Department of Accounting

The accounting profession continues to be recognized as one of the world’s leading professions and as one offering many opportunities for a challenging career. The major challenge confronting the accounting profession today is the continuous development of accounting and information systems that can be utilized by business firms operating in an increasingly complex global environment. Within this environment, business firms and government units are generating and utilizing information at an accelerating rate.

A degree in accounting provides the opportunity for entry into a career offering a variety of different and challenging paths. Many accounting graduates are employed by public accounting firms that provide assurance, tax and other services to all types of organizations. Other accounting graduates pursue careers with business firms and financial institutions, with all levels of government and as accounting educators. All of these careers provide an opportunity to earn the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license and to serve society by maintaining the highest levels of integrity. The program listed in the following tables for the junior and senior years leads to the Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA) degree. This degree program provides the minimum credentials necessary for entry into most accounting careers. However, the BBA degree does not meet the requirements to sit for the CPA examination in Texas.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) recognizes the need for technically competent graduates entering the accounting profession. In response to the recommendations of the AICPA, other professional accounting organizations, and many professional accounting firms, the State of Texas requires candidates for the CPA certificate to have a minimum of 150 semester hours of college coursework, including at least 36 hours of accounting courses. As a consequence, highly motivated students are encouraged to give serious consideration to pursuing advanced studies at the graduate level to enhance their potential for a successful accounting career.

The Department of Accounting offers an integrated Professional Program that students enter during their junior year. The Professional Program offers a curriculum integrating undergraduate and graduate education. Graduates receive a BBA and a Master of Science degree (MS). This program offers opportunities for successful and motivated students to pursue academic coursework that challenges both their interests and abilities. The courses are taught by experienced faculty with superior teaching and professional credentials and are limited in class size.

The objectives of the Professional Program include developing sound conceptual, technical, analytical and communication skills that are required for success in the accounting profession. The program develops decision making and teamwork skills through extensive use of discussions and case studies. The program enables the student to select a specialization in assurance services/information management, information systems, financial management, marketing, entrepreneurship, or taxation. Each track offers the student an opportunity to participate in a professional accounting internship.

The department also offers a traditional Master’s Program (MS in Accounting) that students enter after completion of the Bachelor’s degree. For more details about the Professional Program or the Master’s Program, refer to the Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional Catalog or contact the director of the Professional Program in the Department of Accounting.

Faculty

Ahmed, Anwer, Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Rochester, 1992

Allen, Natalie, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 1988

Barrett, Jeannie, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
MBA, Sam Houston State University, 2002

Benjamin, James, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Indiana University, 1972

Blasor, Tara, Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 2007

Deer, Shannon, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 2004

Diaz, Michelle, Clinical Assistant Professor
Accounting
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2005

Ege, Matthew, Assistant Professor
Accounting
PhD, The University of Texas of Austin, 2013

Farmer, Karen, Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 2009

Fiechtner, Susan, Clinical Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Oklahoma, 1982

Flagg, James, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, Texas A&M University, 1988

Foster, Courtney, Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 2008

Giroux, Gary, Professor
Accounting
DBA, Texas Tech University, 1979

Grossman, Steven, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, Tufts University, 1972

Kinney, Michael, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Arizona, 1990
Knoop, Jacqueline, Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 1997

Lassila, Dennis, Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Minnesota, 1981

Loudner, Martha, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Arizona State University, 1990

McAnally, Mary, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Stanford University, 1994

McGowan, Annie, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of North Texas, 1994

McGuire, Sean, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Georgia, 2008

Moore, Morgan, Lecturer
Accounting
MAC, University of Texas, Austin, 2008

Myers, Adam, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
JD, Harvard Law School, 1985

Nafstad, April, Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 1997

Nixon, Clair, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Texas A&M University, 1980

Phinney, Theresa, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
MCS, Texas A&M University, 1984

Ray, Korok, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, Stanford Graduate School of Business, 2004

Redman, Karen, Executive Professor
Accounting
BBA, Texas A&M University, 1980

Rees, Lynn, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Arizona State University, 1993

Rhodes, Adrienne, Assistant Professor
Accounting
PhD, Pennsylvania State University, 2013

Rice, Sarah, Assistant Professor
Accounting
PhD, Ohio State University, 2007

Roach, Kevin, Executive Professor
Accounting
BS, State University of New York at Albany, 1973

Sanders, Joan, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
MS, Texas A&M University, 1990

Sharp, Nathan, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Texas, 2007

Shaub, Michael, Clinical Professor
Accounting
MS, Texas Tech University, 1983

Shearon, Winston, Visiting Professor
Accounting
DBA, University of Virginia, 1974

Stasny, Mary, Senior Lecturer
Accounting
PhD, Texas A&M University, 2010

Strawser, Jerry, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Texas A&M University, 1985

Strawser, Robert, Professor
Accounting
DBA, University of Maryland, 1969

Swanson, Edward, Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Wisconsin, 1977

Torno, Tim, Executive Professor
Accounting
MBA, Texas A&M University, 1993

Tse, Senyo, Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of California, Berkeley, 1983

Wang, Dechun, Associate Professor
Accounting
PhD, University of Missouri, 2004

Weaver, Constance, Professor
Accounting
PhD, Arizona State University, 1997

Wolfe, Christopher, Professor
Accounting
DBA, Kent State University, 1984

Yust, Christopher, Assistant Professor
Accounting
PHD, The University of Texas of Austin, 2015

Majors

• Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting
Professional Program in Accounting

- Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Master of Science in Accounting

Certificates

- Energy Accounting Certificate

Masters

- Master of Science in Accounting

Courses

ACCT 209 Survey of Accounting Principles
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Accounting survey for non-business majors; non-technical accounting procedures, preparation and interpretation of financial statements and internal control. May not be used to satisfy degree requirements for majors in business. Business majors who choose to take this course must do so on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Prerequisite: ACCT 209.

ACCT 229 Introductory Accounting
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
(ACCT 2301, 2401) Introductory Accounting. Analysis, recording and reporting of business transactions; partnership and corporation accounting; analysis and use of financial statements. Prerequisite: Sophomore classification.

ACCT 230 Introductory Accounting
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
(ACCT 2302, 2402) Introductory Accounting. Continuation of ACCT 229. Use of budgets; introduction to cost accounting; cost control techniques and methods of measuring performance. Prerequisites: ACCT 229 and sophomore classification.

ACCT 310 PERSONAL BUDGETING
Credits 2.2 Lecture Hours.

ACCT 315 Intermediate Accounting for Non-Accounting Majors I
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Revenue recognition, principles of asset valuation, and disclosure requirements for corporations; interpretation of financial statements, rather than their preparation. May not be used as a directed or free elective for accounting majors and does not count towards the accounting requirement for the CPA exam. Prerequisite: ACCT 230 and admission to upper division in Mays Business School.

ACCT 316 Intermediate Accounting for Non-Accounting Majors II
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Includes the measurement and disclosure requirements for liabilities and stockholders’ equity, SEC registration statements, and cash flow reporting; focus on the analysis and interpretation of financial statements rather than their preparation. Does not qualify as a directed or free elective for accounting majors and does not count towards the accounting requirement for the CPA exam. Prerequisite: ACCT 315 or ACCT 327.

ACCT 320 Accounting Communications
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Development of oral and written communication skills prerequisite to successful careers in public and corporate accounting. Prerequisite: Admission to Professional Program.

ACCT 321 Professional Development Seminar
Credits 2.2 Lecture Hours.
Exposure to professional issues of professional accounting practice using a workshop format. Prerequisite: Admission to Professional Program.

ACCT 322 Professional Development Seminar – BBA
Credit 1.1 Lecture Hour.
Exposure to professional issues in the practice of accounting, including potential careers and employers. Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 327 Financial Reporting I
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Study of theoretical basis for financial accounting concepts and principles related to financial reporting; emphasizing income measurement and accounting for assets. BBA accounting majors must earn a minimum grade of C for graduation. Prerequisite: ACCT 230 and admission to upper division in Mays Business School.

ACCT 328 Financial Reporting II
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Continued study of accounting concepts and principles related to reporting long-debt and owners’ equity; including reporting issues of leases, retirement benefits, income taxes and international accounting standards. Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 329 Cost Management and Analysis
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Theory, concepts and methods relating to use of information and design of systems to aid managers in planning, controlling, decision making, evaluating performance and reporting financial results. Prerequisite: ACCT 315 or ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 403 Energy Accounting
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of the oil and gas industry and specialized financial accounting procedures associated with the industry; emphasis on accounting for exploration, development, production, depletion and amortization, joint operations, asset impairment and retirement obligation; includes reserve accounting/disclosure related to the above topics. Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 405 Income Tax
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Introduction to federal income tax legislation pertaining primarily to corporations and individuals. Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.
ACCT 407 Auditing
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Introduction to auditing theory and procedures pertaining to financial statements, in the context of both external auditing, by certified public accountants, and internal auditing; preparation of working papers.
Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 408 Internal Auditing
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Reading and evaluation of current theory and procedures used by internal auditors; selected case studies; statistical methods of forming auditing judgment.
Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 410 Fraud Examination
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Principles and methodologies of detecting and deterring fraud using accounting, auditing, and investigative skills; includes skimming, larceny, misappropriations, fraudulent statements, interviewing witnesses and support for litigation.
Prerequisites: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better; junior or senior classification.

ACCT 421 Critical Communication Skills for Accountants
Credits 2.2 Lecture Hours.
Development of oral and written communication skills prerequisite to successful careers in public and corporate accounting.
Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 425 Corporate Tax Planning
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Integration of tax regulations into overall corporate finance planning and decision making cycle.
Prerequisite: ACCT 405.

ACCT 426 Taxation of Low-Income Filers
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Overview of the Federal income tax and its impact on low-income filers; includes socio-economic forces impacting low-income families and individuals; topics explored through community service and academic learning.
Prerequisites: Admission to upper division in Mays Business School and approval of instructor.

ACCT 427 Accounting and Financial Information Systems
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Overall data flow systems emphasizing financial data and computerized systems, for accounting majors; flow and logic concepts, developing meaningful control concepts and data reporting techniques.
Prerequisite: ACCT 327 with a grade of C or better.

ACCT 445/IBUS 445 International Accounting
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Introduction and examination of accounting issues unique to multinational enterprises and international business activity.
Prerequisites: ACCT 315 or ACCT 327; FINC 341.

ACCT 447/FINC 447 Financial Statement Analysis
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Development of an analytical approach to financial statements, integrating relevant finance and accounting concepts and principles; current topics in financial analysis.
Prerequisites: ACCT 315 or ACCT 327; FINC 341 with a grade of C or better.
Cross Listing: FINC 447/ACCT 447.

ACCT 450 Accounting Ethics
Credits 3.3 Lecture Hours.
Integration of ethical reasoning, objectivity, independence and other core values into the development of a professional accountant; critical analysis of the ethical lapses which have occurred in business and the accounting profession; exploring ways to integrate ethical behavior into professional life.
Prerequisites: ACCT 328; junior or senior classification.

ACCT 484 Accounting Internship
Credits 3.6 Other Hours.
A practicum in accounting under the supervision of accounting practitioners; one semester program for each student participant. Free elective only and must be taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.
Prerequisites: Accounting major and approval of department head.

ACCT 485 Directed Studies
Credits 1 to 3, 1 to 3 Other Hours.
Directed study of selected problems in the area of accounting not covered in other courses.
Prerequisites: Accounting major and approval of department head.

ACCT 489 Special Topics in...
Credits 1 to 4, 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.
Selected topics in an identified area of accounting. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: Admission to upper division in Mays Business School and approval of instructor.

ACCT 491 Research
Credits 1 to 4, 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.
Research conducted under the direction of an accounting faculty member in Mays Business School or a faculty member in the Office of Undergraduate Research. May be repeated one time for credit.
Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.