

Course Information:
University of North Texas
ACCT 5410: External Auditing (3 hours)
Fall 2023

Section	Time	Location
001	M 6:30pm – 9:20pm	BLB 225
002	W 3:00pm – 5:50pm	BLB 250

Professor and Office Hours:

Jesse Robertson, PhD

Contact Information: jesse.robertson@unt.edu; 940.369.8156; BLB 385K

Preferred Communication: Email. I usually respond within one business day. Watch for Canvas announcements and emails sent from Canvas. I do not respond to phone calls without a voicemail.

Office Hours: M: 4:20pm-6:20pm; W: 1:50pm-2:50pm; additional office hours by appointment.

Course Materials:

1. *Contemporary Auditing: Real Issues & Cases*. Knapp. 12th ed. 2022. **(Required)**.
2. An external audit textbook such as the one used in ACCT 4400 **(Recommended)**.

Minimum Technological Requirements:

- Computer/laptop – laptop check out available from [UNT Libraries](#). **Plan in advance to ensure you have a laptop for exams and quizzes.**
- Reliable internet access; browser compatible with Canvas (Canvas grades are unofficial)
 - [UNT Canvas Login](#)
 - [Canvas Technical Requirements](#)
- Tableau. Request a free student license at <https://www.tableau.com/academic/students>.
- Other software includes: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Acrobat Reader, and Zoom.
- Tools to communicate with teammates such as email, Google Docs, etc.
 - **All team work must be your team's own – no sharing outside your team**

Inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Contact the [UNT IT Help Desk](#) for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

Course Description and Prerequisites:

Typical topics include professional issues, ethical responsibilities, the auditor's role in society, audit planning, the evaluation of evidence pertaining to internal controls and account balances, and the auditor's consideration of fraud. Audit cases, short essay(s), and presentations allow students to improve technical auditing skills, their understanding of professional and ethical issues, their understanding of current issues in practice, and communication skills. **Prerequisites:** ACCT 4100 and ACCT 4400.

Delivery Mode and Methods of Instruction:

Face-to-face class; discussion and application through cases and auditing standards.

General Description of Subject:

Auditing is a systematic process of obtaining and evaluating evidence about assertions made by another party. The primary objective of this course is to improve your understanding of auditing a

company's financial statements and internal controls over financial reporting, which we accomplish by introducing advanced auditing concepts and exploring in more detail certain concepts from ACCT 4400. Typical topics include ethical responsibilities of auditors, skepticism, the auditor's role in society, internal controls, substantive testing, and fraud.

Learning Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Research the AICPA Code and PCAOB Auditing Standards.
- Identify and evaluate how auditors can fulfill professional and ethical obligations.
- Apply professional skepticism and professional judgment in the audit context.
- Assist in audit planning and materiality determinations.
- Collect and evaluate audit evidence.

Cases, Individual Work, and Audit Team Work:

We use cases to develop and apply technical audit knowledge and critical thinking skills, and to improve your understanding of professional and ethical issues, and current issues in auditing. **All individual work must be your own without input from current or former students. All audit team work must be your team's own without input from current or former students outside your team.** You submit an audit team list of 5 students during the first class meeting. If you do not join a team, I will assign you to one. I reserve the right to adjust team membership. **I also reserve the right to adjust individual team member grades up or down based on peer evaluation of teammates and other relevant information.** Each team member must be in the same section. A file in Canvas provides guidance on preparing assignments.

Course Requirements and Point Distribution:

Assessment (Individual Unless Noted)	Points Possible	Percentage of Course Grade
Midterm Exam	80 points	20%
Final Exam	80 points	20%
Quizzes:		
Audit Refresher	20 points	5%
AICPA Code & Ethics Requirements	20 points	5%
Audit Procedures and Assertions	30 points	7.5%
Case Notes and Answers	20 points	5%
Southern Industries Case – Team	50 points	12.5%
Mystery Inc. Fraud and Big Data Case – Team	50 points	12.5%
Souper Bowl Data Analytics Case – Team	50 points	12.5%
Total Points Possible	400 points	100%

Grading Policy and Withdrawals:

A ≥ 90%; B: 80%-89%; C: 70%-79%; D: 60%-69%; F < 60%; mathematical rounding used. **Whatever grade you need to graduate, etc. is the result of your performance in prior classes and is irrelevant to the grading process in this course.** When you take a class, **you are responsible** for all class requirements and your course standing. The Accounting Department strictly enforces university policy regarding **W grades**. It is your responsibility to be aware of and comply with all deadlines relating to withdrawals.

Exams (Individual):

There will be two exams, including a non-comprehensive final. The midterm exam covers all material from the first class meeting through the week before the midterm. The final exam covers all course material following the midterm unless otherwise noted. All course material is fair game for exam content, including any assigned readings that we might not explicitly discuss in class. You may take a **makeup exam for university-excused absences only**. To be eligible for a makeup exam, you must provide adequate documentation such as a doctor's excuse and contact me as soon as possible if you know you will miss the exam. For medical absences, I do not need to know the cause. Simply document you were under a doctor's care on the exam date, could not return to school until after the exam date, etc. **If I approve a makeup exam, you have two options:** (1) take the makeup exam during the **designated non-negotiable makeup time**; or (2) use the final exam to make up the points. An **unexcused absence** on exam day or the makeup day will result in a zero grade that cannot be made up in any way.

Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, **our exams will be taken during class in the classroom, using Canvas. I strongly encourage you to take the "Exam Environment Check" in our class Canvas Quizzes folder before the first exam.** You can take exams with a laptop, or an iPad with the "LockDown Browser" app. [UNT Libraries](#) provide laptop check out. **Plan in advance** to ensure you have a laptop for exams.

Quizzes (Individual):

- Audit Refresher – Key concepts an MS student should know from undergraduate auditing
- AICPA Code & Ethics Requirements – Professional and ethical responsibilities
- Audit Procedures & Assertions – Identify assertions at risk and test assertions.

Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, **our quizzes will be taken using Canvas.** The "Exam Environment Check" referenced above has similar settings as the quizzes. You can take quizzes with a laptop, or an iPad with the "LockDown Browser" app. [UNT Libraries](#) provide laptop check out. **Plan in advance** to ensure you have a laptop for quizzes.

Case Notes and Answers (Individual):

This assignment pertains to cases for class discussion. I will require periodic submission of your case notes and answers to at least one case question. To prepare for this assignment, type a *brief* summary of each case and *brief* answers for each case question before class. Since these are your notes to prepare for class discussion, I do not expect polished write-ups. **Due during class when requested via Canvas Upload.**

Southern Industries (Team):

Audit accounts receivable and document your work.

Souper Bowl Data Analytics Case (Team):

Use Tableau data analytics software to produce data visualizations as part of audit testing. Request a free Tableau student license at <https://www.tableau.com/academic/students>.

Mystery, Inc. Fraud and Big Data Case (Team):

Research Big Data and related audit concepts. Evaluate audit data analytics output to identify anomalies and propose follow-up audit tests.

Late Submission of Assignments:

Assignments submitted late (individual and team) will **receive a zero** that cannot be made up without adequate documentation of a university-excused absence. **Deadlines in the syllabus are always correct, even if there is a conflict with a deadline listed in Canvas.** UNT is committed to providing a reliable IT system to all users. However, in the event of an unexpected server outage or unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and contact the [UNT IT Help Desk \(helpdesk@unt.edu; 940.565.2324\)](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) and obtain a ticket number. The instructor and the UNT IT Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Turnitin Submissions:

Turnitin is an online tool available to UNT faculty to help detect academic misconduct. Students are required to submit written assignments for this class to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service. Before submitting written assignments to Turnitin, **remove your title page and other personal information.** Any written assignment that is not submitted to Turnitin will not be accepted and will not be graded. You must submit to Turnitin via Canvas in DOC, DOCX, XLS, or XLSX format (file types vary by assignment). From our class Canvas, click the Assignments link on the left, and click the link for the assignment you are submitting. **One upload per team.**

Grade Review Policy:

You have 3 business days from the date a grade is returned to request review of any part of that grade. To do so, you must **email me a formal review request, including citations of reputable sources (no attachments).** Review requests without sources will not be considered. Students and teams are limited to one memo for each assignment. For assignments submitted the week before finals week, you must request review no later than the day of the last regular class meeting.

Attendance Policy:

Students are responsible for regular and punctual attendance, and are expected to participate in this course. If you are absent, you should obtain missed notes from a classmate, and follow up with me if you have questions. If you do not submit an assignment due to an absence, contact me as soon as possible. **You will receive no credit or makeup opportunities for assignments and exams missed due to unexcused absences.** See the [UNT Policy on Attendance and Authorized Absences.](#)

Academic Integrity Policy:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. According to UNT Policy 06.003, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. These actions are defined in the [UNT Student Academic Integrity Policy](#), with additional information at the [UNT Academic Integrity Website](#). In this course, academic dishonesty will **at minimum** result in a **zero grade** for the exam/assignment on which the student(s) engaged in academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: (1) Sharing exam content or failing to return any part of an exam/scantron; (2) using the work of any current or former student, including materials from websites such as Chegg or Course Hero; or (3) quoting or paraphrasing external sources without proper citation. This list is not exhaustive. Academic dishonesty on team assessments may result in penalties for all team members. Any grade reduction based on academic dishonesty cannot be made up. See the G. Brint Ryan College of Business Syllabus Statement on Academic Integrity

(Appendix A) and our class Academic Integrity Pledge (Appendix B). **You must complete the online version of the Academic Integrity Pledge to receive a grade for any course assignment.**

ADA Policy:

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the [Office of Disability Access](#) and the [UNT Policy on Disability Access](#). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Class Recordings:

Any class recordings are reserved for use only by students in this class for educational purposes. The recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action. Students are prohibited from video or audio recording any part of this class without an ODA approved accommodation. **Violations will result in a grade of zero on the next exam.**

Teaching Evaluations (SPOT):

I appreciate the feedback you provide through teaching evaluations. I read all student comments and have made changes to this course based on student feedback.

Emergency Notification and Procedures:

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials. Please make certain your phone number is current at [myUNT](#).

Emergency Evacuation Procedures for Business Leadership Building (BLB):

- **Severe Weather:** In the event of severe weather, all building occupants should immediately seek shelter in the designated shelter-in-place area in the building. If unable to safely move to the designated shelter-in-place area, seek shelter in a windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest floor of the building. All building occupants should take shelter in rooms 055, 077, 090, and the restrooms on the basement level. In rooms 170, 155, and the restrooms on the first floor.
- **Bomb Threat/Fire:** In the event of a bomb threat or fire in the building, all building occupants should immediately evacuate the building using the nearest exit. Once outside, proceed to the designated assembly area. If unable to safely move to the designated assembly area, contact one or more members of your department or unit to let them know

you are safe and inform them of your whereabouts. Persons with mobility impairments who are unable to safely exit the building should move to a designated area of refuge and await assistance from emergency responders. All building occupants should immediately evacuate the building and proceed to the south side of Crumley Hall in the grassy area, west of parking lot 24.

My Tips for Course Success:

- Do not engage in academic misconduct.
- Before class:
 - Read assigned cases, type brief case summaries, and type answers to case questions.
 - Read any assigned readings.
- Think: understand the rationale behind class concepts.
- Participate in class discussion to better understand material and provide relevant examples from your work experience. This will help you learn and create a rich discussion.
- Complete all assignments on time with diligent effort.
- Be a responsible teammate.
- Ask me questions in class, by email, or during office hours. Please note that I might not be able to address questions immediately before class due to preparing for class.
- If you are **unsure about expectations for an assignment** or course content related to exams, please **contact me before you submit** the assignment or take the exam.

Additional, Relevant Information:

Please see the Appendices for more information relevant to this class on academic integrity, UNT policies, and UNT academic support and student services.

Tentative Schedule: ACCT 5410 sections 001 and 002

Week # -- Week of	Topic	Preparation¹	Class Meeting²
1 -- 8/21	Introduction; Audit Fundamentals	Day 1 Review file; Knapp 1.13 (Q3-Q6) Due by 11:59pm the day of your first class meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team Signup • Academic Integrity Pledge 	Yes
2 -- 8/28	The Auditor & Society; Auditing Estimates	Knapp 1.5, 1.16	Yes
3 -- 9/4	<i>Labor Day Holiday</i> ; Ethics & Professional Issues – Individual	Due Wednesday 9/6 at 11:59pm for both sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit Refresher Quiz (Individual) 	No
4 -- 9/11	Ethics & Professional Issues – Individual	Knapp 5.8, 6.5, 6.7, Cutting Corners Case Due on your class day at 11:59pm (Individual): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AICPA Code & Ethics Requirements Quiz 	Yes
5 -- 9/18	Professional Skepticism	Knapp 2.3 (Q2-Q6), 6.9 Due on your class day at 11:59pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Industries Case (Team) 	Yes
6 -- 9/25	<i>Guest Speaker from CLA</i> Ethics & Professional Issues – CPA Firm Midterm Exam Review	Knapp 7.1	Yes
7 -- 10/2	Midterm Exam	Exam online in Canvas; taken in the classroom	Yes
8 -- 10/9	Audit Procedures & Assertions Video	Due on your class day at 11:59pm (Individual): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit Procedures & Assertions Quiz 	No
9 -- 10/16	Audit Data Analytics PowerPoint Souper Bowl Data Analytics Case	Due on your class day at 11:59pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Souper Bowl Data Analytics Case (Team) 	No
10 -- 10/23	Risk Assessment & Materiality	Knapp 1.7 (Q2-Q4 only), Knapp 2.11 (Q1-Q2 only)	Yes
11 -- 10/30	<i>Guest Speakers – Alumni Panel</i> Internal Controls	Deloitte’s ABC Retailers (Q1-Q4 only)	Yes
12 -- 11/6	Internal Controls	Knapp 1.1 (Q1-Q4 & Q6 only), 3.5	Yes
13 -- 11/13	Fraud; Discuss Mystery Inc. Case	Knapp 2.2 (Q1-Q3 only), Knapp 2.10 (Q1, Q3, Q4 only)	Yes
11/20	Thanksgiving Break – no classes	n/a	n/a
14 -- 11/27	Fraud	Knapp 4.2 Due on your class day at 11:59pm: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mystery Inc. Big Data & Fraud Case (Team) • Peer Review (Individual) 	Yes
15 -- 12/4	Auditing New Transactions Final Exam Review	Knapp 5.7	Yes
Finals -- 12/11		Final Exam online in Canvas; taken in the classroom: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday section: (Monday 12/11 from 6:30pm-8:30pm) BLB 225 – Due 8:30pm • Wednesday section: (Wednesday 12/13 from 1:30pm-3:30pm) BLB 250 – Due 3:30pm 	Yes

¹ Submit items designated in bold and noted with “Due” or “Testing Window”

² Class meeting mode subject to change.

Appendix A: G. Brint Ryan College of Business Syllabus Statement on Academic Honesty

The G. Brint Ryan College of Business takes academic honesty seriously. Ethics and integrity are important business values, essential to building trust and adhering to both professional and legal standards. Academic dishonesty destroys trust, damages the reputation and the value of the degree and is unacceptable.

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions from admonition (a warning) to expulsion from the University.

Some of the most common examples of academic integrity violations include plagiarism or cheating, such as unauthorized assistance on examinations, homework, research papers or case analyses. Your work must be entirely your own. When working on assignments, you should not discuss your work with others unless approved by the course instructor. Group assignments should only be discussed with members assigned to your group, and all group members may be held accountable in some way for known academic integrity violations in a group assignment.

Another example of academic dishonesty relates to improper attribution. When preparing your assignments, you must cite all outside sources in the manner requested by your instructor. Copying or using material from any source prepared by or previously submitted by others, at UNT or other institutions, or downloaded from the Internet, is plagiarism. Unless directed otherwise in an assignment, large scale “cutting and pasting” from other sources, even if properly footnoted, is not appropriate. You should synthesize this material in your own words and provide a footnote.

Your instructor will specify what materials, if any, may be used on the tests and exams. Using materials other than those permitted, talking with other individuals during the exam, individuals exchanging information about an exam when one has taken the exam and the other has not, or copying or using material from another individual’s exam is academic dishonesty and will result in a meeting to discuss academic integrity violations and potentially issue sanctions mentioned above, and may result in ineligibility for academic scholarships. The use of online assistance, such as sites commonly used for finding homework solutions, group chat, cell phones, smart watches, and similar tools during exams is not allowed for any reason unless specifically permitted. No portion of an exam may be copied or photographed without permission.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's status as an institution of higher education. A student is responsible for responding to a request to discuss suspected academic dishonesty when issued by an instructor or other University official. If a student fails to respond after a proper attempt at notification has been made, the University may take appropriate academic actions in the absence of the student’s participation.

Appendix B: Academic Integrity Pledge

“I do, hereby, swear that I will complete all graded assessments without cheating. Cheating would demonstrate that,

- I am robbing myself of the education I have worked hard for.
- I am robbing all of those who supported me, by not earning the degree I worked for, and rather wasting their investments in me.
- I am robbing UNT by claiming knowledge I didn't obtain, making it harder for future graduates to get a job.
- I am robbing my classmates of any opportunity for a grading curve to identify challenging questions, which were not covered adequately in the course.
- I will not be setting myself up for a successful career, but rather, future failure.
- I am robbing the public of a business professional who meets the competency and ethical expectations of the profession.
- And, I understand the possible consequences of cheating include an F in the course and reporting of the cheating incident to the Dean of Students and Office of Academic Integrity.”

I have read and understand the Academic Integrity Pledge in the Syllabus. I affirm I will follow the pledge, including by not cheating on any assessment in this course, not sharing exam content, and not obtaining exam content. I understand the negative consequences of cheating to the university, the profession, my fellow students, and myself.

I affirm that all work will be my own for individual assignments and my team's own for team assignments. I will not use inappropriate external sources such as Chegg, Course Hero, the work of previous or current students, etc. in completing assignments for this course. I understand that appropriate external sources must be cited in my work and include PCAOB standards, the AICPA Code, and practitioner articles relevant to course topics.

Appendix C: Additional Policies and Support Services

UNT Student Support Services and Policies:

In addition to policies, procedures, and standards related to success in this course described above, you can find many other helpful and important UNT policies, procedures, and services on the [UNT Student Support Services & Policies](#) page.

Regarding transmission and recording of student images in electronically-delivered courses, ACCT 5410 is a face-to-face class that does not include student presentations. If there is a change in delivery method for one/more class sessions, these sessions might be recorded. If this happens: (a) Student images and voices may occasionally appear on video and/or live in videoconferencing or streaming media, (b) Any lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings, and (c) Please inform Dr. Robertson if you do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Succeed at UNT:

UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grow. As a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here is how to succeed at UNT: Show up. Find support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go to [Succeed at UNT](#). A key to success is persistence.