# FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING

Second Edition

Nikolai/Bazley

# Financial Accounting

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# **Preface**

### **Purpose**

Our goal in writing this elementary financial accounting text is to provide students with a solid foundation in the dynamic and growing field of accounting. Accounting majors using this text will obtain a thorough understanding of financial accounting fundamentals. This will help to reduce the gap frequently encountered by students moving from beginning to intermediate and advanced courses. Nonaccounting majors will find the thorough grounding in financial accounting presented in this text to be valuable in their future careers as bankers, managers, investors, or perhaps as owners of their own businesses.

### General Overview

Financial Accounting, second edition has been developed for a one-semester (two quarter) sequence in elementary financial accounting. It is written with the same care and thought as our Intermediate Accounting (third edition) textbook (by Nikolai, Bazley, Schroeder, Reynolds, Kent 1985). Our goal is to include the most educationally effective blend of theory and practice. Whereas practice is the main focus, we discuss accounting theory as it applies to the topics in each chapter. The textbook is organized in a fairly traditional manner. We do not feel that rearranging the order of coverage, just for the sake of being different, is sound pedagogy. On the other hand, we have chosen to expand the treatment of some topics (e.g., inflation accounting, present value, and leases) while reducing that of other topics (e.g., consolidations). We believe this blend of topics will provide a more realistic and useful introduction to accounting.

### **Pedagogy**

Although accounting principles are sometimes difficult for elementary students, we believe they can be made more understandable and interesting by using a clear, direct, building-block discussion that anticipates a student's learning process and that is written at the student's reading level. Each chapter begins with a set of learning objectives—what the student should understand after reading the chapter—and an introduction that presents the topics to be covered. Each topic is then discussed in a logical order. Generally

each topic is introduced by a brief practical or conceptual overview, followed by a discussion of the related accounting practices. This discussion often includes the use of visuals; i.e., flowcharts, diagrams, or sets of steps designed to facilitate the student's understanding of the material. After the discussion, an example is presented to reinforce the student's learning process. Each example is straightforward, fully explained, and avoids quantum leaps that might confuse the student. Illustrations of journal entries, supporting schedules, and financial statements are abundant and meaningful. A conceptual summary concludes the discussion of many topics.

Within each chapter, headings separate the material into logically ordered, understandable portions for the student. Key definitions are **boldfaced**; *italics* are used for emphasis. Each chapter has a glossary of key terms, carefully developed to be a concise but complete reference for the student. Review problems (and solutions) are included at the ends of all chapters except Chapter 6. The accounting practices of real companies are referred to often to relate the discussion to actual practice. The 1984 annual report of the Procter & Gamble Company is included in Appendix A at the end of the text.

### Coverage

The text consists of 21 chapters divided into four parts including: I. The Accounting Process, II. Accounting for Assets and Liabilities, III. Business Entities, and IV. Financial Statements: Additional Aspects of Financial Reporting. For those instructors not wishing to cover all chapters, the text is designed to allow coverage of topics in a variety of ways. For instance, the internal control, special journals, and electronic data processing topics of Chapter 6 are independent units enabling deferral or omission of one or more topics. Since partnership accounting is covered in a separate chapter (13) from corporations, it may be deleted without disruption of the remaining material. Chapters 14 and 15 on corporations may be covered after Chapter 6 for a corporate approach to the text. Because present value is discussed as a separate unit in Chapter 16, this topic and related applications may be omitted if desired. Finally, other noncurrent assets and liabilities, analysis of financial statements, and accounting for changing prices are covered in separate chapters (18, 20, and 21) so that selected coverage may be assigned.

### **Specific Features**

In our combined 30 years of teaching experience we have identified many aspects of sound pedagogy; these have been incorporated into this textbook. Some of the major features are summarized below.

- 1. Source documents. In Part I the role of source documents is emphasized to give students a better understanding of where the information comes from for recording transactions (and for internal control). The importance of source documents is reinforced throughout the text.
- 2. Nontechnical GAAP. Broad, generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) are

- introduced and explained in Chapter 1; others are introduced and explained in later chapters as specific topics arise. GAAP is presented in an understandable nontechnical language without repeatedly quoting formal pronouncements.
- 3. Revenue and expense transactions. Discussion of revenues and expenses is deferred until Chapter 3, after a clear discussion of simple balance sheet transactions (Chapter 1) and accounts, journal entries, and postings for balance sheet transactions (Chapter 2), causing less confusion for the students.
- 4. Corporations. Parts I and II focus primarily on sole proprietorships, although many of the basic principles also apply to partnerships and corporations. Chapter 5, however, includes a section that identifies the basic accounting differences between sole proprietorships and corporations, allowing the instructor the flexibility of taking a more corporate approach throughout Part II. Partnerships and corporations are then fully discussed in Chapters 13, 14, and 15.
- 5. Internal control and EDP systems. Chapter 6 provides a comprehensive discussion of internal control, highlighting the importance and use of an efficient and effective accounting system. This includes internal control as it relates to authorizing, executing, and recording transactions, and overall accountability for assets. The EDP discussion goes beyond that in most texts by converting a manual illustration from a previous chapter to an EDP system and comparing (in nontechnical language) the differences in steps and documents.
- 6. Receivables and liabilities. Accounts receivable and notes receivable are thoroughly discussed together in Chapter 8; Current liabilities (including payroll) are also covered in one chapter (Chapter 10). This arrangement lessens the confusion often found in many texts that try to discuss the accounting principles for both receivables and payables at the same time.
- 7. Income tax issues integrated. Rather than devoting an entire chapter to the specifics of income taxes (which many instructors do not cover in an elementary course, given the complex and changeable nature of tax), a brief discussion of income tax is integrated in each chapter where it applies to specific topics (e.g., inventories and depreciation). This enables students to understand the general relationship of accounting principles and income taxes while leaving the detailed discussion of specifics to a separate tax course, often taken by both accounting and nonaccounting majors.
- 8. Bonds payable and present value. Bonds payable and the straight line method for premiums or discounts are discussed before present value. After present value is fully discussed, the effective interest method is described. This arrangement allows flexibility for the instructor and a more logical organization for the student.
- 9. Present value concepts and techniques. Present value is carefully introduced at an elementary level in Chapter 16 and later applied to bonds, mortgages, investments, leases, notes, and pensions, allowing a more realistic and relevant understanding of these topics.
- 10. Consolidated financial statements. In accordance with the recommendations of reviewers and a survey of elementary instructors, only the underlying concepts and basic practices of this very technical topic are presented (as part of Chapter 18), rather than devoting a full chapter to it as in many texts. The important items affecting financial statements (e.g., goodwill and minority interest) are discussed while the

- complexities of preparation are not. This enables valuable class time to be devoted to other topics more appropriate for the beginning level.
- 11. Inflation accounting. Since the issuance of FASB Statement 33 and its modification by FASB Statement No. 82, accounting for changing prices is here to stay. Chapter 21 presents an elementary yet thorough discussion of this important topic, including simple examples of comprehensively restated financial statements (using both constant dollar and current cost approaches) and simple examples of the minimum disclosure requirements of FASB Statement 33 (as modified).
- 12. Assignment materials. An abundance of end-of-chapter assignment materials are included, divided into questions, exercises, problems (Part A and B), and discussion cases. A **boldfaced** note beside each assignment indicates the subject at issue. The questions address key concepts and terms; each exercise reinforces a topic at an elementary level. The problems either combine a number of topics or focus on a more in-depth study of a single topic. Many problems also require short discussion-type answers. The discussion cases require the students to integrate the topical materials.

### **Major Changes**

Numerous changes have been made in this second edition. Several of the major changes are summarized as follows:

- 1. More emphasis on the FASB conceptual framework. The theoretical discussion in Chapter 1 has been reorganized to focus on the FASB conceptual framework, at an elementary level. The initial discussion is reinforced in later chapters.
- 2. Expanded discussion of uses of balance sheet. In Chapter 2 the discussion of the uses of the balance sheet has been expanded. Included is an introductory explanation of liquidity, financial flexibility, and capital maintenance.
- 3. Expanded discussion of uses of income statement. In Chapter 3 the discussion of the uses of the income statement has been expanded. Included is an introductory explanation of return on investment, risk, financial flexibility, and operating capability.
- 4. Expansion of introduction to corporations. In response to requests from some users, the discussion of the basic accounting differences between sole proprietorships and corporations in Chapter 5 has been slightly expanded. The chapter now contains brief discussions of the modifications of the income statement, balance sheet, and closing entries for corporations. This addition increases the flexibility of taking a sole proprietorship or a corporate approach to Part II.
- 5. Modification of EDP discussion. The EDP discussion in Chapter 6 has been extensively revised. New material has been added that briefly explains the various types of software packages, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, inventory, payroll, general ledger, and spreadsheet programs.
- 6. New EDP demonstration and homework diskette. The illustration of electronic data processing in Chapter 6 has been modified to include a demonstration diskette for an IBM personal computer so that students can "work through" the illustration. This diskette is available at no charge to instructors who adopt the text. In addition, one

- exercise (E6-12) and two problems (P6-6A and P6-6B) dealing with elementary EDP accounting systems have been developed. These are also included on the diskette. Complete instructions for both the illustration and the homework are provided in an appendix to the chapter.
- 7. Rearrangement of coverage of marketable securities. In response to users' suggestions, the discussion of accounting for current marketable securities has been moved from Chapter 7 to Chapter 17. This enables an instructor to cover both current and noncurrent investments in stock in the same chapter.
- 8. Expansion of accounting for notes receivable. The discussion of short-term notes receivable in Chapter 8 has been expanded to include an explanation of the "60-day, 6%" rule and a set of steps to compute the proceeds for a note receivable discounted.
- 9. Addition of LIFO perpetual inventory discussion. The discussion of inventory systems in Chapter 9 has been expanded to include an explanation of the application of LIFO under a perpetual inventory system.
- 10. Expansion of discussion of depreciation and income taxes. Because of the potentially significant differences between depreciation for financial reporting and depreciation for income taxes, the discussion in Chapter 11 has been expanded to include an explanation of the Accelerated Cost Recovery System (ACRS).
- 11. Clarification of straight-line amortization. To aid in understanding the straight-line amortization of discounts and premiums on bonds payable, equations have been added to Chapter 16 for computing the semiannual interest payment, discount or premium amortization, and interest expense.
- 12. Rearrangement of topics. Several related topics have been combined in a new chapter. Chapter 18 includes a discussion of capital and operating leases, long-term notes payable and receivable, mortgages payable, deferred income taxes, pensions, consolidated financial statements, and international accounting. This combination allows flexibility in coverage of these topics.
- 13. New discussion of international accounting. Because of the increasing importance of understanding international business, a section on international accounting has been added to Chapter 18.
- 14. Expansion of discussion of statement of changes in financial position. The discussion in Chapter 19 has been modified in several areas. The overview of the statement has been expanded and Exhibit 19-3 has been added to clarify the sources and uses of working capital. Exhibit 19-9 has been added to illustrate the primary differences between working capital and cash sources from operations. Exhibit 19-11 has been added to illustrate the differences between revenues, expenses, and operating cash flows.
- 15. Modification of financial analysis comparisons. The section on financial analysis comparisons in Chapter 20 has been modified to add a discussion of the evaluation stage in decision making. Included is a discussion of return on investment, risk, financial flexibility, liquidity, and operating capability.
- 16. Revision of discussion of inflation accounting. The material in Chapter 21 has been rearranged and condensed to incorporate the modifications to FASB Statement No. 33 as a result of the issuance of FASB Statement No. 82.
- 17. Expanded and revised homework assignments. Additional exercises and problems

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have been added to various chapters. The numbers (and solutions) have been changed in over 70 percent of the homework material.

### Supplementary Materials

In addition to the textbook, several supplementary aids are available. For the student, these include:

- A Study Guide prepared by Loren A. Nikolai, David Gotlob, Indiana University, Jerry Kreuze, Western Michigan University, and James W. Worthington, Auburn University. The study guide includes an outline of each chapter along with self-evaluation exercises and supplementary short-answer homework assignments, with solutions and post tests.
- 2. Partially completed Working Papers for all problems.
- 3. A Checklist of key answers to the exercises and problems.
- 4. Two manual *Practice Sets*, developed by Loren A. Nikolai and David Gotlob. Practice Set I, "Boone Office Supply," focusing on accounting for a sole proprietorship retailing company, is designed to be used after Chapter 6. Practice Set II, "Crockett Automotive Parts," deals with accounting for a wholesaling corporation and is to be used after Chapter 19.
- 5. A "Your Name" Company: Accounting Practice Set for the Computer, prepared by Thomas W. Charles and Frederic M. Stiner, University of Delaware. This practice set operates on an actual general ledger software program, and is designed to familiarize students with computers and their capabilities.

For the instructor, the supplementary aids include:

- 1. A Solutions Manual for all homework materials. The manual includes a suggested solution for each question, exercise, problem, and case, all supporting calculations, and helpful notes to the instructor concerning difficult areas within each problem. Included at the beginning of each chapter is a content analysis of the exercises and problems in that chapter. Included in the preface is a suggested assignment schedule and a list of transparencies.
- An Instructor's Manual containing, for each chapter, a list of objectives, synopsis, lecture outline, general instructional notes, and a content analysis of the exercises and problems by topic.
- 3. A *Test Bank* of examination materials for each chapter, including true-false and multiple-choice questions, completion statements, and short-answer problems.
- 4. A Computerized Test Bank on a diskette for the IBM PC and Apple II, using the same test material appearing in the printed Test Bank.
- 5. A set of *Transparencies* (set in large type) for the solutions to selected homework materials. Also included are numerous "teaching visuals" for lecture purposes.
- 6. An *EDP Demonstration and Homework Diskette*. This diskette, for the IBM personal computer, may be copied by students for use with the EDP illustration and related homework in Chapter 6.

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