

Accounting 484: Environmental Accounting

Short Writing Assignment Examples

Assignment 1:

As you read "The History of a Cup of Coffee," look for 3 or 4 parts of the history that are recorded in the accounting records and 3 or 4 parts of the history that are not recorded in the accounting records. Describe these items and discuss the implications for accounting, keeping in mind the ideas discussed in the other articles for today's reading. How can the accounting profession improve the way in which the environmental impacts of products, such as coffee, are reported to the public?

Assignment 2:

What are the ethical issues in the Specialty Glass case?

Referring to the ethical perspectives from class discussion and the readings. What ethical perspective is the management of Specialty Glass likely to be following in their decision making process? Explain? Choose a different ethical perspective from the readings than the one you think they follow. How would their decisions and accounting change when evaluating their situation from that different ethical perspective.

This essay reflects your opinion, but you should include at least two citations from articles in the essay to back up your views.

Assignment 3:

On April 5, we will begin discussing an environmental disaster, including a look at the issues and the stakeholders. You will then be assigned a stakeholder role. From the point of view of your stakeholder role, write about the "stake." What is important to you regarding this issue? What are your needs in terms of transparency and accountability? What should be the financial and non-financial reporting requirements for the company/companies involve from your perspective. This essay should be about 300-400 words in length. Be prepared to role play in class. Bring a prop that represents your role.

Assignment 4:

Based on everything we've done in class so far, write on the following question: Are accountants part of the problem or part of the solution to environmental challenges? This essay reflects your opinion, but you should include at least two citations from the reading materials in the essay to back up your views. Your essay should clearly state your thesis in its introduction. Also, you will need two or three arguments that back up your thesis. Organization, grammar, and (most importantly) content will impact your grade.