



BEAM068 Accounting, Accounts and Accountability: examining its everyday use.
Schedule and guidance

Overview:

The purpose of this document is to provide the essential information that you will require to complete this module and to gain the most out of the experience. As such, this document specifically covers the following:

- Lecture schedule
- Literature review topics and guidance
- Submission details
- Key dates and other figures
- Virtual Office hours

Lecture Schedule:

The purpose of the lectures will be to walk you through the process that you will need to undertake, to complete the essay that you will be assessed on. This is the schedule of lectures:

Date	Lecture	Topic
Tuesday 30 May	1	Deconstructing a research article
	2	Literature reviews
Wednesday 31 May	2	Literature reviews
	3	Theory
Thursday 1 June	3	Theory
	4	Research methods
Friday 2 June	4	Research methods
	5	Critical analysis
Monday 5 June	6	Searching for relevant literature
Tuesday 6 June	7	Examining essay questions 1 and 2
Wednesday 7 June	8	Examining essay questions 3 and 4
Thursday 8 June	9	Examining essay questions 5 and 6
Friday 9 June	10	Wrapping up the module

Notes:

- Lectures in the first week are from 9:30am to 1:30pm. They are (at the time of writing) scheduled to be held in Lecture Theatre D in Streatham Court.
- Lectures in the second week are from 9:30am to 12:30pm. They are (at the time of writing) scheduled to be held in Lecture Theatre 6 in the Laver building.
- Each lecture is scheduled for three hours, but the material covered should take substantially less than this time. Any remaining time will be left open for questions and general discussion. Once all questions have been covered, the lecture will conclude.
- Due to the Bank Holiday on Monday 29th May, the lectures in the first week are scheduled for four hours per day in order that the first five lectures (usually spread across five days) can be covered over the four days available that week.
- As per usual, the PowerPoints, and any other relevant material will be available on ELE at least 24 hours prior to the actual lecture.

- In many cases there will be tasks that you will need to undertake prior to a lecture (e.g., readings). Where this is the case, you will be informed in the prior lecture. It is important that you undertake these tasks, to maximise the benefits of attending lectures.
- **Important:** As we stressed during BEAM025, attendance and engagement with the lectures are not only important but have a strong correlation to the results achieved by students. This year in BEAM025 we saw less attendance and engagement than we normally do, with a corresponding decrease (overall) in the grades achieved. Hence, we cannot encourage you enough to attend all the BEAM068 lectures and ask any questions that you may have about the material covered and the critically engaged literature review that you will undertake.

Literature review topics and guidance

This module aims for students to increase their knowledge of the importance of accounting, accounts, and accountability (the 3As) in everyday life, as well as applying such knowledge in planning, researching, and writing a critically engaged literature review, on a contemporary (3As-related) topic. As such, every student in BEAM068 will have the opportunity to complete a literature review on one of six specific questions. These questions have been selected due to their links with the syllabus of BEAM025 Advanced Management Accounting, the contemporary nature of the subject, and the interesting aspects they present for doing a literature review.

Questions:

Each student should select **ONE** (only) of the following questions to focus their literature review on:

1. Accountability is a critical feature of many aspects of modern life. Critically assess the current knowledge of accountability, also incorporating its interconnections to closely related notions of accounts and accounting.
2. Select an area of popular culture to critically assess and contrast the extent and level of knowledge in relation to the use of accounts, accounting, and accountability in this area.
3. Choose a UK public service that has been subject to ‘new public management’ in recent decades, and critically appraise the use of accounting, accounts, and accountability.
4. What do we know about the use of Natural Capital Accounting techniques?
5. Critically assess the extant knowledge of accounts, accounting, and accountability in relation to the vulnerable.
6. It can be argued that sustainable development is the defining issue of current times. Critically assess the current knowledge of accounting for sustainable development, incorporating its interconnections to the closely related notions of accounts and accountability.

Submission details

Draft Literature Review:

A draft literature review (of suggested length of 3,750 words) is to be submitted, **at the latest**, by 10am on Monday June 26th, and students will promptly receive detailed feedback from the module convenors. Early submission is fine. However, late submission will put students at risk

of receiving late feedback. Your draft literature review should be submitted via email to Stephen: s.e.jollands@exeter.ac.uk

Final Literature Review:

Students will then have an additional couple of weeks in which to independently complete their final literature review (of length 7500 words, maximum), with this due for submission, via BART, by 12pm on 14th July. Please be sure to make this deadline in good time: if you are late, the system will automatically apply a penalty and there is nothing that the convenors can do.

Notes:

- You will receive feedback on your draft literature review in the week of the submission date.
- Both convenors have other commitments from June onwards. As such, no feedback will be given on any draft literature reviews submitted after June 26th. Thus, please be aware that even if you receive an extension to your deadline for submitting the final literature review for official marking, the strict deadline for your draft remains June 26th (10am). **You are, therefore, encouraged to submit whatever draft you have by this date.**
- Neither convenor will be available to respond to email questions after the deadline date for the draft literature review (June 26th, 10am). Following feedback on your draft review literature, students work independently towards submission of the final literature review. Any general administrative queries should be directed to the Building One information hub.

Key dates and other figures:

In preparing the literature review students should be aware of the following key information:

- The draft literature review has an expected word count of around 3,750 words, and a maximum of 7,500 words.
- The maximum word limit for the final literature review is 7,500 words (-/+ 10%, in accordance with general business school assessment policy)
- Your draft literature review is due by 10am on June 26th (email to Stephen).
- Your final literature review is due by 12.00pm on July 14th (submit via BART).

Virtual Office Hours:

Naturally, there will be plenty of opportunity during weeks starting 30th May and 5th June, for students to ask questions in class. We insist that module-related questions are asked within class when time will be made available by the convenors. The convenors do not wish to be taking individual questions, at the lectern, in UEBS corridors, or elsewhere, at the end of class. It is highly likely that your question will be helpful to others.

Additionally, there will be a virtual office hour held on Monday 3rd July, from 10am to 12pm. This virtual office hours will be held via 'Teams'. You should have already received a meeting invite from Teams for this. The purpose of this virtual office hours is to give students a final opportunity to ask any questions about material covered in the lectures, about your literature review, or any other module-related question. If we are receiving email questions that we think are better off answered within this (virtual office hours) forum, we will defer them to the office hours rather than replying to the email.

Notes:

- The virtual office hours are available for all students to attend (even just to listen to others) but is not mandatory.

- If there are no questions, comments and/or interaction from students for more than 10 minutes, then the virtual office hours will be closed.
- As above, there will be substantial time given for questions during the scheduled lectures. Hence, this virtual office hours constitutes an additional, and final, chance to ask any questions that you may have.
- Please do make the most of this virtual office hours if you have questions. As outlined above, although you will receive timely feedback on your draft literature review, neither convenor will be available to respond to email questions after the deadline date for the draft literature review (June 26th, 10am).