

Fisher College of Business
AMIS 4220: Nonprofit and Governmental Accounting
Spring 2024

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Course Description: This course centers on financial aspects of nonprofit and governmental organizations, beginning with their financial reports. The course focuses on (1) the financial reporting concepts and standards that are applicable to nonprofit and governmental organizations; (2) summary indicators used to evaluate the financial condition and financial performance of nonprofit and governmental organizations; and (3) the analysis and interpretation of financial statements of nonprofit and governmental organizations.

Course Format: The course consists of 5 Modules. The module delivery is a combination of (i) in-person lectures; (ii) case discussions; (iii) guest speakers/interviews; and (iv) supplemental readings provided on Carmen.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should successfully be able to:

- Understand the distinct roles played by nonprofit and government organizations and how those roles require distinct financial reporting
- Understand the specific accounting standards and accounting choices faced by nonprofit and government organizations
- Read and interpret financial reports of nonprofit and government organizations and find relevant financial information to assess an organization's financial health and spending priorities
- Conduct assessments of nonprofit and government organizations' finances and make comparisons to peer organizations

Course Requirements: Completion of the course entails the following seven elements




- *Class lectures.* While in-person attendance is the best way to get course content, I realize the circumstances and uncertainties we face. Alternatives will be provided as needed.
- *Participation in case discussions.* For our case discussions, students will be provided background information on Carmen during class. Students will form groups and submit an answer to the case question(s). While partial credit is provided for submitting answers, they will also be graded for accuracy/understanding. If a student has an excused absence from class, an alternative assignment will be provided.
- *Carmen quizzes at the end of each module.* These quizzes are to be completed individually and have a pre-specified due date. You can access notes and course materials but cannot consult with other students in completing the quizzes. Quiz answers will be released after the due date.
- *Completion of the 990 scavenger hunt.* To gain comfort with reviewing nonprofit 990 filings, each student will complete a spreadsheet answering questions about a selected nonprofit's 990. The grading is based both on completion and accuracy.
- *Completion of the 990 investigator.* To gain comfort with the interconnections among financial statements, each student will find missing numbers from a selected nonprofit's 990. The grading is based both on completion and accuracy.

- *Completion of the Buckeye Food Bank Budget assignment.* You will be given a template for a budget of a fictional organization along with budgetary assumptions. Using the template, you will complete a static budget and a flexible budget for the organization. The grading is based both on completion and accuracy.
- *Completion of Government financial statement review assignment.* You will be given a financial statement for a government. Using what has been learned in the course, you will submit an answer to a question about that government and its financials. The grading is based both on completion and accuracy

Required Materials:

The only required materials for the course are those provided on Carmen. Access to Carmen and Carmen Zoom are needed to complete the required elements.

Grading:

Assignment Category	Points/Weight	Assignment Type	
Group case participation (5 points for each case)	20%		Collaboration required
Module quizzes	25%		Independent work
990 Scavenger Hunt Submission (5 points completion; 5 points accuracy)	10%		Independent work
990 Numbers Investigator (3 points completion; 12 points accuracy)	15%		Independent work
Buckeye Food Bank Budgeting Exercise (5 points completion; 10 points accuracy)	15%		Independent work
Government Financial Statement Review (5 points completion; 10 points accuracy)	15%		Independent work

Grading Scale:

Grades will be curved if needed to normalize distributions. Letter grades are then assigned according to the University grading scale.

Academic Conduct:

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the university's *Code of Student Conduct* and this syllabus may constitute "academic misconduct."

The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, submitting the same or similar work for credit in more than one class, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If a student is suspected of, or reported to have committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to COAM. If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Disability Services:

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in The Office for Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Ave. VRS: 614-429-1334; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

COVID-19:

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. In light of the current pandemic, students seeking to request COVID-related accommodations may do so through the university's [request process](#), managed by Student Life Disability Services. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Title IX:

All students and employees at Ohio State have the right to work and learn in an environment free from harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender, and the university can arrange interim measures, provide support resources, and explain investigation options, including referral to confidential resources.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or discriminated against based on your sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual exploitation, you may find information about your rights and options at titleix.osu.edu or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleix@osu.edu. Title IX is part of the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) at Ohio State, which responds to all bias-motivated incidents of harassment and discrimination, such as race, religion, national origin and disability. For more information on OIE, visit equity.osu.edu or email equity@osu.edu.

Mental Health Services:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down,

difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Copyright disclaimer:

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

ACCTMIS 4220 Class Schedule

Module	Class Session		Items Due
Module 1: The business of nonprofits	January 8	Course and Module 1 Introduction	
	January 10	What distinguishes nonprofit organizations? Types and governance of nonprofits	
	January 15	MLK Day - No Class	
	January 17	A look at giving trends Reporting requirements	
	January 22	Nonprofit financial statements basics	
	January 24	How nonprofits are evaluated A look at the Mid Ohio Food Collective	
	January 29	A look at the 990 990 Scavenger Hunt & 990 Investigator	
	January 31	ASPCA Case	<i>ASPCA Case - In Class Assignment</i>
Module 2: Nonprofit accounting rules	February 5	Module 2 overview Recording nonprofit revenues	<i>Module 1 Quiz (11:59 pm)</i>
	February 7	Revenue Recognition Cases	<i>Revenue Recognition Cases - In Class Assignment</i>
	February 12	Split interest agreements Split Interest agreements examples	
	February 14	Recording fundraising costs	
	February 19	Cost allocation	
Module 3: Financial issues for specific types of nonprofits	February 21	Module 3 Overview Consolidation	
	February 26	Private foundations	<i>Module 2 Quiz (11:59 pm)</i>
	February 28	Public charities	
	March 4	Giving Back Fund Case	<i>Giving Back Fund Case - In Class Assignment</i>
	March 6	A Look at Donor Advised Funds	<i>990 Scavenger Hunt (11:59 pm)</i> <i>990 Investigator (11:59 pm)</i>
	March 11	Spring Break - No Class	
	March 13	Spring Break - No Class	
Module 4: The business of governments	March 18	Module 4 Overview Introduction to Governments	<i>Module 3 Quiz (11:59 pm)</i>
	March 20	Fund Accounting	
	March 25	Government financial statements	
	March 27	A look at the Columbus ACFR	
Module 5: Accounting rules for governments	April 1	Module 5 Overview Revenues	<i>Module 4 Quiz (11:59 pm)</i>
	April 3	Expenditures and Expenses	
	April 8	Capital Assets	
	April 10	Government Debt Problems	
	April 15	Olentangy Schools Case	<i>Olentangy Schools Case - In Class Assignment</i>
	April 17	Comparing Ohio & Kentucky	
	April 22	A look at Federal Government Accounting Course Summary	
	April 29		<i>Module 5 Quiz (11:59 pm)</i> <i>Buckeye Food Bank Budget (11:59 pm)</i> <i>Government Financial Statement Review (11:59 pm)</i>