# ACCA



# PAPER P7

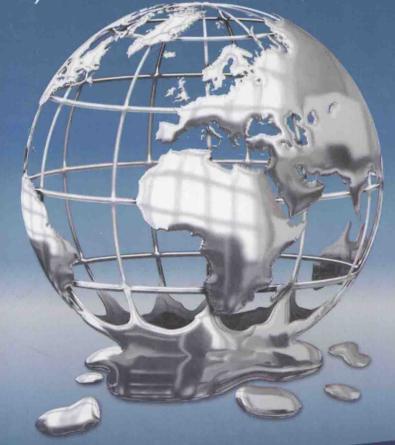
高级审计与认证业务(国际版)

ADVANCED AUDIT AND ASSURANCE (INTERNATIONAL)

BPP Learning Media 著

课 本 STUDY TEXT

FOR EXAMS IN 2012





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# PAPER P7

P7 高级审计与认证业务(国际版)

# ADVANCED AUDIT AND ASSURANCE (INTERNATIONAL)

BPP Learning Media 著

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- · We discuss the best strategies for studying for ACCA exams
- . We highlight the most important elements in the syllabus and the key skills you will need
- . We signpost how each chapter links to the syllabus and the study guide
- We provide lots of exam focus points demonstrating what the examiner will want you to do
- · We emphasise key points in regular fast forward summaries
- · We test your knowledge of what you've studied in quick quizzes
- We examine your understanding in our exam question bank.
- · We reference all the important topics in our full index

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#### FOR EXAMS IN 2012





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# P7 INT (课本) 简介

本课本教你如何应用以前课程中学到的相关知识和技能,分析、评估并约定审计业务。我们的课本 设计注重大纲中最重要的方面,包括:

- 制度环境
- 职业和道德考量
- 实务管理
- 任命
- 领导并管理个人和团队
- 报告
- 当前问题和发展

P7 课本经由考官审核,包含所有你需要知道的本课程相关内容,其中有详尽的应试指南和测验卷 习题。题库中包含的习题符合 P7 考试的形式, 每个章节都有实用的考点和章节总结。课本囊括 了审计和签证业务中主要的职业和规定的内容,首先注重道德、职业和实务管理,随后是审计和签 证业务的流程,最后探讨当前问题和发展。



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F5 Performance Management

F5 业绩管理

F6 Taxation (UK)

F6 税务 (英国版)

F6 Taxation (CHN)

F6 税务(中国版)

F7 Financial Reporting (INT&UK)

F7 财务报告(国际版和英国版)

F8 Audit and Assurance (INT)

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P5 高级业绩管理

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BPP Learning Media – the sole Platinum Approved Learning Partner - content

As ACCA's sole Platinum Approved Learning Partner - content, BPP Learning Media gives you the unique opportunity to use examiner-reviewed study materials for the 2012 exams. By incorporating the examiner's comments and suggestions regarding the depth and breadth of syllabus coverage, the BPP Learning Media Study Text provides excellent, ACCA-approved support for your studies.

#### The PER alert

Before you can qualify as an ACCA member, you do not only have to pass all your exams but also fulfil a three year practical experience requirement (PER). To help you to recognise areas of the syllabus that you might be able to apply in the workplace to achieve different performance objectives, we have introduced the 'PER alert' feature. You will find this feature throughout the Study Text to remind you that what you are learning to pass your ACCA exams is equally useful to the fulfilment of the PER requirement.

#### Tackling studying

Studying can be a daunting prospect, particularly when you have lots of other commitments. The different features of the text, the purposes of which are explained fully on the Chapter features page, will help you whilst studying and improve your chances of exam success.

#### Developing exam awareness

Our Texts are completely focused on helping you pass your exam.

Our advice on Studying P7 outlines the content of the paper, the necessary skills the examiner expects you to demonstrate and any brought forward knowledge you are expected to have.

Exam focus points are included within the chapters to highlight when and how specific topics were examined, or how they might be examined in the future.

### Using the Syllabus and Study Guide

You can find the syllabus and Study Guide on page xi of this Study Text

#### Testing what you can do

Testing yourself helps you develop the skills you need to pass the exam and also confirms that you can recall what you have learnt.

We include Questions - lots of them - both within chapters and in the Exam Question Bank, as well as Quick Quizzes at the end of each chapter to test your knowledge of the chapter content.



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# **Chapter features**

Each chapter contains a number of helpful features to guide you through each topic.

#### **Topic list**

Topic list	Syllabus reference
	 1

Introduction Study Guide Exam Guide

Knowledge brought forward from earlier studies



# **Examples**

**Key terms** 

**Exam focus points** 

Formula to learn





Question



Case Study

**Chapter Roundup** 

**Quick Quiz** 

**Exam Question Bank** 

Tells you what you will be studying in this chapter and the relevant section numbers, together the ACCA syllabus references.

Puts the chapter content in the context of the syllabus as a whole.

Links the chapter content with ACCA guidance.

Highlights how examinable the chapter content is likely to be and the ways in which it could be examined.

What you are assumed to know from previous studies/exams.

Summarises the content of main chapter headings, allowing you to preview and review each section easily.

Demonstrate how to apply key knowledge and techniques.

Definitions of important concepts that can often earn you easy marks in exams.

Tell you when and how specific topics were examined, or how they may be examined in the future.

Formulae that are not given in the exam but which have to be learnt.

This is a new feature that gives you a useful indication of syllabus areas that closely relate to performance objectives in your Practical Experience Requirement (PER).

Give you essential practice of techniques covered in the chapter.

Provide real world examples of theories and techniques.

A full list of the Fast Forwards included in the chapter, providing an easy source of review.

A quick test of your knowledge of the main topics in the chapter.

Found at the back of the Study Text with more comprehensive chapter questions. Cross referenced for easy navigation.



# Studying P7

As the name suggests, this paper examines advanced audit and assurance topics. Paper P7 is one of the professional level Options papers and as such candidates must consider carefully whether they have the required competencies.

#### The P7 examiner

The examiner, Lisa Weaver, expects you to demonstrate a highly professional approach to all questions not just presenting information in a professional manner, but also integrating knowledge and understanding of topics from across the syllabus. The examiner is also very keen for students to demonstrate evidence of wider reading and to demonstrate an understanding of current issues as they affect audit and assurance. At the absolute minimum you should read student accountant. The examiner often examines topics that she has written about in student accountant.

#### Syllabus update

The P7 syllabus has been updated for the June 2012 sitting onwards. The full syllabus and study guide can be found in this Study Text on pages xi to xxi.



#### 1 What P7 is about

The aim of the syllabus is to analyse, evaluate and conclude on the assurance engagement and other audit and assurance issues in the context of best practice and current developments.

The paper builds on the topics covered in Paper F8 Audit and Assurance but as an advanced paper it tests much more than just your knowledge of ISAs and your ability to list standard audit procedures. You must be able to apply your knowledge to more complex audit and assurance scenarios, identifying and formulating the work required to meet the objectives of audit and non-audit assignments and to evaluate the findings and results of work performed. Accounting knowledge examined in Paper P2 Corporate Reporting is also assumed. Therefore, candidates studying for P7 should refer to the Accounting Standards listed under P2.

The syllabus is divided into SEVEN main sections:

#### (a) Regulatory environment

This section introduces the legal and regulatory environment including **corporate governance** issues. It also examines the topics of **money laundering** and the consideration of law and regulation.

#### (b) Professional and ethical considerations

The details of the various **ethical codes** should be familiar to you from your earlier studies, however the importance of this topic should not be underestimated. The examiner has indicated that ethical and professional issues are likely to feature in every sitting. This section also covers **fraud and professional liability** both of which are topical issues.

#### (c) Practice management

This part of the syllabus covers quality control, tendering and professional appointments. It also covers advertising, publicity, obtaining professional work and fees.

#### (d) Audit of historical financial information

This is the largest section of the syllabus looking in detail at the procedures involved in a range of audit and assurance assignments. The examiner has indicated that evidence gathering is a key part of the syllabus and is likely to feature at each sitting. Requirements are likely to focus on **specific** assertions, balances or transactions.

#### (e) Other assignments

This section also covers a range of **audit-related and assurance services**. The examiner has stressed the need for candidates to be able to tackle these types of scenario.

#### (f) Reporting

The detail of audit reports should be familiar to you from your earlier studies. At this level you will be expected to **apply this knowledge** to more complex scenarios. The examiner has also stressed the importance of the **relationship between financial reporting and auditing**. This will be particularly important when forming an appropriate audit opinion. This section of the syllabus also includes reports to management and other reports.

#### (g) Current issues and developments

Current issues and developments includes a wide range of topics including the IAASB clarity project, professional, ethical and corporate governance, information technology, going concern transnational audits and social and environmental auditing. The examiner has indicated that this is likely to be examined at each sitting, and that candidates are expected to have read around the issues for themselves. You will need to be able to discuss current issues topics in the context of a client scenario.



# 2 What skills are required?

- A thorough understanding of the relevant audit, assurance and financial reporting regulations that fall within the syllabus
- The ability to apply knowledge to specific client scenarios
- The ability to have an independent opinion, backed by reasoned argument
- An appreciation of commercial factors which influence practice management
- An appreciation of fast-moving developments in audit and assurance practices

# 3 How to improve your chances of passing

- Study the entire syllabus. Although Section B of the paper contains an optional element, the two questions in Section A are compulsory and could cover a range of topics from across the syllabus. Question spotting at this level is unwise and not recommended.
- Practise as many questions as you can under timed conditions this is the best way of developing good exam technique. Make use of the Question Bank at the back of this text. BPP's Practice and Revision Kit contains numerous exam standard questions (many of them taken from past exam papers) as well as three mock exams for you to try.
- Section A questions will be the case study type of question make sure you relate your answers to the scenario rather than being generic. Answers that are simply regurgitated from texts are unlikely to score highly.
- Present your answers in a professional manner there are between four and six professional marks available for setting answers out properly and for coherent, well structured arguments and recommendations. You should be aiming to achieve all of these marks.
- Consider the question requirement carefully so that you answer the actual question set.
- Answer plans will help you to focus on the requirements of the question and enable you to manage your time effectively
- Answer the question that you are most comfortable with first it will help to settle you down if you feel you have answered the first question well.
- Answer all parts of the question leaving out a five mark discursive element for example may mean the difference between a pass and a fail.
- Read the financial press and relevant web sites for real life examples the examiner is specifically looking for evidence of wider reading.
- Read Student Accountant (the ACCA's student magazine) regularly it often contains technical articles written either by or on the recommendation of the examiner which can be invaluable for future exams

The P7 examiner made the same comment in a number of her recent examiner's reports which is so important that we will quote it here:

"Similar factors as detailed in previous examiner's reports continue to contribute to the unsatisfactory pass rate:

- Failing to answer the specific question requirements
- Not applying knowledge to question scenarios
- Not explaining or developing points in enough detail
- Lack of knowledge on certain syllabus areas
- Illegible handwriting."

"As seen in previous sittings, what makes the difference between a pass and a fail script is usually the level of application skills which have been demonstrated. Candidates who answer the specific question requirement, and tailor their answers to the scenarios provided are likely to do well."



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# 4 Brought forward knowledge

The P7 syllabus assumes knowledge brought forward from F8 *Audit and Assurance*. It also assumes knowledge from Paper F7 *Financial Reporting* and Paper P2 *Corporate Reporting*. It is very important to be comfortable with your financial reporting studies because such aspects are likely to come up in scenario-based questions in Sections A and B of this paper.

The P7 examiner, Lisa Weaver, has written a number of articles relevant to the P7 exam and it is highly recommended that you read them. A list of these articles can be found after chapter 18 of this study text.



# The exam paper

#### Format of the paper

Number of marks 50-70 30-50

100

Section A: Section B: Two compulsory questions

Choice of two from three questions

Time allowed: 3 hours

#### Guidance

Section A will consist of two compulsory 'case study' style questions. These will include detailed information including, for example extracts from financial statements and audit working papers. The questions will include a range of requirements covering different syllabus areas.

Exams in 2011 will feature a new style of question requirement in Section A, with the requirement being embedded within the scenario. For more information on the change, see the examiner (Lisa Weaver)'s article in the February 2010 edition of Student accountant.

Section B questions will tend to be more focussed towards specific topic areas, such as ethical issues and auditor's reports. Short scenarios will be provided as a basis for these questions.



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#### **Syllabus and Study Guide**

The P7 syllabus and study guide can be found below.

# Syllabus CR (P2) AAA (P7) AA (F8)

#### AIM

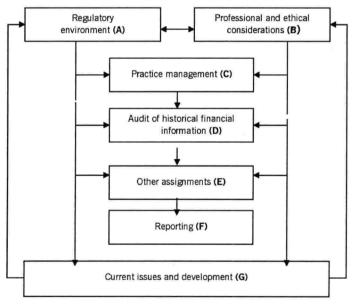
To analyse, evaluate and conclude on the assurance engagement and other audit and assurance issues in the context of best practice and current developments.

#### MAIN CAPABILITIES

On successful completion of this paper candidates should be able to:

- A Recognise the legal and regulatory environment and its impact on audit and assurance practice
- B Demonstrate the ability to work effectively on an assurance or other service engagement within a professional and ethical framework
- C Assess and recommend appropriate quality control policies and procedures in practice management and recognise the auditor's position in relation to the acceptance and retention of professional appointments
- D Identify and formulate the work required to meet the objectives of audit assignments and apply the International Standards on Auditing
- E Identify and formulate the work required to meet the objectives of non-audit assignments
- Evaluate findings and the results of work performed and draft suitable reports on assignments
- G Understand the current issues and developments relating to the provision of auditrelated and assurance service

#### RELATIONAL DIAGRAM OF MAIN CAPABILITIES



#### RATIONALE

The Advanced Audit and Assurance syllabus is essentially divided into seven areas.

The syllabus starts with the legal and regulatory environment including money laundering, and professional and ethical considerations, including the Code of Ethics and professional liability. This then leads into procedures in practice management, including quality control and the acceptance and retention of professional engagements.

The syllabus then covers the audit of financial statements, including planning, evidence and review. It then covers other assignments including prospective financial information, and other assurance assignments, as well as the reporting of these assignments.

The final section covers current issues and developments relating to the provision of auditrelated and assurance services.

#### **DETAILED SYLLABUS**

#### A Regulatory Environment

- International regulatory frameworks for audit and assurance services
- 2. Money laundering
- 3. Laws and regulations

#### B Professional and Ethical Considerations

- 1. Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants
- Fraud and error
- 3. Professional liability
- C Practice Management
- 1. Quality control
- Advertising, publicity, obtaining professional work and fees
- 3. Tendering

4. Professional appointments

#### Audit of historical financial information

- 1. The audit of historical financial information including;
  - i) Planning, materiality and assessing the risk of misstatement
  - ii) Evidence
  - iii) Evaluation and review
- 2. Group audits

#### E Other assignments

- Audit-related services
- 2. Assurance services
- 3. Prospective financial information
- 4. Forensic audits
- 5. Internal audit
- 6. Outsourcing

#### F Reporting

- 1. Auditor's reports
- Reports to those charged with governance and management
- 3. Other reports

#### G Current Issues and Developments

- 1. Professional and ethical
- 2. Information technology
- 3. Transnational audits
- 4. Social and environmental auditing
- 5. Other current issues



#### APPROACH TO EXAMINING THE SYLLABUS

The examination is a three hour paper constructed in two sections. Questions in both sections will be almost entirely discursive. However, candidates will be expected, for example, to be able to assess materiality and calculate relevant ratios where appropriate.

Section A questions will be based on 'case study' type questions. That is not to say that they will be particularly long, rather that they will provide a setting within a range of topics, issues and requirements can be addressed. Different types of question will be encountered in Section B and will tend to be more focussed on specific topics, for example 'auditor's reports', 'quality control' and topics of ISAs which are not examinable in Paper F8, Audit and Assurance. (This does not preclude these topics from appearing in Section A). Current issues will be examined across a number of questions.

Section A: 2 compulsory questions 50-70 marks

Section B: Choice of 2 from 3 questions

30-50 marks 100



#### Study Guide

#### A REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

- International regulatory frameworks for audit and assurance services
- Explain the need for laws, regulations, standards and other guidance relating to audit, assurance and related services.
- Outline and explain the need for the legal and professional framework including:<sup>[2]</sup>
  - i) public oversight to an audit and assurance practice
  - ii) the role of audit committees and impact on audit and assurance practice.

#### 2. Money laundering

- a) Define 'money laundering'.[1]
- Explain how international efforts seek to combat money laundering.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Explain the scope of criminal offences of money laundering and how professional accountants may be protected from criminal and civil liability.<sup>(22)</sup>
- Explain the need for ethical guidance in this area.<sup>[2]</sup>
- e) Describe how accountants meet their obligations to help prevent and detect money laundering including record keeping and reporting of suspicion to the appropriate regulatory body.<sup>[2]</sup>
- f) Explain the importance of customer due diligence (CDD).<sup>[2]</sup>
- Recognise potentially suspicious transactions and assess their impact on reporting duties. [2]
- Describe, with reasons, the basic elements of an anti-money laundering program.

#### 3. Laws and regulations

 Compare and contrast the respective responsibilities of management and auditors concerning compliance with laws and

- regulations in an audit of financial statements. [2]
- Describe the auditors considerations of compliance with laws and regulations and plan audit procedures when possible noncompliance is discovered.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Discuss how and to whom non-compliance should be reported.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Recognise when withdrawal from an engagement is necessary.<sup>[2]</sup>

#### B PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### 1. Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants

- Explain the fundamental principles and the conceptual framework approach.<sup>[1]</sup>
- Identify, evaluate and respond to threats to compliance with the fundamental principles.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Discuss and evaluate the effectiveness of available safeguards.<sup>[3]</sup>
- Recognise and advise on conflicts in the application of fundamental principles.<sup>[3]</sup>

#### 2. Fraud and error

- a) Define and clearly distinguish between the terms 'error', 'irregularity', 'fraud' and 'misstatement'.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Compare and contrast the respective responsibilities of management and auditors for fraud and error.<sup>[22]</sup>
- c) Describe the matters to be considered and procedures to be carried out to investigate actual and/or potential misstatements in a given situation.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Explain how, why, when and to whom fraud and error should be reported and the circumstances in which an auditor should withdraw from an engagement.<sup>[2]</sup>



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