



## ACCOUNTING TOOLS FOR MANAGEMENT

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### Course Content

This course is designed to provide an introduction to the main aspects related to business administration and, specifically, it covers the following main contents:

- The nature and goals of the firm
- Foundations of business strategy and competitiveness: key success factors, distinctive competences, and competitive advantage;
- Measuring firm performance: basics of financial statements;
- Tools for operating decision making: basics of management accounting.

### Course Schedule

The course is structured into four lectures:

<b>Lesson 1</b>	<b>Course presentation: learning objectives, structure and contents</b> <b>The nature and goals of the firm</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Needs, goods and economic activity</li><li>• The economic processes of firms</li><li>• Firms profitability</li></ul>
<b>Lesson 2</b>	<b>Foundations of business strategy and competitiveness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The business formula and its constituent elements</li></ul>
<b>Lesson 3</b>	<b>Measuring firm performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Financial reporting: the balance sheet and the income statement</li><li>• Interpreting performance indexes</li></ul>
<b>Lesson 4</b>	<b>Tools for operating decision making</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basics of management accounting</li><li>• Measuring operating risk for decision making</li></ul>
<b>Final exam</b>	Written final exam on the contents of the lectures based on a mix of short open-ended and closed (true or false, multiple choice) questions