**Chapter 1**

**The Demand for Audit and Other Assurance Services**

Usually students will not have read Chapter 1 before the material is covered. As a policy, we always give students the entire scheduled time on the first day of class. In addition to getting a seating chart set up (which we always use), and handling the course procedures, we attempt to cover the following major topics in the chapter:

**Chapter Opening Vignette — “Auditors Have a Great Responsibility”**

We use this vignette about Cynthia Cooper and WorldCom to highlight the important role that internal and external auditors play in preventing fraud. We describe how WorldCom followed immediately after the Enron fraud, and resulted in the passage of the Sarbanes–Oxley Act and new regulation of public companies and their auditors. We do not discuss the audit failures that preceded the enactment of the Sarbanes–Oxley Act. We prefer to emphasize the responsibility of auditors, and the positive role that auditors play in providing assurance on financial statements.

**Nature of Auditing** (page 4)

Start by asking students to tell you what auditing is. A student’s own definition is then displayed. Other students are asked to discuss it until there is a reasonably usable definition. The three things that should be stressed are:

a. Evidence (define the term)

b. Information

c. Determining degree of correspondence

Students tend to think of auditing as auditing financial statements by CPA firms in accordance with GAAS or other auditing standards. We therefore use **Figure 1-1** on page 5, to discuss the definition.

**(See Figure 1-1; shown on Slide 1-10)**

We also like to display the matrix on **OH-1-1** and go through it with the students. As a part of this, students are briefly introduced to IRS auditors, CPAs, and internal auditors. None of this is usually lecture.

**(See OH-1-1)**

After you have gone over this information, refer students to the definition of auditing as included on **Slide 1-5**. Briefly talk about the importance of:

 Competence and independence of auditor (Chapter 4)

 Need to report on findings (Chapters 3, 24, and 25)

**Distinction between Auditing and Accounting** (page 6)

We spend little time on the distinction between accounting and auditing, but it is at least desirable to point out the differences and relationship between the two. Then ask why auditors need to have knowledge of accounting to be effective auditors. See Review Question 1-7.

**Economic Demand for Auditing** (page 6)

We like to spend a few minutes discussing the economic role of auditors in society in Chapter 1. Refer back to this material again in Chapter 5 (legal liability) and Chapter 9 (materiality and risk).

First, go over the three factors determining interest rates, with emphasis on information risk. Use **OH-1-2** to summarize the material in the text. It is useful to discuss the effect on earnings of reducing an organization’s interest rate by 1 or 2%. Problem 1-17 is useful for demonstrating the level of assurance associated with audits and reviews, and the effect of these services on information risk and borrowing costs.

**(See OH-1-2)**

**Assurance Services** (page 8)

We start by asking students to describe assurance services. The term will be unfamiliar to most students, but some may recognize the concept. We use **Figure 1-3** on page 12, as a framework for discussing the following services:

 Assurance services

 Attestation services

 Audits of historical financial statements

 Attestation on internal control over financial reporting

 Management consulting and other nonassurance services

**(See Figure 1-3; shown on Slide 1-28)**

We then cover Problem 1-16 in class to help students distinguish assurance, attestation, and audit services.

Ask students to suggest other types of information on which users may desire assurance and the most likely provider of the assurance. **OH-1-3** can be used to list their responses. To start the discussion, we often name one or two types of assurance that aren’t provided by CPAs, such as gas pump inspections and Arbitron radio ratings. Ask students to suggest reasons why the demand for assurance is increasing. **Table 1-1** (page 11), or examples included on **Slide** **1-27**, are helpful for identifying other types of assurance services that may be provided by CPAs.

**(See OH-1-3)**

**(See Table 1-1; or examples on Slide 1-27)**

Problem 1-18 can be covered in class to give students a perspective on the similarity between assurance services offered by CPAs and the role played by organizations such as Consumers Union.

**Types of Audits and Auditors** (page 12, page 15)

Most students at our universities know little of the types of auditors and the nature of CPA firms. In a brief lecture, we tell the students:

 The nature of financial, operational, and compliance audits

 The primary differences between independent CPAs, government auditors, internal revenue agents, and internal auditors

**OH-1-1,** **Table 1-2** (page 13), or **Slides 1-31 to 1-33** can be used as part of this discussion. Problem 1-20 is a good one to use in class as part of a discussion about careers in accounting. Problem 1-21 can also be used to help distinguish the types of audits, and the auditor most likely to perform the audit.

**(See OH-1-1)**

**(See Table 1-2)**

**(See Slides 1-31 to 1-33)**

**Certified Public Accountant** (page 17)

We talk briefly about why some people want to be a CPA. We also tell them briefly about the exam requirements and the format of the computerized exam.

We then review the CPA Exam eligibility requirements in our state. We encourage students to visit the CPA Examination portion of the AICPA website (www.aicpa.org) to learn more about the exam and obtain the *CPA Candidate Bulletin*. We find students appreciate this information and it saves us a lot of time in the office telling them the same thing individually.

**CHAPTER 1**

1-4

**CROSS-REFERENCE OF LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND PROBLEM MATERIAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEARNING OBJECTIVES** | **REVIEW QUESTIONS** | **MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS** | **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS** | **CASES** |
| **1-1**  Describe auditing. | 1-5, 1-6 | 1-14 | 1-19 |  |
| **1-2** Distinguish between auditing and accounting. | 1-7 |  |  |  |
| **1-3** Explain the importance of auditing in reducing information risk. | 1-2, 1-3 | 1-14 | 1-17, 1-18,  1-22 |  |
| **1-4** List the causes of information risk, and explain how this risk may be reduced. | 1-4, 1-13 |  | 1-18 |  |
| **1-5** Describe assurance services and distinguish audit services from other assurance and nonassurance services provided by CPAs. | 1-1, 1-10 | 1-14 | 1-16, 1-18,  1-22 |  |
| **1-6** Differentiate the three main types of audits. | 1-8, 1-9,  1-10 | 1-15 | 1-21, 1-22 |  |
| **1-7** Identify the primary types of auditors. | 1-6, 1-9,  1-11 | 1-15 | 1-20, 1-21, |  |
| **1-8** Describe the requirements for becoming a CPA. | 1-12 |  |  |  |

**INFORMATION BEING AUDITED,  
TYPE OF AUDITOR, CRITERIA,  
AND NATURE OF EVIDENCE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **INFORMA-TION BEING AUDITED** | **WHO PERFORMS THE AUDIT** | **CRITERIA TO DETERMINE CORRE-SPONDENCE** | **NATURE OF EVIDENCE USED** |
| **Tax Return of an Individual** |  |  |  |
| **Financial Statements of a Corporation** |  |  |  |
| **Efficiency and Effective­ness of a Computer Installation** |  |  |  |

**ECONOMIC DEMAND FOR AUDITING**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors Deter­mining Interest Rate** |  | **Risk Free Interest Rate** | **+** | **Business Risk** | **+** | **Informa­tion Risk** |

**INFORMATION RISK**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CAUSES** | **WAYS TO REDUCE** |
| **⚫ Remoteness  of Information**  **⚫ Biases and  Motives of Provider**  **⚫ Voluminous Data**  **⚫ Complex Exchange Transactions** | **⚫ User Verifies Information**  **⚫ User Shares Information Risk  with Management**  **⚫ Information is  Audited** |

**INFORMATION AND SOURCE OF ASSURANCE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **INFORMATION** | **ASSURER** |
| **Example: Number of radio listeners** | **Arbitron** |