

University of North Carolina at Greensboro
ACC 632-02 – Principles of Fraud Examination
Course Syllabus – Spring 2025

Instructor: Randy Elder, PhD

Office: Room 383D

Email: rjelder2@uncg.edu

Office phone: 336.256.0530

Office hours: Tuesday 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Teams and by appointment.

REQUIRED TEXT

Fraud Examination, 8th edition, by Albrecht, Albrecht, Albrecht, Zimmerman.

This text should be available as an e-book in Canvas.

Other Materials

The primary text will be supplemented by cases and data to be analyzed which will be provided by the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the nature of occupational fraud and abuse in organizations. We will learn how and why occupational fraud is committed, how fraud can be detected, how fraud can be deterred, and how to proceed if fraud is suspected. Emphasis is placed on asset misappropriation schemes, corruption, and financial statement fraud.

PREREQUISITE: ACC 604 or grade of C or higher in auditing concepts course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The overall objectives of this course are as follows:

1. Define the nature of occupational fraud and abuse in organizations.
2. Understand who commits fraud and why.
3. Describe and detect asset misappropriation schemes, corruption schemes, and financial statement frauds.
4. Design a fraud prevention plan for an organization.
5. Understand the basics of fraud investigation.
6. Use data analysis to detect fraudulent activities.

ADD/DROP DATE – January 17, 2025

LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW – March 7, 2025

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It's your responsibility to become familiar with the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy. By submitting an assignment, each student is acknowledging their understanding and commitment to the Academic Policy on all major work for the course. A link to the policy is included at <https://osrr.uncg.edu/academic-integrity/>.

As stated in the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy, cheating includes but is not limited to unauthorized copying from the work of another student, giving or receiving information or assistance on work when it is expected that it is the student's own work, or engaging in any similar act that violates the concept of academic integrity.

The midterm and final exam will be taken online and will be open book and notes, but other provisions of academic integrity apply. I do not plan to use Respondus lockdown browser and monitor.

Class Format

You are responsible for reading each assigned chapter and assigned problem material. I will post PowerPoint slides and brief videos on Canvas.

GRADING

1. The weight assigned to each requirement is as follows:

	Points
Midterm Exam	75
Final Exam	75
Case and data analyses	85
Multiple choice quizzes	30
Participation	25
Total	290

2. Course grades will be determined as follows:

Points	Grade
275-289	A
265-274	A-
255-264	B+
245-254	B
235-244	B-
220-234	C+

Grading elements are discussed further on the following page.

EXAMS

Exams will be a combination of multiple choice and problems/essays similar to those assigned in the text. They will be administered online. You will have 80 minutes to complete the exams, which are open book and note. You will be given approximately a 48-hour window to take the exams.

CASES

Cases will be collected on the date indicated on the course schedule. Responses to cases should be typed and well organized. For the third part of the WrecksAll case and other data analysis projects you should also submit supporting Excel files. Note that you are not required to submit the shorter and longer cases from the textbook, and solutions to these will be provided in Canvas.

All data analyses project can be completed using Excel although we may also use audit software for at least one assignment. I will demonstrate appropriate Excel commands to complete the tests.

Data and Case Analyses	Points
Howard Street Jewelers	10
Crazy Eddie	10
WrecksAll pt. 1	10
WrecksAll pt. 2	10
WrecksAll pt. 3	15
ZZZZ Best	10
Data Analysis 1	10
Data Analysis 2	10
Total	85

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUIZZES

Approximately every other week you will be given a short quiz with selected text multiple choice covering two or three chapters. This is designed to test your knowledge of the text material. These quizzes will be given in Canvas and you will have a approximately a 2-day window to take the quiz.

PARTICIPATION

I will post discussion questions on the Canvas discussion board and that will be the primary way to participate.

ACCOMODATIONS

UNCG seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) in 215 Elliott University Center, 334-5440, oars.uncg.edu.

Students may request accommodations for religious holidays under applicable laws. Please see <https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/university-policies/> for additional information.

Students should remind the instructor in advance when accommodation affects course activities, e.g., before taking exams, to ensure that the instructor has updated systems accordingly.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Your health impacts your learning. Throughout your time in college, you may experience a range of health issues that can cause barriers to your learning. These might include physical ailments, illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. Student Health Services and The Counseling Center can help with these or other issues you may be experiencing. You can learn about the free, confidential mental health services available on campus by calling 336-334-5874, visiting the website at <https://shs.uncg.edu/> or visiting the Anna M. Gove Student Health Center at 107 Gray Drive. Help is always available.

Fraud Examination – Tentative Schedule – Spring 2025

Wk	Week Date	Topic	Reading	Quiz	Short Cases	Longer Cases *	Case Assignments (submitted)
1.	Jan. 13	The Nature of Fraud Why People Commit Fraud	Ch. 1 Ch. 2		3, 9 1, 4	Ch. 1, Case 1	
2.	Jan. 20	No Class – Martin Luther King Day Fraud Overview	Ch. 3		6, 13	Ch. 3, Case 2	
3.	Jan. 27	Preventing Fraud	Ch. 4	Quiz 1 – Ch. 1-3	6, 8		Howard Street Jewelers
4.	Feb. 3	Recognizing Fraud Symptoms	Ch. 5	Q 2 – Ch. 4-5	5	2	
5.	Feb. 10	Data Driven Fraud Detection	Ch. 6		3, 8	3, 4	Crazy Eddie financial analysis
6.	Feb. 17	Investigating Theft Acts	Ch. 7	Q 3 – Ch. 6-7	1, 6, 9		WrecksAll Pt. 1
7	Feb. 24	Investigating Concealment Midterm Exam (Ch. 1-8) (Mar 1-2)	Ch. 8		2,4		
8.	March 3	Investigating Conversion	Ch. 9		8		WrecksAll Pt. 2
	March 10	Spring Break					
9.	March 17	Inquiry Methods and Fraud Reports	Ch. 10		2, 4		WrecksAll Pt. 3
10.	March 24	Financial Statement Fraud	Ch. 11	Q4 – Ch. 9-10	3, 5	1	
11.	March 31	Revenue and Inventory Fraud	Ch. 12		3, 4, 5		ZZZZ Best
12.	April 7	Liability, Asset, and Disclosure Frauds	Ch. 13	Q5 – Ch. 11-12	10, 12		Data analysis 1
13.	April 14	Fraud Against Organizations	Ch. 14		2, 7		
15.	April 21	No class Resolution of Fraud	Ch. 18	Q6 – Ch. 13, 14, 18	5		Data analysis 2
16.	April 28	Course wrap-up					
		Final Exam (Ch. 9-14, 18) May 3-4					

* Additional cases may be added for class discussion.