WHY STUDY ACCOUNTING?
Accounting is primarily the study of small business activity. The students enjoy a practical and experimental course where much of the learning is completed through ‘doing’ and often in the context of meaningful, ‘real life’ situations. It is believed that business oriented skills are helpful in today’s society as many of our country’s business undertakings are represented by small business enterprises.

The study of Accounting should benefit students because it:
• provides a foundation in the discipline of accounting
• promotes the development of numeracy, effective communication and logical reasoning
• introduces students to relevant technologies
• enables students to participate more effectively and responsibly in a changing business environment
• provides information useful to individuals in the management of their personal financial affairs
• assists students to appreciate the necessity for accuracy and the presentation of high-quality work
• prepares students for further education, training and employment

WHAT IS STUDIED IN ACCOUNTING?
During the course, students will study basic principles relative to small business:
• principles of double-entry accounting
• preparation of accounting records and reports to show cash flow, profit and financial position
• use of technologies relevant to the preparation of accounting records and reports – accounting packages and spreadsheets
• control of the major financial elements of a business – cash, credit transactions, inventories and non-current assets.
• analysis and interpretation reports in order to make decisions.

HOW IS ACCOUNTING STUDIED?
The learning experiences involved in Accounting reflect the active and practical nature of the course. Students are involved in a wide range of learning activities to achieve the aims and objectives of the subject. Together with many of the more traditional teaching and learning activities, students may be involved in activities which include practice class sets, case studies, use of computers, assignments and projects, guest speakers, videos, statistics and data analysis.

The learning experiences often present students with realistic accounting situations and encourage them to develop their knowledge and skills and express opinions about accounting issues.

HOW ARE STUDENTS ASSESSED?
Three criteria with equal weighting are used to record information relating to student performance:
Criterion 1 Knowledge, Interpretation and Evaluation
Criterion 2 Routine Practical Procedures
Criterion 3 Challenging Practical Applications

For students completing the course, results from Semester 1 will not be used when determining a final Level of Achievement in Year 12. This allows the student to develop the necessary foundation skills to complete the course.

To measure the students’ performance levels, a variety of assessment instruments will be used:
• multiple choice/short answer tests
• extended writing – essays, reports on case studies etc.
• practical work including computer applications
• assignments

WHERE MIGHT ACCOUNTING LEAD?
This course is not a prerequisite for entry into tertiary study in accounting. Students of Senior Accounting would, however, find it useful preparation for a number of tertiary business courses such as those in management, law, international business, marketing and retailing.