## ACC384 - Additional Assessment

#### Graduate report on IFRS Value: Pass/ Fail

**Due date:** 24th June, 2025

**Length:** 3,000 words – see ‘**Presentation**’ for details

#### Submission method: email: [FOBJBS-Subject-Admin@csu.edu.au](mailto:FOBJBS-Subject-Admin@csu.edu.au) Questions: Contact Emmett Berry: [eberry@csu.edu.au](mailto:eberry@csu.edu.au)

**Task**

You are a financial accountant working for the large accounting firm XYZ Ltd. The company operates in the Australia and is listed on the Australia Stock Exchange. They specialise in two service areas:

1. General purpose financial statement preparation; and  
2. Auditing financial statements.

You have been asked by your supervisor to prepare a report which includes a discussion on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The report will be read by employees joining the firm during the next annual graduate intake so they are better prepared for their new roles.  
  
To keep the report succinct, limit the discussion by focusing on the following four (4) accounts that your supervisor believes are most significant for a graduate accountant:

1. Inventories;
2. Property, plant, and equipment;
3. Employee benefits; and
4. Share-based payments.

You are to structure your report in the following format:

**1. Executive summary**  
Include, in paragraph form, a summary of:

* the purpose of the report (why it was written);
* how it was researched;
* what you found out, such as each IFRS account’s purpose and differences to United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (U.S. GAAP); and
* your justification for why these accounts are significant.

**2. Table of contents**  
List the report topics using decimal notation. Include the main headings and sub headings with corresponding page numbers, using a format that makes the hierarchy of the topics clear.

**3. Introduction**  
Prepare your readers to fully understand the report by:

* giving some background information about the topic;
* stating the aim / purpose of the investigation;
* explaining the research methods; and
* outlining the sections of the report.

**4. Discussion of IFRS, differences to U.S. GAAP, future amendments and reason for account selection**  
Using the following format, separate sub-headings and examples, discuss the following:

**4.1** IFRS requirements (related to the recognition and measurement of four (4) accounts):

**4.1.1** Inventories  
**4.1.2** Property, plant, and equipment;  
**4.1.3** Employee benefits; and  
**4.1.4** Share-based payments.

**4.2**Recognition and measurement differences between IFRS and U.S. GAAP.  
   
**4.3** Future amendments under consideration by the International Accounting Standards Board (if applicable).  
  
**4.4** Significance of the selected accounts **(**Explanation as to why the four (4) accounts selected would be significant for a graduate accountant to be aware of when they commence at XYZ Ltd).

You should refer to your textbook, online sources and additional scholarly resources in order to properly discuss each section. You are required to use in-text citations which conform to APA 7th ed. referencing style and which should include, at a minimum, the author's last name and the year of publication.  
  
Organise each section in a logical sequence: what the graduates need to know about the accounts, what are the key differences comparing U.S. GAAP and examples which illustrate what you are trying to explain.

**5. Conclusion**  
Sum up what has been discussed and the significance of your findings around the differences between each accounting practices. Do not include new information.  
  
**6. Reference list**  
All sources you referred to should be included in a reference list at the end of the report, conforming to [APA 7th ed. style referencing](https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/referencing" \t "_blank).

**NOTE: Do not include a generic cover page, restate the assessment task and/ or the Marking Criteria in your assessment. This will contribute to your Turnitin similarity percentage and may result in a Student Academic Misconduct investigation.**

#### Rationale

##### **Subject learning outcomes**

This assessment task will assess the following learning outcome/s:

* be able to critically discuss the importance of accounting to international businesses.
* be able to explain the reasons for diversity and evaluate the ways of classifying international accounting practices.
* be able to critically discuss the drivers of international harmonization of accounting practice.

##### **Graduate learning outcomes**

This task also contributes to the assessment of the following [CSU Graduate Learning Outcome/s](https://student.csu.edu.au/study/glo" \t "_blank):

* Academic Literacy and Numeracy (Application) - CSU Graduates consider the context, purpose, and audience when gathering, interpreting, constructing, and presenting information.
* Information and Research Literacies (Skill) - CSU Graduates demonstrate the skills required to locate, access and critically evaluate existing information and data.
* Digital Literacies (Skill) - CSU Graduates use, create, communicate and share multimodal information in digital environments.

#### Marking criteria and standards

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DI),**  **Credit (CR) and Pass (PS)** | **Fail (FL)** |
| **Sources of information are credible, acknowledged, traceable and the student's own work.** | At least ten (10) in-text citations and a reference list to verifiable, credible, and traceable English sources in the body of the report. | The report does not include at least ten (10) in-text citations and/ or a reference list of traceable, credible English sources in the body of the report. **This assessment will not be read and will receive 0 marks.** |

| **Criteria** | **Pass (PS and above) – SY (50%-100%)** | **Fail (FL) – US (49% - 0%)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Report Format (30%)** | Includes all six report elements: Executive Summary, Table of Contents, Introduction, Discussion, Conclusion, Reference List. Sections contain most or all required information, follow the provided format, and include relevant supporting materials (e.g., graphs, tables). | Missing one or more required report elements. Sections are incomplete or irrelevant. |
| **Executive Summary** | Addresses at least two of the four required points with clarity and relevance to a graduate accountant. Higher marks for addressing three or four points with clarity and focus. | Omits the executive summary or fails to address the majority of the required points. |
| **Table of Contents** | References most or all report elements, including figures/diagrams if present. Headings and subheadings are formatted with minor to moderate errors. | Table of contents is missing or does not correctly reference report elements. |
| **Academic Writing (Intro/Discussion/Conclusion)** | Adheres to academic writing conventions with minor to moderate errors. Higher marks for consistent and precise adherence. | Does not adhere to academic writing conventions in most sections. |
| **Headings/Subheadings** | Titles align with content and are descriptive to varying degrees. Higher marks for accuracy and clarity. | Titles are misaligned, unclear, or missing. |
| **Discussion of Accounts (55%)** | All four accounts are addressed with explanation and supporting evidence. Includes IFRS vs. U.S. GAAP comparisons, future amendments, and significance. Higher marks for comprehensive, articulate discussion and clear relevance to a graduate accountant. | One or more accounts are omitted or lack appropriate explanation and evidence. |
| **Examples and Research** | Most or all accounts include relevant examples and evidence of scholarly research. Higher marks for clarity, relevance, and depth of research. | Two or more accounts lack examples or evidence of research. |
| **Significance to Graduate Accountant** | Significance is clear and supported by references to discussion evidence. Higher marks for multiple, coherent justifications. | Significance is omitted or unsupported by evidence. |
| **Academic Writing & Referencing (15%)** | Writing has few to moderate errors that do not affect meaning. Referencing follows APA 7th ed. style with minor to moderate errors. All sources are traceable. | Writing errors affect meaning. Referencing is inconsistent or sources are not trace |

**Presentation**

Remember that in the business world the professional presentation of information is fundamental and accordingly marks will be deducted for poor presentation. Review the rules regarding plagiarism and if you are not sure contact your lecturer or the Academic Skills team for advice. There is no excuse for presenting the work of others as your own; this includes cutting and pasting material from the internet without properly referencing the source. Your report should follow these formatting guidelines:

* Spacing should be 1.5 lines;
* Arial or Calibri font preferred;
* Font size 12; and
* Within +/- 10% of the word limit.
* Header and / or footer containing the subject code, subject name, word count, assessment item number and title, student number and student name;

The Assessment cover sheet (if included), Table of contents and Reference list will not count towards your word limit.

Assessment submissions should be in MS Word format. As a CSU student you are entitled to a free copy of Microsoft Office 2016 Suite (Office 365) on up to 5 PCs or Macs and other mobile devices, including Android, iPad and Windows tablets. To find out more information and how to download go to this link: https://www.csu.edu.au/division/dit/staff/training/self-help/collaboration-and-communications/office-365  
  
The CSU Library provides an online guide to APA 7th ed. style referencing. This is the referencing style adopted by the School of Accounting and Finance. The guide can be found at: <https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/referencing>

The CSU Library has also created a Research Skills Guide to assist you with this task. This includes guidance on planning, finding scholarly information, evaluating information and how to write your report. The guide can be found at: <https://libguides.csu.edu.au/businessstudies>   
  
Please ensure to complete the footer of your report with your name and student number, and retain a copy of your report for your records.

#### Requirements

Turnitin is an electronic originality checking service offered to you and other students of CSU, comparing your assessment to billions of pages of content on the internet, in books, newspapers, scholarly journals, magazines and other student submissions.

After you submit this Additional Assessment (AA), Turnitin will be used to check for originality. If you produce a similarity of 25% or higher, your assessment will be investigated for possible plagiarism and / or collusion. If evidence of academic misconduct is found, a Student Academic Misconduct case will be lodged. If you are unsuccessful in defending the allegation(s), penalties imposed will be subject to the [Student Misconduct Rule 2020](https://policy.csu.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=501). The case may also delay your graduation from CSU.

**How to reduce your Turnitin similarity and avoid a Student Academic Misconduct investigation:**

**1)**Complete your own assessment. Do not share the work you have produced with other students.  
  
**2)**Paraphrase the original sources rather than quoting them directly. Effective paraphrasing will lower your Turnitin similarity score, increase your understanding, improve the flow of your writing, allow you to focus more acutely on responding to the actual question asked, and demonstrate your knowledge and skills so you receive a higher mark.  
  
**3)** Acknowledge all material sourced by providing traceable, credible in-text citations and a reference list that conforms with [APA 7th ed. Style](https://student.csu.edu.au/learning-skills/referencing" \t "_blank).  
  
**4)** Use Turnitin to pre-check your writing, detect similarity and revise your assessment. Instructions on how to create an account and use Turnitin can be found here: <https://www.csu.edu.au/current-students/studying/assignments-and-exams/assignments/plagiarism>