



Accounting Major - General Track

WHAT IT IS

The accounting profession plays an essential role in a modern economy by providing a flow of financial information necessary for problem solving and decision-making by managers within an organization and by investors, leaders, and government agencies.

Accountants are important members of an organization's decision-making team. Managers rely on accountants for financial planning, budgeting, and interpretation of financial results. Students learn how to provide information that is relevant and appropriate for a variety of decisions that managers must make.

Investors, lenders, government agencies, and other external parties also rely on accountants and auditors to provide accurate and reliable financial statements about an organization. Students learn how to apply accounting concepts, standards, and regulations in preparing, auditing, and analyzing financial statements.

Because accounting is an information system, there is substantial emphasis in the program on computer and information technology skills, including the use of accounting, spreadsheet, and database applications as well as the use of technology for accounting and tax research.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Accounting seeks to produce graduates who have professional, analytical, and managerial skills in accounting, and who adapt to the changing demands of business and society and contribute to knowledge and practice in accounting through professional activities.

Students will

- Understand the role of accounting and auditing in business organizations, the economy, and society;
- Understand the market for accounting and auditing services and the variety of career paths for accountants and auditors;
- Understand basic concepts and theory, including performance measurement and reporting;

- Understand fundamental accounting, auditing, and tax standards and regulations as they apply to recording transactions and preparing financial and tax reports;
- Be able to prepare, interpret, analyze, and effectively communicate financial and managerial information for planning and control, investing, and financial decisions—the fundamental characteristics of the program covered in all courses taught;
- Understand how accounting systems are designed and used to conduct and control operations;
- Be able to use accounting systems and tools appropriately and effectively;
- Understand concepts and methods used in internal control and the auditing process;
- Integrate the ethical responsibility of accountants in fulfilling professional duties;
- Understand how society, politics, economics, and legislation effect the development of accounting and auditing standards and tax regulations;
- Possess sufficient technical knowledge necessary for obtaining relevant entry-level accounting positions; and
- Be able to use library resources, technology, and electronic databases for continuous learning and staying abreast of changes in the environment in which accountants operate.

THE PROGRAM

General Requirements - Years One and Two (54-credits)

- ENL 101, 102 Critical Writing and Reading I, II (6-credits)
- MTH 103 Finite Math (3-credits)
- MGT 212 Business Statistics (3-credits)
- MIS 101 The Business Organization (3-credits)
- ENL 265 Business Communications (3-credits)
- ECO 231, 232 Principles of Micro/Macroeconomics (6-credits)
- ACT 211, 212 Principles of Accounting I, II (6-credits)
- Cultural/artistic literacy (9-credits)
- Diversity course (3-credits)
- Natural science/technology (6-credits)
- Social science electives (6-credits)

Core Business Requirements (24-credits)

MKT 211	Principles of Marketing (3-credits)
MGT 311	Organizational Behavior (3-credits)
MIS 315	Information Systems (3-credits)
MGT 333	Quantitative Business Analysis (3-credits)
FIN 312	Financial Management (3-credits)
MGT 312	Legal Framework of Business (3-credits)
MGT 345	Operations Management (3-credits)
MGT 490	Strategic Management and Policy Formulation (3-credits)

Core Accounting Requirements (24-credits)

ACT 311, 312	Intermediate Accounting I, II (6-credits)
ACT 351	Cost Accounting (3-credits)
ACT 355	Accounting & Information Systems (3-credits)
ACT 401	Auditing (3-credits)
ACT 411	Taxation (3-credits)

Choose 2 of the next 6 courses (6-credits)

ACT 454	Financial Statement Analysis OR
ACT 412	Advanced Taxation OR
ACT 421	Advanced Financial Accounting OR
ACT 431	Advanced Managerial Accounting OR
ACT 441	Government and Non-Profit Accounting OR
FIN 493	Financial Management of Corporations

Accounting/Business Elective (3-credits)

Any 300- or 400-level course in College of Business, except MIS 315.

Non-Business Electives (15-credits)

Courses outside the College of Business

Total credits: 120

CAREERS AND FURTHER STUDY

The accounting program provides a strong foundation for pursuit of a career in private or public accounting, or for further education in graduate school. In private accounting, students may prepare for certification as a Certified Management Accountant (CMA). Preparation for a career as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) has been enhanced by state regulations that now require 150 hours of education prior to certification. Students interested in a public accounting career should talk with a faculty member to consider ways of achieving the 150-hour requirement.

For more information about the Accounting Major offered through Professional & Continuing Education, please contact Barbara Brown, academic advisor, **508-678-3636** or **bbrown@umassd.edu**.