

Product Name **MyAccountingLab**

Course Name **Financial Accounting**

Credit Hours **Four**

### Key Results

A positive correlation between exams scores and homework scores indicates that students who work on homework until they've mastered the material perform better on exams. Students who complete practice assignments at least 50 percent of the time earn an average of 13 points higher on exams.

### Text

*Horngrén's Accounting*, 10e, Tracie L. Nobles, Brenda L. Mattison, and Ella Mae Matsumura

### Implementation

Financial Accounting is a required course for all business majors. The course introduces students to business decision-making and accounting information systems with an emphasis on the analyzing, summarizing, reporting, and interpreting of financial information. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare financial statements, understand the role of financial information in decision making, and address ethical considerations.

Our department adopted MyAccountingLab in 2009 after having used another program. All of my assessments take place in MyAccountingLab, including the final exam. For each chapter, I create a homework assignment that includes both concept questions and accounting problems. I allow students three attempts on their homework so that they have an opportunity to learn from their mistakes. I do not accept late homework. Exams cover two chapters. I give six exams throughout the semester and drop the lowest exam grade for each student. The final exam is comprehensive.

Each homework assignment contains a link to a corresponding practice assignment that does not contribute to the course grade. However, the problems therein are similar to the exam questions and I encourage students to use them to study for exams.

*“[Before MyAccountingLab] I spent ten hours each week on grading. Now I spend those ten hours focusing on my students.”*

### Assessments

50 percent	MyAccountingLab exams
30 percent	MyAccountingLab homework
20 percent	MyAccountingLab comprehensive final exam

### Results and Data

I found a positive correlation between homework scores and exam scores, which indicates that those students who continued working on their homework until they mastered the concepts performed better on their exams (figure 1). In addition, those students who took advantage of the additional practice assignments at least 50 percent of the time averaged 13 points higher on their exams (figure 2). I no longer have to curve course grades—students are performing better and no curve is needed.

MyAccountingLab also saves me a great deal of time. Before we used technology, I assigned and graded homework for my classes. I spent ten hours each week on grading. Now I spend those ten hours focusing on my students.

*“MyAccountingLab includes a multitude of resources that make my life—and my students’ lives—much easier.”*

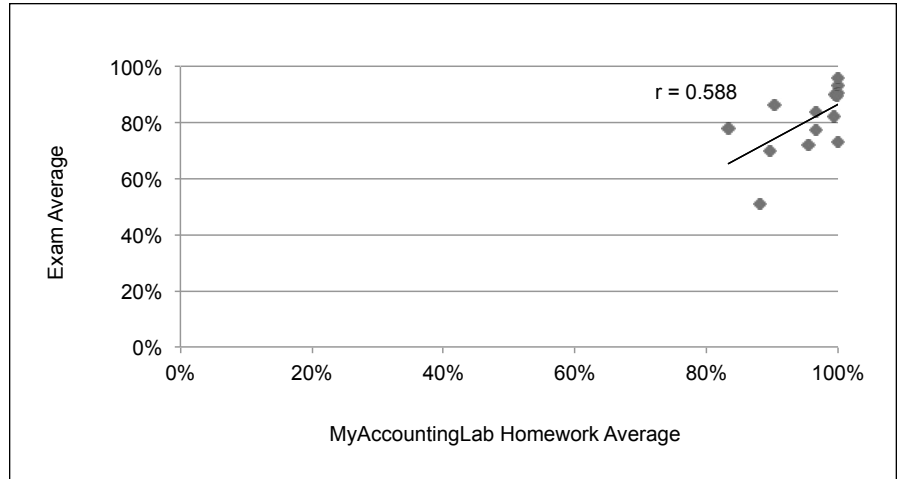


Figure 1. Correlation between Average Homework Score and Average Exam Score (n=15)

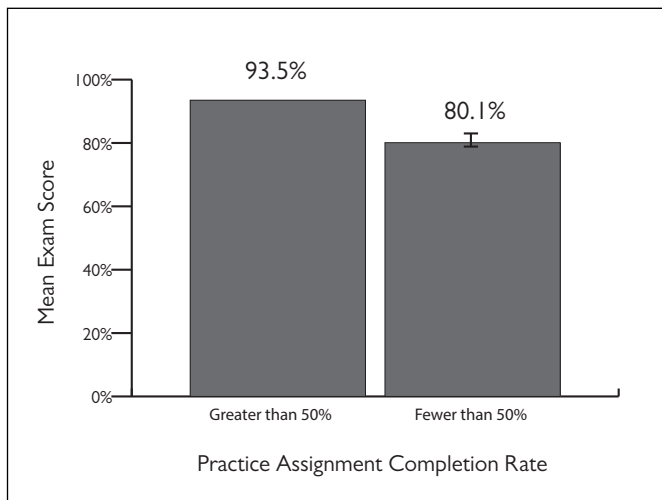


Figure 2. Mean Exam Scores Based upon Assignment Completion Rates

### The Student Experience

Students appreciate the instant feedback that MyAccountingLab provides. They are able to identify their errors much more easily than they can with paper-and-pencil homework and this reduces their anxiety. In addition, they love the Demo Docs and the videos—these two features are particularly helpful for online students who do not have the benefit of a live lecture.

Our students use another program in Intermediate Accounting, because MyAccountingLab is not available for that course. Students report that they find the other program cumbersome compared to MyAccountingLab, which they find engaging and user friendly.

### Conclusion

MyAccountingLab includes a multitude of resources that make my life easier and engage my students, which leads to improved outcomes. As a result, we are now using MyAccountingLab for our cost accounting and tax courses, as well.

*Submitted by Christy Land  
Catawba Valley Community College*