

Accounting

Overview

Accountants help ensure firms are run efficiently, public records kept accurately, and taxes paid properly. They analyze and communicate financial information for firms, individuals, and governments. Many accountants also offer budget analysis, financial and investment planning, information technology consulting, and limited legal services. Coursework in accounting covers financial accounting, managerial accounting, taxes, and the use of accounting information systems. Many accounting undergraduates pursue a Master's in Accounting (MAcc); in Utah, a master's degree qualifies students to prepare for the examination to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

At the University of Utah's David Eccles School of Business, we are proud to note that our accounting program is ranked among the Top 25 nationally, at both the undergraduate and master's levels.

Accounting Major Courses

Courses in the accounting major consist of the following: MATH 1100, ACCTG 5110, ACCTG 5120, ACCTG 5130, ACCTG 5140, ACCTG 5210, ACCTG 5310, ACCTG 5410, ACCTG 5510 & FINAN 4550. These courses are typically offered every semester.

ACCTG 5110 – Financial Accounting I The first of a three-course sequence, ACCTG 5110 begins with a study of the inherent conflicts among managers, shareholders, creditors, employees, and other interested parties, and introduces the role of financial reporting in providing relevant, reliable information to these divergent users.

ACCTG 5120 – Financial Accounting II continues coverage from ACCTG 5110. The course focuses on preparation and analysis of corporate financial reports and studies the measurement and reporting of assets, liabilities, and equities.

ACCTG 5130 – Financial Accounting III The objective of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the nature and financial reporting aspects of these complex business transactions and of the unique accounting and financial reporting issues facing not-for-profit organizations and governmental entities.

ACCTG 5140 – International Accounting This course integrates International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) into a financial accounting course and leverages comparisons between United States generally accepted accounting principles and IFRS to enhance the development of a critical thinking approach to financial accounting and reporting.

ACCTG 5210 – Management Accounting In this course, students explore the identification and development of relevant cost information for both manufacturing and non-manufacturing situations. Emphasis is given to the regulatory, analytical, and behavioral use of accounting information.

ACCTG 5310 – Taxation This course offers a basic analysis of the federal tax system examining the role of taxation in society, sources of tax authority, and critical areas in individual and business income taxation, as well as a survey of taxation of corporations, "S" corporations, and partnerships.

ACCTG 5410 – Accounting Information Systems introduces students to the flow of information through the various accounting cycles and the corresponding internal controls. Students examine the flow using the traditional accounting model with an emphasis on the procedures of accounting and the use of current database technology, including data modeling.

ACCTG 5510 – Auditing provides an overview of the basic theory and concepts associated with the attest function, including the various types of audits, objectives of audit engagements, the political, legal, social, and ethical environment in which auditors work, and procedures used by auditors in meeting their objectives.

FINAN 4550 – International Finance This course investigates the financing of international transactions, balance of payments between nations, adjustment mechanism to deficits (surpluses), international financial institutions and structures, and foreign exchange markets.

Course Sequencing

Below is a suggested sequencing of accounting courses once a student enters the accounting program. Individual student's schedules may vary based on previous coursework. MATH 1100 and ACCTG 3600 should be completed prior to beginning these suggested sequences.

Four semester sequence (recommended)

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
ACCTG 5110 - Financial I ACCTG 5140 - International Acctg FINAN 3040 - Financial Mgt. IS 4410 - Information Systems	ACCTG 5120 - Financial II ACCTG 5210 - Managerial or ACCTG 5310 - Tax FINAN 3050 - Intro to Investments	ACCTG 5130 - Financial III ACCTG 5410 - Accounting Information Systems FINAN 4550 - International Finance	ACCTG 5510 - Auditing ACCTG 5310 - Tax or ACCTG 5210 - Managerial MGT 3410 - Acct Bus Law

Three semester sequence

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
ACCTG 5110 - Financial I ACCTG 5140 - International ACCTG 5310 - Tax FINAN 3040 - Financial Management IS 4410 - Information Systems	ACCTG 5120 - Financial II ACCTG 5410 - Accounting Information Systems ACCTG 5210 - Managerial FINAN 3050 - Intro to Investments	ACCTG 5130 - Financial III ACCTG 5510 - Auditing MGT 3410 - Accounting Business Law FINAN 4550 - International Finance

Student Organizations and Opportunities

Beta Alpha Psi is a nationally recognized organization for students majoring in accounting, finance, and information systems. The goal of Beta Alpha Psi is to promote academic and professional excellence in the business information field through service and self-development. Members have the opportunity to meet professionals from the business community who are eager to provide information to assist students in making sound career decisions. Beta Alpha Psi meets during the fall and spring semesters and participation is strongly encouraged for all accounting majors. More information is available at <http://www.utahbap.com>.

Career Services

Success on the job market requires early preparation, and we encourage students to begin investing in their career skills in their freshman year. Professionals in the Campus Career Services (801-581-6186) and the Business Career Management Center (801-581-3061) assist students in understanding vocational options, finding internships, and preparing for a successful career. Melissa Kraft in Campus Career Services works closely accounting majors. Students may schedule an appointment with Melissa by emailing her at mkraft@careers.utah.edu.

Graduate Study in Accounting

The Master of Accounting (MAcc) program provides advanced training in specific areas of accounting. The coursework is designed to give students the conceptual, technical, analytical, and communication skills required in the accounting profession. MAcc students are exposed to a range of educational opportunities and ground-breaking research including real-world experience at the school's professional centers. The program is designed for students to enter directly after completing the undergraduate degree. High achieving students can fast track into the program by maintaining a 3.3 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 GPA in their accounting major sequence courses.