

高等学校会计学类英文版教材

# Financial Accounting 2e

Rick Antle Stanley J. Garstka

# 财务会计

姜国华(北京大学) 改编  
李志文(美国杜兰大学) 审校

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Rick Antle & Stanley J. Garstka

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## 出版前言

自教育部在《关于加强高等学校本科教学工作 提高教学质量的若干意见》【教高(2001)4号】中提出双语教学的要求后,各地高校相继开设了一系列双语教学课程。这对提高学生的学科和外文水平,开阔国际视野,培养创新型人才起到了重要的作用;一大批教师也逐渐熟悉了外文授课,自身的教学水平和能力得到较大提高,具备国际学术思维的中青年教师脱颖而出。同时,经过近几年的双语教学实践,国外原版教材量大、逻辑不够清晰、疏离中国现实等问题也影响了双语教学的效果。因此,对外版教材进行本土化的精简改编,使之更加适合我国的双语教学已提上教材建设日程。

为了满足高等学校经济管理类双语课程本土化教学的需要,在教育部高等教育司的指导和帮助下,高等教育出版社同Thomson Learning等国外著名出版公司通力合作,在国内首次推出了金融、会计、经济学等专业的英文原版改编教材。本套教材的遴选、改编和出版严格遵循了以下几个原则:

1. 择优选取权威的新版本。在各专业选书论证会上,我们要求入选改编的教材不仅是在国际上多次再版的经典之作的最新版本,而且是近年来已在国内被试用的优秀教材。

2. 改编后的教材力求内容规范简明,逻辑更加清晰,语言原汁原味,适合中国的双语教学。选择的改编人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;在改编过程中,高等教育出版社组织了知名专家学者召开了数次改编和审稿会议,改编稿征求了众多教师的意见。

3. 改编后的教材配有较丰富的辅助教学支持资源,教师可在网上免费获取。同时,改编后的教材厚度适中,定价标准较低。

由于原作者所处国家的政治、经济和文化背景等与我国不同,对书中所持观点,敬请广大读者在阅读过程中注意加以分析和鉴别。

此次英文改编教材的出版,得到了很多专家学者的支持和帮助,在此深表谢意!我们期待这批英文改编教材的出版能对我国经济管理类专业的教学能有所帮助,欢迎广大读者给我们提出宝贵的意见和建议。

高等教育出版社

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## 关于本书

### 内容简介

本书分为三个部分。第一部分主要介绍会计的职能、意义和会计的三大报表：资产负债表、利润表和现金流量表。第二部分将会计信息和其经济意义进行了联系，为会计初学者讲述了会计信息的目的。最后，第三部分逐个科目分析了会计中的主要项目。本书一改簿记式会计教学的缺点，给会计教学增加了投资与价值评估的生命。这样的训练对即将面对我国不断国际化、金融化、复杂化的经济和商业环境的学生是很有益处的。

本书适合用作本科、会计学专业硕士（MPAcc）和MBA项目初级会计课程的教材。

### 作者简介

**Rick Antle** 美国耶鲁大学管理学院会计学教授，高级副院长。他从斯坦福大学取得博士学位，曾经在芝加哥大学任教。Antle教授是会计学与经济学交叉领域的专家，他的研究范围包括了审计师的动机和独立性，会计师事务所，管理层激励机制，绩效评估，资本市场和转移定价等。Antle教授在以上领域内为工业界做过广泛的咨询。他曾经或正在担任大部分重要会计学术期刊的主编或编委。

**Stanley J. Garstka** 美国耶鲁大学管理学院管理学教授，助理院长，非赢利性投资项目主任。他从卡内基—梅隆大学取得博士学位，并曾经在芝加哥大学任教。Garstka教授的研究范围包括了公司破产、重组等。他在工业界有广泛的咨询经验。

### 改编及审校者简介

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**李志文** 美国杜兰大学（Tulane University）会计学讲座教授，商学院副院长。他从美国罗彻斯特大学取得博士学位。李志文教授著作丰富，是当代著名会计学家之一。

### 教学支持资源（见本书教学支持说明页）

1. Instructor's Manual
2. PowerPoint
3. Test Bank
4. Review Cases
5. Solutions Manual
6. Enron, WorldCom, Global Crossing, etc.

自从美国出现了“安然”事件后，会计丑闻席卷了全球很多国家。20世纪90年代后期美国及世界主要国家经济高速发展所掩盖起来的问题相继暴露出来，给投资人造成了巨大的经济损失。会计制度、会计事务所、及会计从业人员在很大程度上被指责为造成会计丑闻的主角之一。“百年会计老店”安达信公司也因此黯然解体。

从表面看，出现问题的安然、世通及施乐公司等都遵守了会计准则的规定。或者说，正是因为会计准则的条文过于详细，人们反而忽略了会计准则的精神，从而给这些公司躲避会计准则和做假账创造了条件。而会计师事务所在审计这些公司时也过于强调公司的财务报告是否符合会计准则的具体规定，而没有重视这些财务报告是否准确反映了公司的实际经营状况。

针对会计准则进行的改革已经开始。以原则为基础的会计准则（principle-based accounting）正日益引起各界人士的注意。那么，会计教育应该怎样应对这场变革呢？Rick Antle和Stanley J. Garstka的《财务会计》在这个方向上做了一个很好的尝试。

在市场上，初级财务会计的教材品种多，发行数量大，作者为什么还要再写一本新的呢？这本新的教材和以前的教材有什么重要区别呢？

以前的初级财务会计教材往往过于强调“会计”，而忽视了会计的作用是反映公司的经济状况。这样，会计就仅仅被当作“簿记”传授给了学生。有些教材甚至是财务会计准则的堆砌和罗列。各个章节之间没有被一个共同的目标有机地连接起来。学生在学习的时候仅仅停留在怎样记录业务的层次上，对为什么这样记录，这样记录对反映企业的经济状况有何影响等重要问题都没有思考。

刚刚进入大学的本科生一般对商业运行没有任何概念，对会计在企业中的作用难以理解。这样，在他们刚刚开始接受会计教育的时候，簿记式的会计教学方法造成了这些未来的会计师，审计师视野狭窄，过于依赖准则条文而忽视职业判断。我认为，我们不能不说会计基础教育上的这些缺陷对近年来的会计丑闻的产生有一定的影响。

Rick Antle是美国著名的会计学家，耶鲁大学管理学院副院长。他的研究着重于会计学与经济学的交叉领域，包括财务报表分析与价值评估，企业管理层业绩评价，审计师独立性与审计质量，会计师事务所经济学等。两位作者都有广泛的工业界咨询经验。作者们的研究成果和工业界咨询经验体现在了本书的写作目标和构架与以前教材的不同上。自始至终，本书都强调会计学与经济学的不可分割的关系，即会计不仅仅是簿记，而且是反映企业健康程度、经济状况的工具和渠道。他们指出不为学生讲解工具的目的，而只重视工具本身，难免使学生在未来的工作当中进入误区。

本书之初，作者就指出财务报表是财务信息使用者做经济决策的基础。他们强调我们为什么要学习会计，明确会计绝不仅仅是数字的堆砌（第一章）。投资人，尤其是股权和债权投资人，依赖会计信息进行价值评估，然后进行投资决策。所以本书在介绍会计账面价值和会计赢利之前，先介绍什么是财富，什么是经济收益（economic

income)。本书最后一章，第十六章，则明确了会计的具体目标，即证券价值评估，并介绍了一些利用会计信息进行证券价值评估的方法。这样的安排使学生在开始学习具体的会计方法之前就理解了自己学习的目的，因此，会计的学习有了生命力。

本书另外一个独到之处在于第六、第七章。在前五章里介绍了三大会计报表之后，第六、第七章明确了会计数字与企业价值的关联之处。这种在学生在学习会计早期就把会计数字与企业价值直接联系起来的的教学方法在其他财务会计教材中是缺乏的。第六章把会计数字和经济学中的时间价值和不确定性（风险）直接联系起来，指出了会计收益评估中最主要的问题。第七章则介绍了会计价值与市场价值的关系。学习到这个阶段的学生往往还没有在其他课程中接触到回报与风险的概念，本书的安排可以使学生顺利地理解价值评估，理解投资，以及财务数据在这些问题中的作用。应该说，第六、第七章是会计学与经济学接轨的地点。是本书的一大特色。

在明确了会计学与经济学的关系之后，本书才进入到具体的会计科目的讲解。第八到第十五章讲解了主要的会计科目。这些章节的结构很独特，进一步体现了会计数字为衡量企业经济状况服务的目的。以第八章应收账款为例。首先，这一章介绍应收账款的经济意义（Nature of Account Receivable），然后衡量应收账款的经济价值，接下去演示应收账款的会计处理方法，最后比较应收账款的会计价值与其经济价值的关系。这样的安排不仅使学生学会了怎样处理应收账款，而且理解了其经济意义，把这个会计科目和企业的价值评估有机地联系了起来。这样做的好处是在学生的头脑中，各个会计科目不再是孤立的，而是和证券价值评估这个学习会计的目标结合起来。我认为这种写作方法比以前教材中单调地介绍会计科目的会计处理方法要有效得多。

本书最后一章，即第十六章，讲解了一些基本的财务报表分析与证券价值评估的方法，一方面重复突出了会计的目的，另一方面把整本书的内容综合到这个目的之下，从而使第一次接触会计的学生对会计有个宏观的认识，这样既能激发他们继续学习会计的兴趣，又能帮助他们在未来的学习中把握方向。

本书还有一个特点值得重视。它引用了大量的真实的公司会计报告。甚至第五章整章都以一个公司的报告为基础。这个方法的好处在于学生可以在初次接触会计时就开始熟悉他们将来要面对的产品，日积月累，这种方法可以增加学生对财务报表的感和把握。

综合起来，我认为Rick Antle和Stanley J. Garstka做了一个十分有意义的工作。本书弥补了现有教材中对会计和会计的对象连接不足的缺点，给会计教学带来了生气，是近年来一本难得一见的好教材，也反映了会计教育界应对近年来出现的会计丑闻的努力。

当然，我认为本书也有其遗憾的地方。最大的遗憾在于本书，与以前的教材一样，没有为学生介绍企业赢余管理的现象和方法。会计丑闻的表象就是企业的赢余操纵和赢余管理。我认为在初级财务会计课程当中包含一些这方面的内容可以开阔学生的视野，增强他们分析会计数据的能力，并为他们在未来的工作中避免赢余操纵的陷阱打下基础。

我在北京大学光华管理学院已经多次为MBA学生或普通硕士生讲授财务会计。我

的课程基本遵循了本书所体现的精神和构架，并增加了赢余操纵的内容。这些赢余操纵的内容多取自于现实中的案例，并结合进相应的章节。例如，在讲第八章应收账款时我会加入几个利用应收账款进行赢余操纵的例子。另外，选取金融媒体上的相关文章要求学生阅读也很有好处。我从国内外媒体上选取一些文章，按照相关性编入各个章节的阅读资料，特别有利于开阔学生的视野，也加深了学生对会计与商业活动关系的理解。从近一年多的经验来看，我感觉这种方法受到了学生们的普遍欢迎。

总之，我相信，Rick Antle和Stanley J. Garstka的《财务会计》一书，尤其是其精神和构架，将为我国的初级财务会计教学提供一个良好的出发点。

审校及改编者

2004年10月



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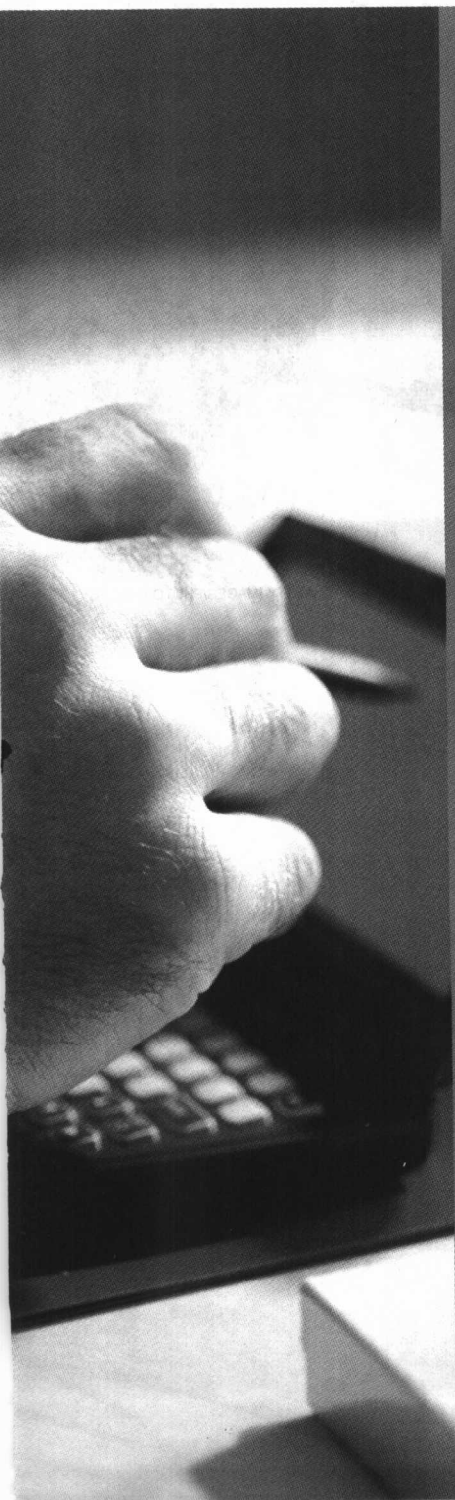
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# PART

# 1

## Fundamentals of Accounting

1. Introduction to Financial Accounting
2. Balance Sheet Concepts: Assets, Liabilities, and Equities
3. Income Statement Concepts: Income, Revenues, and Expenses
4. Statement of Cash Flows: Operating, Investing, and Financing Activities
5. Using the Fundamental Accounting Framework: America Online, Inc.





# chapter

# 1



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**In this chapter you will learn:**

- 1** What financial accounting is
- 2** What economic information is conveyed in financial statements
- 3** How accounting information is used and why it is important
- 4** A framework for understanding accounting information
- 5** To begin to read actual financial statements by looking at excerpts from the reports of real companies

## Introduction to Financial Accounting

Conversations with managers quickly reveal contradictory views of accounting. To some, accounting is a dry exercise in "bean counting." To others, accounting seems hopelessly subjective. There is an old joke about a company president interviewing accountants. The accountant who got the job had the following interview:

President: "What's two plus two?"

Accountant: "I don't know. What number did you have in mind?"

While there may not be a consensus as to whether accounting is more "bean counting" or more shady dealing, most will agree that accounting is extremely important to the operations of an organization.

This chapter begins our study of accounting. It has three goals:

1. To describe what accounting is

2. To explore why it is useful
3. To introduce three dimensions critical to understanding and using accounting:
  - economic concepts
  - accounting conventions
  - institutional context

We begin by defining accounting. We then introduce basic accounting products, or financial statements. A real company's financial statements serve as a focal point for much of this introduction. Examples present and discuss several decisions that can be improved by considering accounting information. Finally, we present the framework of economic concepts, accounting conventions, and institutional context on which we base future chapters.

#### OBJECTIVE:

Learn what financial accounting is.

**Accounting** is the gathering and reporting of a financial history of an organization.

#### Union Plaza Background

## What Is Accounting?

**Accounting** is the gathering and reporting of a financial history of an organization. This financial history requires a continual process of capturing financial data, organizing it into a useful set of accounting records, and issuing periodic financial reports to users. Accurate, up-to-date financial reports contain a great deal of valuable information for their users. The major goal of this book is to provide a clear understanding of how accounting works so you can make the most of this information.

Consider the case of the Union Plaza Hotel and Casino (hereafter, Union Plaza), a company that operates the Plaza Casino and a hotel with 1,037 guest rooms on Main Street in Las Vegas, Nevada. Formed in 1962, Union Plaza experienced phenomenal changes along with the Las Vegas area and within the gaming industry. New hotels and casinos opening up on the Las Vegas "Strip" included the massive Bellagio, a \$1.6 billion development. Relative to when it began in 1962, the Union Plaza faces competition from a much wider range of sources, including Atlantic City, gaming on riverboat casinos in places such as St. Louis, Missouri, and Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and casinos on Native American reservations across the United States.

According to its management, 2001 was a particularly difficult year for Union Plaza. Increased competition for the middle class customer necessitated lower prices, at the same time costs of goods and services went up. On top of everything else, the terrorist attacks of September 11 and their aftermath severely dampened tourism, costing Union Plaza nearly one-half of its wholesale room bookings in the following three months.

Plenty of events challenged Union Plaza in 2001, and we might expect them to significantly affect the company. Shortly, we will show you actual Union Plaza financial statements that attempt to capture the company's financial history and accurately convey it



to users. However, getting the most from the information in accounting reports requires that we recognize three important factors that shape the construction of the financial statements.

## Framework for Understanding Accounting Information

**Economic concepts** are the ideas that guide the construction of accounting reports.

**Accounting conventions** are the rules and customs of accounting for applying economic concepts to practical situations.

**Institutional context** consists of the environment that shapes the consequences of adopting specific accounting conventions.

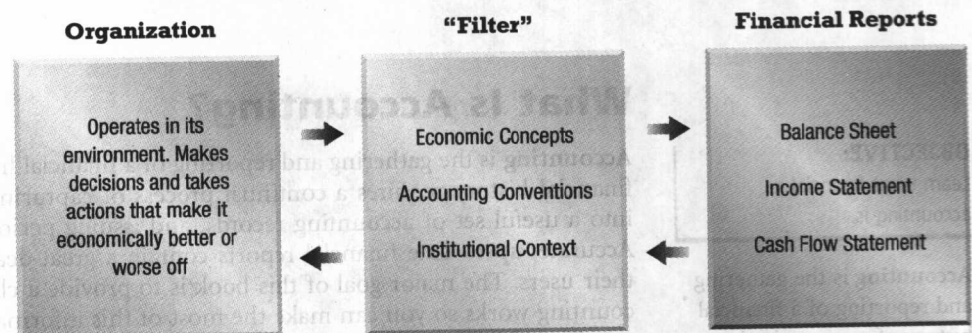
Three aspects determine the information in accounting reports: economic concepts, accounting conventions, and institutional context. **Economic concepts** are the ideas that guide the construction of accounting reports. **Accounting conventions** are the rules and customs of accounting for applying those economic concepts to practical situations. **Institutional context** consists of the environment that shapes the consequences of adopting specific accounting conventions.

Even though estimates and predictions play a role, the “wobble room” in an accounting history is limited by the economic concepts that guide it, the accounting conventions that govern its implementation, and the institutional context that disciplines its writers and users. Extracting the most information in accounting reports requires understanding these economic concepts (your other business classes should help here) and accounting conventions and appreciating the institutional context in which the concepts and conventions are applied.

Figure 1.1 illustrates the relationship between financial reports and the economic status of the organization. Users of financial statements must understand the “filtering” process in order to make correct assessments of the true economic status of the organization. Accounting numbers supply only approximations to economic reality; forgetting about the filtering process jeopardizes the quality of decisions. It is not so important what the accounting numbers are. Their importance lies in what they mean.

**Figure 1.1**

Financial Statement  
Construction Process



The short answer to the question, What is accounting?, might read as follows:

*Accounting is the process of gathering, compiling, and reporting the financial history of an organization. Accounting's financial history is distinguished by the use of economic concepts, accounting conventions, and institutional pressures that guide its construction.*

The fact that both concepts and conventions play roles in the accounting process tells us that accounting has both logical and social dimensions. To a student, this duality can be frustrating. Accounting lies somewhere between a perfectly logical science in which every assertion can either be proven correct or demonstrated to be false, and a totally subjective discipline where the validity of any statement can never be proven or disproven with certainty. Although the presence of both logical and social dimensions strains our ability to maintain a smooth flow of material, we believe it is essential to keep both dimensions in view, because denying either seriously impairs our understanding of accounting. Complete knowledge of the concepts and conventions available can be brought to bear only when the institutional context within which the reports are prepared and used is understood.