



BUS 490 INDEPENDENT STUDY – NFP ACCOUNTING RESEARCH AND SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FALL 2009

Instructor Information:

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Course description and objectives:

This independent study seeks to develop the student's understanding of the accountability reporting within the non-profit context. The student will research current literature on accountability reporting and then will apply this knowledge in developing an academic paper comparing Alberta's private universities and their accountability reporting with other schools in public jurisdictions.

Secondly, the student will assist in the development of an accounting system for a real non-profit organization. This will include setting up accounts and transferring data into the system as well as developing monthly and yearly accountability reports.

Specifically the student will cover the following areas and meet the following objectives:

1. Understand the nature of non-profit organizations and their accountability structures.
2. Understand the importance of the annual reporting mechanism in a non-profit setting.
3. Develop an actual reporting system for a non-profit organization.
4. Prepare an academic paper for possible future publication, including literature review, data collection and analysis, and reporting.

Course Requirements:

Literature Review: (15%)

Data Collection and Analysis: (20%)

Academic Paper: (35%)

Development of Accountability Reporting System: (30%)