



高等院校双语教学适用教材·会计

第 五 版

Fifth Edition

# 国际会计学

*International Accounting*

Frederick D. S. Choi Gary K. Meek

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弗雷德里克·D. S. 乔伊

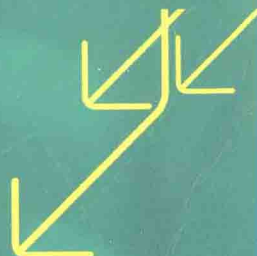
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**FE** 东北财经大学出版社  
Dongbei University of Finance & Economics Press



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## 图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

国际会计学 (第五版) / (美) 乔伊 (Choi, F. D. S.), (美) 米克 (Meek, G. K.) 著; 方红星改编. —大连: 东北财经大学出版社, 2005. 11

(高等院校双语教学适用教材·会计)

书名原文: International Accounting

ISBN 7-81084-718-X

I. 国… II. ①乔… ②米… ③方… III. 国际会计—双语教学—高等学校—教材—英文 IV. F811.2

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2005) 第 090751 号

辽宁省版权局著作权合同登记号: 图字 06-2005-154 号

Frederick D. S. Choi, Gary K. Meek: International Accounting, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

Original edition, entitled INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, 0131480979 by GHOI, FREDERICK D. S.; MEEK, GARY K., published by Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Prentice Hall, Copyright © 2005, 2002, 1999, 1992, 1984 by Pearson Education, Inc., Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, 07458. Pearson Prentice Hall.

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China Adapted edition published by PEARSON EDUCATION ASIA LTD. and DONGBEI UNIVERSITY OF FINANCE & ECONOMICS PRESS Copyright © 2005.

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东北财经大学出版社出版

(大连市黑石礁尖山街 217 号 邮政编码 116025)

总编室: (0411) 84710523

营销部: (0411) 84710711

网址: <http://www.dufep.cn>

读者信箱: [dufep@dufe.edu.cn](mailto:dufep@dufe.edu.cn)

大连海事大学印刷厂印刷

东北财经大学出版社发行

幅面尺寸: 190mm × 246mm  
2005 年 11 月第 1 版

印张: 24 1/2 插页: 1  
2005 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

策划: 方红星 高鹏  
封面设计: 冀贵收

责任编辑: 李智慧  
责任校对: 孙冰洁

定价: 40.00 元

# 出版者的话

当前,在教育部的大力倡导下,财经和管理类专业的双语教学在我国各大高校已经逐步开展起来。一些双语教学开展较早的院校积累了丰富的经验,同时也发现了教学过程中存在的一些问题,尤其对教材提出了更高的要求;一些尚未进入这一领域的院校,也在不断探索适于自身的教学方式和方法以及适用的教材,以期时机成熟时加入双语教学的行列。总之,对各类院校而言,能否找到“适用”的教材都成为双语教学成功与否的关键因素之一。

然而,国外原版教材为国外教学量身定做的一些特点,如普遍篇幅较大、侧重于描述性讲解、辅助材料(如习题、案例、延伸阅读材料等)繁杂,尤其是许多内容针对性太强,与所在国的法律结构和经济、文化背景结合过于紧密等,却显然不适于国内教学采用,并成为制约国内双语教学开展的重要原因。因此,对国外原版教材进行本土化的精简改编,使之变成更加“适用”的双语教材,已然迫在眉睫。

东北财经大学出版社作为国内较早涉足引进版教材的一家专业出版社,秉承自己一贯服务于财经教学的宗旨,总结自身多年的出版经验,同培生教育出版集团和汤姆森学习出版集团等国外著名出版公司通力合作,在国内再次领先推出了会计、工商管理、经济学等专业的“高等院校双语教学适用教材”。这套丛书的出版经过了长时间的酝酿和筛选,编选人员本着“品质优先、首推名作”的选题原则,既考虑了目前我国财经教育的现状,也考虑了我国财经高等教育所具有的学科特点 and 需求指向,在教材的遴选、改编和出版上突出了以下一些特点:

● 优选权威的最新版本。入选改编的教材是在国际上多次再版的经典之作的最新版本,其中有些教材的以前版本已在国内部分高校中进行了试用,获得了一致的好评。

● 改编后的教材在保持英文原版教材特色的基础上,力求内容精要,逻辑严密,适合中国的双语教学。选择的改编人员既熟悉原版教材内容,又具有本书或本门课程双语教学的经验。

● 改编后的教材配有丰富的辅助教学支持资源,教师可在网上免费获取。

● 改编后的教材篇幅合理,符合国内教学的课时要求,价格相对较低。

本套教材是在双语教学教材出版方面的一次新的尝试。我们在选书、改编及出版的过程中得到了国内许多高校的专家、教师的支持和指导,在此深表谢意,也期待广大读者提出宝贵的意见和建议。

尽管我们在改编的过程中已加以注意,但由于各教材的作者所处的政治、经济和文化背景不同,书中的内容仍可能有不妥之处,望读者在阅读中注意比较和甄别。

# 导 读

由美籍韩裔会计学家 Choi (崔, 也有人译为“乔伊”) 教授领衔主编的这本《国际会计学》, 是国际会计/比较会计领域享誉全球的经典教科书之一。它不断臻进, 历久弥新, 呈现在读者眼前的是 2005 年刚刚推出的第五版。我国资深会计学家、厦门大学常勋教授对本书盛赞有加, 不仅曾亲自翻译、审校过本书以前版次的中文翻译版, 而且还多次撰文大力推介。我曾于 2000 年与南开大学周晓苏教授合作主译过本书的第三版, 全面领略了其广博与精深之美。今年, 我又与本书再续前缘, 不仅承担了第五版的主译工作, 而且还应邀对英文原版进行改编, 以供国内双语教学之用。

本次改编本着精简的原则, 删削、改写和调整了部分内容。出于对课程目标和涵盖范围的考虑, 删去了原第 11 章“财务风险管理”部分; 为了压缩篇幅, 删除了近 10 个附录和案例; 对原书中层次不甚清晰的个别章节(如第 10 章), 在征得作者同意后, 进行了调整和重组; 就一些国家会计准则和相关方面的变化, 对第 3、4 章的部分内容进行了改写、增补。经过改编之后, 希望在内容和篇幅方面能够更加适用于国内高等院校相关课程的教学。

尽管删减难免会造成遗珠之恨, 但是我认为本书经过改编之后仍然保持了题材丰富、资料翔实的优点, 尤其是在国际会计比较与协调以及国际管理会计和税务筹划等方面。此外, 领衔作者所具有的东方式的思维风格, 也使得本书比起其他同类书而言, 更适合中国读者的口味。

由于本书结构清晰, 层次分明, 在实际教学过程中完全可以根据课程目的、授课对象、课时等因素来灵活地加以选择, 例如主要定位于国际比较与协调的课程, 就可以重点讲授前 8 章的内容。

在教学和阅读过程中, 对本书内容如有意见和建议, 敬请赐教!

方红星

东北财经大学会计学院教授

2005 年 11 月

# Preface

This book is written with the express purpose of sensitizing students to the international dimensions of accounting, financial reporting, and financial control. The world in which they will pursue their professional careers is a world dominated by global business and investment decisions. As most of these decisions are premised on financial data, a knowledge of international accounting is crucial for achieving proper understanding in external and internal financial communications. While ideal for upper division undergraduate students and master's students, we are pleased that the contents of this award-winning effort have also benefited practicing accountants, financial executives, investment managers, university educators, and professional administrators around the world.

This revision of a work that has spanned three decades features a number of enhancements. These include:

- Capital market, managerial, taxation, and institutional updates reflective of current trends and issues
- Discussion of the newly restructured International Accounting Standards Board
- Revised discussion of reporting and disclosure practices with new examples from both developed and emerging market countries
- Better organization of managerial accounting topics
- Examination of recent rulings in accounting for financial derivatives
- Expanded listings of relevant international Web site addresses and data sources
- Updated discussion questions, exercises, and cases.

A growing number of academics are writing on the international dimensions of accounting and reporting and their contributions have benefited our work. We have also benefited from the professional literature and from many of our students and faculty colleagues whose thoughtful comments have triggered new ideas for us to consider.

In addition, we wish to acknowledge the following individuals for reviewing, providing data, or offering constructive suggestions for improving our work:

Wai Yee Canri Chan, Monterey Institute of International Studies  
David T. Collins, Bellarmine University  
Sally Gilfillan, Longwood University  
John R. McGowan, St. Louis University  
Jenice Prather-Kinsey, University of Missouri–Columbia  
Juan M. Rivera, University of Notre Dame  
Karen Grossman Tabak, Maryville University

Nils Crasselt, Ruhr-Universität Bochum  
Thorsten Sellhorn, Ruhr-Universität Bochum  
Tatsuo Inoue, Kwansei Gakuin University

Many individuals furnished able assistance in producing the manuscript. We especially thank Mattie Kennedy and Alice Charney at New York University for their assistance with Web searches and exhibits and Bill Larkin and Jane Avery at Prentice Hall and Wendy Craven at Pearson Education for their encouragement and editorial support.

However hard one tries to avoid them, errors are bound to occur in a work of this magnitude. As authors, we accept full responsibility for all errors and omissions in the manuscript. As always, we welcome constructive comments from all who use this book, as the students are the ultimate beneficiaries of your thoughtfulness.

F. D. S. Choi  
New York, New York

G. K. Meek  
Stillwater, Oklahoma

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## CHAPTER

# 1

## INTRODUCTION

Accounting plays a vital role in society. As a branch of economics, it provides information about a firm and its transactions to facilitate resource allocation decisions by users of that information. If the information reported is reliable and useful, scarce resources are allocated in an optimal fashion, and conversely, resource allocations are less than optimal when information is less reliable and useful.

*International accounting*, the subject of this text, is no different in its intended role. What makes its study distinctive is that the entity being reported on is either a multinational company (MNC) with operations and transactions that cross national boundaries, or an entity with reporting obligations to users who are located in a country other than that of the reporting entity.

Recall that accounting entails several broad processes: measurement, disclosure, and auditing. *Measurement* is the process of identifying, categorizing, and quantifying economic activities or transactions. These measurements provide insights into the profitability of a firm's operations and the strength of its financial position. *Disclosure* is the process by which accounting measurements are communicated to their intended users. This area focuses on issues such as what is to be reported, when, by what means, and to whom. *Auditing* is the process by which specialized accounting professionals (auditors) attest to the reliability of the measurement and communication process. Whereas internal auditors are company employees who answer to management, external auditors are nonemployees who are responsible for attesting that the company's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted standards.

An understanding of the international dimensions of the accounting processes that were just described is important to those seeking to manage a business, or obtain or supply financing across national borders. Accounting amounts may vary significantly according to the principles that govern them. Differences in culture, business practices, political and regulatory structures, legal systems, currency values, local inflation rates, business risks, and tax codes all affect how the MNC conducts its operations and financial reporting around the world. Financial statements and other disclosures are impossible to understand without an awareness of the underlying accounting principles and business culture.

The importance of studying international accounting has grown over the years. We begin with a brief history of this subject.