFO in setting strategy, and in both measuring and achieving operational objectives.

Over the course of the semester, we will have six company/industry segments, focusing on key issues that an industry faces and how specific CFOs address them. Each segment generally contains three sessions. During the first, we discuss strategic objectives and performance within the industry group, focusing on the key moving parts, relevant issues and where to look to effectively measure performance. During the second, we use a board meeting format to focus on how one company drives performance with respect to these key issues. During the third, we hear from the CFO of the company within that industry group in a heavily interactive session as to how they manage their business with respect to the issues and the sources of information used to manage them. We will also have three additional CFOs who will come to class and engage in class discussion.

We are still in the process of finalizing our company cases for the Spring 2023 semester. However, In the past year, we've had CFOs from the following companies included Disney, SpaceX, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Macerich, Revolve, Marvell Technology, Mercury Insurance, and Upgrade, among others.

The WALT DISNEP Company











REVOLVE

## **ACCT-581**

Financial Statement Analysis

> This class is caseoriented and fueled by student participation and interactions.

TEXTBOOKS

Financial Statement Analysis



#### **DELIVERABLES**

Group Case Studies, Class Participation, Midterm, Final Exam



### YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE TO...

- Gain an understanding of business analysis and evaluation using financial statements
- Essential for business/finance applications such as investing in a stock, valuing a private company, mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructuring, evaluating credit worthiness, credit rating and making lending decisions.
- Take a deep dive into the financial statements and decipher disclosures for a greater understanding of the financial picture; learn to restate financial statements to suit the decision task at hand
- Understand financial statements from different industries
- Learn the what, why and how of non-GAAP metrics which are important for messaging and management of a company