IB2AT-15 Applied Accounting Technology

25/26

Department
Warwick Business School
Level
Undergraduate Level 2
Module leader
Jodie Lucas
Credit value
15
Module duration
10 weeks
Assessment
Multiple
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This is an elective module available for WBS and non-WBS students. To find detailed availability and to apply for this module, log in to my.wbs.ac.uk using your normal IT login details and apply via the my.wbs module application system. Once you've secured a place on my.wbs you should apply via your home department's usual process, which usually takes place via eVision. Note that you do not require the module leader's permission to study a WBS module, so please do not contact them to request it.

This 10-week undergraduate module will focus on the practical application of cloud accounting using suitable cloud-based software e.g. Xero, building key practical employability and professional skills within a broader critical frame. The course will blend technical expertise with the development of critical thinking, analysis, and reflection. By the end of the module, students will have gained hands-on experience of cloud-based software and created a portfolio of crically reflective work showcasing understanding of cloud-based accounting and its implications and limitations for the accounting profession and the broader business/societal space.

Students are asked to note that alongside the formal pre-requisites for this module, students may benefit from some additional knowledge (or experience) of financial accounting as covered in IB233 - Financial Reporting 1.

Module web page

Module aims

Principal module aims:

Facilitate learning and practical proficiency in the use of cloud-based accounting software;
Understand the role and importance of cloud-based accounting in the modern business environment and how technology contributes to data-based decision making and anlysis;
Develop a critical appreciation of the challenges and limitations of technology on businesses in terms of their ability to act responsibly and with integrity;
Enhance students' employability and transferrable skills, including problem-solving, communication, critical thinking, and collaboration;
Contribute to the development of ‘work-ready’ graduates – particularly beneficial for students seeking placements/ internships – furnishing them with practical examples to use in responding to increasingly competency-led recruitment interviews/questions;
Reflect on the use of technology in accounting and its broader professional implications.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Indicative Outline Syllabus - although the order of some topics are interchangeable

1: Introduction to Cloud-Based Accounting Technology

Practical: Overview of cloud-based accounting technology; key features, benefits, and real-world application; set-up and basic navigation of cloud-accounting interface;
Critical: The role of cloud-based accounting in the profession - implications and limitations for the profession and for business.

2: Cloud-based Accounting Fundamentals - Chart of Accounts & Setting up a Business

Practical: Thee Chart of Accounts; setting up and configuring business accounts using cloud-based software and provided business case-study.
Critical: Limitations of the scope of capture of information within accounting technology and decision-making around which suppliers/customers to contract with.

3: Sales, Purchases, and Invoicing in cloud-based accounting

Practical: Recording and managing invoices, bills and purchases using provided business case-study data.
Critical: Reflecting on the types of report and information produced by accounting technology used to manage the business.

4: Tracking Information

Practical: Using tracking and dashboard information within cloud-based accounting technology and producing reports.

Critical: Exploring accounting through a critical lens - Theme 1 (e.g. sound). Introduction of key strands of critical accounting literature relevant to the selected theme and reflection of the impact of this on cloud-based accounting principles and practice.

5: Bank Reconciliation and Automation in cloud-based accounting

Practical: Completing bank reconciliations and understanding their purpose, process, and significance. Set-up and use of automation tools and understanding their benefits.
Critical: Reflecting on internal controls over banking and the ethical threats to and limitations of these systems.

6: Use of manual journals within cloud based accounting software

Practical: Introduction to manual journal function in cloud-based software.
Critical: Exploring accounting through a critical lens - Theme 2 (e.g. art/poetry). Introduction of key strands of critical accounting literature relevant to the selected theme and reflection of the impact of this on cloud-based accounting principles and practice.

7: Cloud-based Inventory Management

Practical: Adding inventory items and cloud-based management of stock levels.
Critical: Evaluating the use of technology and perpetual inventory systems.

8: Advanced Features of Cloud-Based Reporting

Practical: Generating, analysing and interpreting key accounting and other financial reports produced from cloud-based accounting technology.
Critical: Reflecting on issues and developing solutions using provided case-study data.

9: Data Security, Compliance, and Ethics in Cloud Accounting

Practical: Understanding data security and the challenges within cloud-accounting platforms; Use case-study data to explore real-world ethical issues and risks in cloud accounting;
Critical: Exploring accounting through a critical lens - Theme 3 (e.g. ethics). Introduction of key strands of critical literature within the chosen theme and reflection of the impact of this on cloud-based accounting principles and practice.

10: Problem-solving, Communication and Collaboration in Cloud-based Accounting

Practical: Use of cloud-based solftware and case-study data to efffectively communicate insights into business performance, identify problems and develop solutions.
Critical: Reflections on the nature ,scope, practice and limitations of accounting knowledge and its relationship to issues such as truth, authenticity, authority and legitimacy.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate practical mastery of cloud-based accounting software, by effectively managing financial data, automating transactions, generating reports, and applying key functionalities.
- Utilise and assess data analysis and financial reporting features within cloud-based accounting software to assess business performance, identify trends, and make informed

strategic decisions, recognizing the increasing importance of data in professional judgment and client advisory services.
- Critically evaluate how technological innovation/advancements, especially cloud accounting, are transforming the accounting profession, altering traditional processes, and reshaping the role and skill set of modern accountants.
- Assess the ethical, security, and compliance challenges posed by cloud technologies in accounting. Through key strands of the critical accounting literature, engage in critical reflection on the use, influence and limitations of cloud-based accounting technology within accounting and business practice.
- Use a range of thematic perspectives (such as understanding accounting through sound, art etc.) to critically explore the nature, scope, practice and limits of accounting knowledge and its relationship to notions of truth, authority and legitimacy.

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Subject specific skills

Develop technical proficiency in a leading cloud accounting software.
Discuss the role and importance of cloud-based accounting in the modern business environment and how technology adds data-based decision making and analysis.
Use case-study data and key strands of the literature, build problem-solving, communication and critical thinking.
Reflect on the use of technology in accounting and its broader professional implications.

Transferable skills

Demonstrate robust communication and interpersonal skills and the appropriate use of innovative and creative abilities.
Develop employability skills by integrating technical proficiency in a leading cloud-based accounting technology with broader digital literacy, and understanding of business actions around responsibility and integrity.
Build problem-solving capabilities, in preparation of the demands of a technology-driven accounting landscape.
Secure recognised and certified proficiency with a leading cloud accounting software.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	10 sessions of 2 hours (13%)
Supervised practical classes	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	48 hours (32%)
Assessment	73 hours (49%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Directed reading; workshop and interactive lecture preparation, private study.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Portfolio	90%	65 hours	Yes (extension)
Participation	10%	8 hours	No

Assessment group R

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Portfolio	100%		Yes (extension)
Portfolio assignment/report			

Feedback on assessment

Feedback via My.WBS.

Availability

Pre-requisites

To take this module, you must have passed:

- Any of
  - IB124-15 Introduction to Financial Accounting
  - IB133-15 Foundations of Accounting
  - IB146-15 Accounting for Business
  - IB2D3-15 Accounting in Practice

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of UECA-L1N3 BSc Economics and Management with Placement Year
- UIBA-N20B BSc in Management
  - Year 2 of N20B Management
  - Year 2 of N20B Management
  - Year 2 of N23K Management with Accounting
  - Year 2 of N234 Management with Digital Business
  - Year 2 of N235 Management with Entrepreneurship
  - Year 2 of N232 Management with Finance
  - Year 2 of N252 Management with Marketing
  - Year 2 of N23L Management with Strategy and Organisation
- Year 2 of UIBA-N400 Undergraduate Accounting and Finance
- UIBA-N404 Undergraduate Accounting and Finance (with Foundation Year and Placement/Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
  - Year 3 of N4N7 Accounting and Finance (Foundation Year and Intercalated)
  - Year 3 of N404 Accounting and Finance (Foundation Year and Placement)
  - Year 3 of N405 Accounting and Finance (Foundation Year and UPP)
  - Year 3 of N403 Accounting and Finance (with Foundation Year)
- Year 3 of UIBA-N403 Undergraduate Accounting and Finance (with Foundation Year)
- UIBA-N401 Undergraduate Accounting and Finance (with Placement Year/Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
  - Year 2 of N401 Accounting and Finance (Placement)
  - Year 2 of N402 Accounting and Finance (Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
- Year 1 of UIOA-EEU Undergraduate EU Exchange
- Year 2 of UECA-L1N2 Undergraduate Economics and Management
- Year 2 of UGEA-RN21 Undergraduate German and Business Studies
- Year 2 of UIPA-L8N1 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development and Business
- Year 2 of UIPA-L8N2 Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development and Business Studies (with Intercalated Year)
- UIBA-N20F Undergraduate International Management
  - Year 2 of N20F International Management
  - Year 2 of N20F International Management
  - Year 2 of N20S International Management (with Accounting)
  - Year 2 of N20T International Management (with Chinese)
  - Year 2 of N20P International Management (with Entrepreneurship)
  - Year 2 of N20M International Management (with Finance)
  - Year 2 of N20U International Management (with French)

    - Year 2 of N20L International Management (with Marketing)
    - Year 2 of N20V International Management (with Spanish)
    - Year 2 of N20W International Management (with Strategy and Organisation)
    - Year 2 of N20N International Management with Digital Business
    - Year 2 of N20E Management (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 2 of N234 Management with Digital Business
- UIBA-N220 Undergraduate International Management (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N220 International Management (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N221 International Management with Accounting (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N226 International Management with Chinese (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N223 International Management with Digital Business (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N224 International Management with Entrepreneurship (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N222 International Management with Finance (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N227 International Management with French (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N225 International Management with Marketing (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N228 International Management with Spanish (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N229 International Management with Strategy and Organisation (with Foundation Year)
- UIBA-N20J Undergraduate Management (with Foundation Year and Placement Year/Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
    - Year 3 of N20J Management (Foundation Year and Placement)
    - Year 3 of N20K Management (Foundation Year and UPP)
    - Year 3 of N23H Management with Digital Business (with Foundation Year and Placement Year)
    - Year 3 of N23J Management with Entrepreneurship (with Foundation Year and Placement Year)
    - Year 3 of N23G Management with Finance (with Foundation Year and Placement Year)
    - Year 3 of N255 Management with Marketing (with Foundation Year and Placement Year)
- UIBA-N20E Undergraduate Management (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N20E Management (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N23N Management with Accounting (with Foundation Year and Placement Year)
    - Year 3 of N23M Management with Accounting (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N23E Management with Digital Business (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N23F Management with Entrepreneurship (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N23D Management with Finance (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N252 Management with Marketing
    - Year 3 of N254 Management with Marketing (with Foundation Year)
    - Year 3 of N23P Management with Strategy and Organisation (with Foundation Year)
- UIBA-N20C Undergraduate Management (with Placement Year/Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
    - Year 2 of N20M International Management (with Finance)
    - Year 2 of N20B Management

    - Year 2 of N20D Management (Undergraduate Partnership Programme)
    - Year 2 of N20C Management (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N20Q Management with Accounting (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N236 Management with Digital Business (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N235 Management with Entrepreneurship
    - Year 2 of N237 Management with Entrepreneurship (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N232 Management with Finance
    - Year 2 of N233 Management with Finance (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N253 Management with Marketing (with Placement Year)
    - Year 2 of N23L Management with Strategy and Organisation
    - Year 2 of N20R Management with Strategy and Organisation (with Placement Year)
- UIOA-EOS Undergraduate Overseas Exchange
    - Year 1 of UEOS Undergraduate Overseas Exchange
    - Year 1 of UEOS Undergraduate Overseas Exchange
- Year 1 of UIOA-EUS Undergraduate USA Exchange