

**Course Level Assessment**

**Principles of Accounting I (ACC 120)**

**Fall 2006 Assessment**

**2/05/2007**

**Submitted by Seyed Mirkhani**

**Approved by Learner Outcomes Team: April 6, 2007**

The purpose of this report is to present the methodology and findings for the course level assessment of Principles of Accounting I (ACC 120). Principles of Accounting I serves as a required core course in the Business Management program. This course is an introduction to the principles and procedures of double-entry accounting record and reports for sole proprietorship and partnerships. To assure that Principles of Accounting I is meeting its intended purpose in the curriculum and that students are in fact achieving the defined course learning outcomes identified on the Master Course Record Form (See Attachment A), this course was selected for a course level assessment project to discern attainment of specified learning outcomes across multiple class sections.

This course also serves as a restricted elective for the entrepreneurial option for Early Childhood, AAS; AAS in Occupational Development: Early Childhood; AAS in Technical Studies: Early Childhood; AAS Degree in Occupational Development: AWC Leadership and meets Skill Set requirements for Business Management, Small Business Management. ACC 120 can also serve as a general elective course for non-business majors.

## **Methodology**

Principles of Accounting I course outcomes will be assessed on a cyclical basis over three years beginning with the fall 2006 semester. Each year, a minimum of four course learning outcomes will be selected for evaluation. Dependent upon assessment findings, some outcomes will be assessed over multiple years to validate effectiveness of changes in curriculum or course materials. Exam questions addressing the target learning

outcomes serve as indicators of student attainment of course learning outcomes. These exam questions are incorporated across all sections of ACC 120 during the assessment cycle. The minimum performance standard is set at 80%. At least 80% of the students completing the common indicators administered via the course examination will select the correct response. In the event that the minimum performance standard is not met, the unmet learning outcome will be targeted for further monitoring. The results may also trigger an evaluation of course materials supporting the learning outcome, revision of course materials or further curriculum revision.

In the fall 2006 semester, four course learning outcomes were selected for assessment in all sections of Principles of Accounting I. The target learning outcomes include:

|   |
|---|
| <b>Outcome 1:</b><br>Define debits                |
| <b>Outcome 2:</b><br>Define liabilities           |
| <b>Outcome 3:</b><br>Prepare financial statements |
| <b>Outcome 4:</b><br>Identify inventory methods   |

To assess these learning outcomes, standard questions were administered. All students enrolled in this section completed the standard questions. Thirteen students were included in this sample. The outcomes and corresponding indicators are listed in Figure 1. Results were compiled for each indicator denoting the percent of students

selecting the correct response for each indicator. Findings from the data for each outcome are presented in the results section of this report.

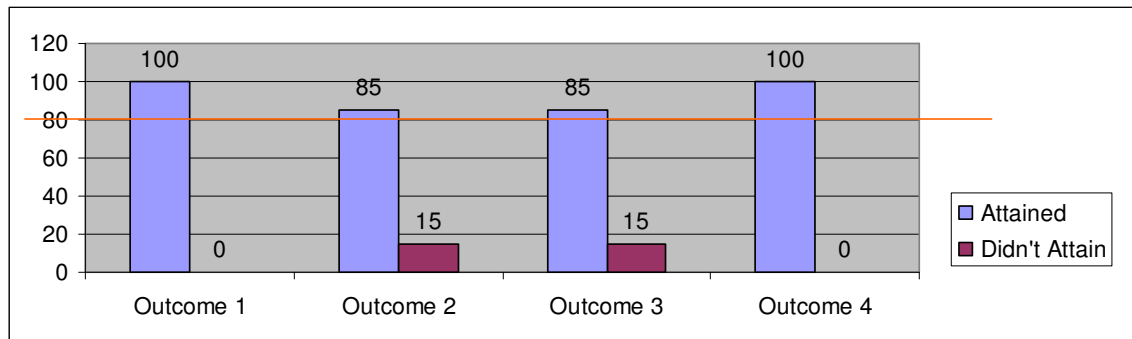
| Learning Outcome  | Indicator  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Outcome 1:</b><br/>Define debits</p>                | <p>Which of the following groups of accounts have a normal debit balance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. revenues, liabilities, capital</li> <li>b. capital, assets</li> <li>c. liabilities, expenses</li> <li>d. assets, expenses</li> </ul> <p>ANS: D</p> |
| <p><b>Outcome 2:</b><br/>Define liabilities</p>           | <p>Debt owed by a business are referred to as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. accounts receivables</li> <li>b. Equities</li> <li>c. owner's equity</li> <li>d. Liabilities</li> </ul> <p>ANS: D</p>  |
| <p><b>Outcome 3:</b><br/>Prepare financial statements</p> | <p>Which of the items below would appear in the Income Statement columns of the work sheet?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Equipment</li> <li>b. Unearned Fees</li> <li>c. Prepaid Expense</li> <li>d. Net Loss</li> </ul> <p>ANS: D</p>                    |
| <p><b>Outcome 4:</b><br/>Identify inventory methods</p>   | <p>The two most widely used methods for determining the cost of inventory are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. FIFO and LIFO</li> <li>b. FIFO and average</li> <li>c. LIFO and average</li> <li>d. gross profit and average</li> </ul> <p>ANS: A</p>          |

Figure 1: Assessed Outcomes and Indicators

## Results

Based on the existing data, all of the four learning outcomes were met at the minimum performance standard (See Table 1). All of the students successfully completed the identified indicator for Learning Outcomes one and four and Eighty-five percent of the students completed the identified indicator for Learning Outcomes two and three.

Table 1: Distribution of Performance Standards for Outcomes 1 Through 4



Principles of Accounting I presents assets and expenses (outcome 1) and inventory methods (outcome 4) in significant detail. In addition, the subject of inventory methods is readily grasped by students.

Considering that all the outcomes were met and given the sample size, no changes will be recommended for the presentation of materials for the four target learning outcomes.

However, additional outcomes will be measure and added to the ongoing assessment of ACC 120. Additional questions will be administered across future sections of the course to measure other outcomes.

## **Conclusion and Action Plan**

Overall, students satisfactorily met the minimum performance standard established for all four target learning outcomes. However, it is important to note that as a pilot project, this does not establish a trend of success for student achievement. Additionally, the small sample size may be a factor in attainment. Course data will be collected and assessed on a continuous basis for the three year cycle to allow for assessment of more course outcomes incorporating a larger sample. More specific questions will be included in the assessment activities to measure student learning outcomes. At least eight questions focusing on eight outcomes will be used to establish patterns and obtain a broader result.

These results will be discussed with the instructor who taught this course. These results will also be presented to the instructor(s) who will teach this course in the future. These and future assessment results will serve as the basis for determining need for course and course material revisions.

**Eastern WV Community & Technical College  
Master Course Record**

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| <b>Course Prefix and Number: ACC 120</b>   |
| <b>Course Title:</b> Principles of Accounting I  |
| <b>Recommended Transcript Title</b> Principles of Accounting I   |
| <b>Date Approved/Revised</b>   |
| <b>Credit Hours:</b> 3<br><b>Contact hours per week (Based on 15 week term):</b><br><b>Lecture:</b> 3<br><b>Lab:</b>   |
| <b>Prerequisite:</b><br><b>Corequisite:</b><br><b>Pre/Corequisite:</b>   |
| <b>Grading Mode:</b> Letter Grade  |
| <b>Catalog Description:</b> This course is an introduction to the principles and procedures of double-entry accounting records and reports for sole proprietorship and partnerships. This course incorporates computer accounting technology to provide hands-on learning.   |
| <b>Course Outcomes:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. define debits</li> <li>2. account for short term investments</li> <li>3. describe financial statement elements</li> <li>4. describe balance column accounts</li> <li>5. describe accounting cycle</li> <li>6. define liabilities</li> <li>7. describe merchandising activities</li> <li>8. define ending inventory</li> <li>9. describe plant assets</li> <li>10. define credits</li> <li>11. define corporation characteristics</li> <li>12. construct work sheet</li> <li>13. classify investments</li> <li>14. calculate present/future values</li> <li>15. calculate note interest</li> <li>16. calculate financial ratios</li> <li>17. analyze business transactions</li> <li>18. define intangible assets</li> <li>19. identify special journals</li> <li>20. record investments</li> <li>21. reconcile bank accounts</li> <li>22. prepare trial balance</li> <li>23. prepare payroll entries</li> </ol> |

|  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24. prepare financial statements</li> <li>25. prepare closing entries</li> <li>26. describe income statement</li> <li>27. post entries</li> <li>28. record transactions</li> <li>29. identify inventory methods</li> <li>30. explain temporary accounts</li> <li>31. explain reversing entries</li> <li>32. explain internal control</li> <li>33. explain GAAP</li> <li>34. explain depreciation accounting</li> <li>35. detail partnership characteristics</li> <li>36. describe single proprietorship</li> <li>37. prepare adjusting entries</li> </ul> |
| <b>Implementation Cycle:</b> Fall  |
| <b>Role in College Curriculum:</b><br>General Education Core <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical Core (Business Management General)</li> <li>• Restricted Elective (Early Childhood, AAS; AAS in Occupational Development: Early Childhood(Entrepreneurial Emphasis); AAS in Technical Studies: Early Childhood(Entrepreneurial Emphasis ); Skill Sets: Business Management, Small Business Management: AAS Degree in Occupational Development: AWC Leadership</li> </ul> •General Elective   |
| <b>Course Fee:</b> None  |
| <b>Instructor's Qualifications:</b> Master's degree with 18 graduate level business credits  |
| <b>Expanded Course Description:</b> Specific Topics include general purpose financial statements, accounting cycle and accounting for equity, assets and liabilities.  |

Prepared by: Seyed Mirkhani, Academic Program Director for Business Technologies  
 \_\_\_\_\_ October 30, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature, Title

Date

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Dean, Academic Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



**Appendix B:  
Summary of Outcomes, Indicators, Performance Standards and Results**

| Course Level Assessment: Fall 2006<br>ACC 120: Principles of Accounting I |   |                              |                                |                                |
|---|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Learning Outcome  | Indicator   | Percent of Correct Responses | Percent of Incorrect Responses | Performance Standard Met (80%) |
| <b>Outcome 1:</b><br>Define debits  | Which of the following groups of accounts have a normal debit balance?<br>a. revenues, liabilities, capital<br>b. capital, assets<br>c. liabilities, expenses<br>d. <b>Assets, expenses</b><br>ANS: D | 100%<br>(13)                 | 0%<br>(0)                      | Yes                            |
| <b>Outcome 2:</b><br>Define liabilities                                   | Debt owed by a business are referred to as<br>a. accounts receivables<br>b. Equities<br>c. Owner's equity<br>d. <b>Liabilities</b><br>ANS: D  | 85%<br>(11)                  | 7%<br>(2)                      | Yes                            |
| <b>Outcome 3:</b><br>Prepare financial statements                         | Which of the items below would appear in the Income Statement columns of the work sheet?<br>a. Equipment<br>b. Unearned Fees<br>c. Prepaid Expense<br>d. <b>Net Loss</b><br>ANS: D                    | 85%<br>(11)                  | 7%<br>(2)                      | Yes                            |
| <b>Outcome 4:</b><br>Identify inventory methods                           | The two most widely used methods for determining the cost of inventory are<br>a. <b>FIFO and LIFO</b><br>b. FIFO and average<br>c. LIFO and average<br>d. gross profit and average<br>ANS: A          | 100%<br>(13)                 | 0%<br>(0)                      | Yes                            |