

Group Classroom Exercise #1

Gathering Data for Financial Analysis

ACCT 416, Spring 2026

Prepared by Professor Tony Aaron

Due Date, Grading : Your **Word Answer Sheet** and Excel Spreadsheets/PDFs/HTML files must be turned in as attachments via email to aarona@marshall.usc.edu prior to the start of class (Either 8:00am or 10:00am Pacific time, for 14106 and 14107, respectively) on the date specified in the syllabus. Each group exercise will be graded, based upon a maximum score of 40 points (4% of your ultimate grade). There will be a total of five classroom exercises, plus a group presentation (near the end of the semester) of your cumulative findings for the company you have chosen for your group, based upon the results of your work on the five exercises.

Instructions: Please answer each question in a narrative fashion using a **Word file**. Do not convert the file to PDF or any other format. Include your group number and the names of your group members at the beginning of your deliverable(s). Use Excel spreadsheets, PDFs or HTML files in responding the Exercise described below. Use the following naming conventions, for the Word file, xml file, pdf file and Excel file, respectively:

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 8am S26 Narrative.docx

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 8am S26 Edgar.html

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 8am S26 Website.pdf

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 8am S26 Company Name.xlsx

Or...

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 10am S26 Narrative.docx

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 10am S26 Edgar.html

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 10am S26 Website.pdf

ACCT 416 Classroom Exercise 1 Group X 10am S26 Company Name.xlsx

Please email these files to me as attachments at aarona@marshall.usc.edu.

Questions:

1. In your own words, describe why business analysis and financial statement analysis would be important to Equity Investors.
2. In your own words, describe what aspects of financial statement analysis are most critical to creditors (of a company) and why.
3. In your own words, describe what aspects of financial statement analysis are of relevance to company management and list at least three purposes for financial statement analysis from the perspective of company management.
4. List the four primary financial statements of a company and in your own words, describe briefly the purpose/function of each of these four types of financial statements.
5. List four of the primary ongoing disclosures required under the Federal Securities laws, and in your own words, provide a brief description of each.

Exercise:

Choose a US publicly traded company, having at least five years of history as a public registrant, which exhibits profitable earnings performance. Access Edgar on the SEC Website and download as an HTML file, the company's most recent Annual Form 10-K. Access the same Company's Website and download as a PDF, the company's most recent Annual Report (not the 10-K, but the "Glossy" report furnished directly to shareholders. If your company does not publish an Annual Report, provide a PDF of the most recent version of whatever the Company furnishes to shareholders on an annual basis-e.g. Chairman's Letter or the company's Proxy Statement- Schedule 14A). Access a data aggregator (Such as FactSet or Capital IQ) and download into an Excel file, the last five years of Income Statements, Balance Sheets and Cash Flow Statements on a summarized basis (The Marshall Library should be able to provide you, as a USC Leventhal/Marshall School student, with free access to a data aggregator). I recommend downloading the "as reported" version vs. the "adjusted" version. These files are to be attached (together with your Word Answer Sheet) to your e-mail submission.