Accounting

Chair
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Undergraduate major: accounting (B.B.A.)
Graduate degrees: M.Ac.; accounting subprogram for the
Ph.D. in business administration
Faculty: https://tippie.uiowa.edu/people?department=Accounting
Website: https://tippie.uiowa.edu/about/accounting-
department

The Department of Accounting offers a broad education that
prepares undergraduate and graduate students for careers
in auditing, corporate accounting, management consulting,
taxation, government, not-for-profit organizations, and
academia.

The department also collaborates with the College of Law
to offer the combined M.Ac./J.D. program; see Combined
Programs under Master of Accountancy in this section of the
Catalog. It also participates in the M.B.A. program; see the
Master of Business Administration Program in the Catalog.

Accounting Program

The accounting program draws on curricula that provide a
strong base of traditional technical subject matter and the
skills needed for solving complex business problems. This
framework of study enables students to continue professional
growth over the entire span of their careers. The program
emphasizes communication skills and provides the academic
background required for leadership positions in business,
government, and public accounting. It also qualifies students
to take the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination.

The accounting program leads to a Bachelor of Business
Administration with a major in accounting, which requires 120
s.h. of credit and the Master of Accountancy, which requires
30 s.h. of graduate credit. Students are granted the B.B.A.
upon successful completion of the third and fourth years; they
are granted the M.Ac. after successful completion of 30 s.h.
beyond the B.B.A.

Graduate Programs of Study

Majors
• Master of Accountancy
• Accounting subprogram for the Doctor of Philosophy in
  Business Administration

Courses

Accounting Courses

ACCT:1300 First-Year Seminar 1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by faculty member; topics
chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g.,
films, readings, visits to research facilities).

ACCT:2100 Introduction to Financial Accounting 3 s.h.
Accounting and financial reporting procedures used by
business and not-for-profit entities; emphasis on accounting
concepts and use of accounting information in making
economic decisions. Requirements: sophomore or higher
standing.

ACCT:2200 Managerial Accounting 3 s.h.
Basic topics in cost behavior, measurement, accumulation;
use of cost data for relevant analysis, budgeting, performance
evaluation. Prerequisites: ECON:1100 and ACCT:2100 and
(MATH:1850 or MATH:1550 or MATH:1460 or MATH:1860 or
MATH:1350 or MATH:1380).

ACCT:3020 Financial Accounting and Reporting 3 s.h.
External financial reporting practices in context of decisions
by management, current and potential stockholders, financial
analysts; emphasis on interpretation, use of financial
statements. Prerequisites: ACCT:2200. Requirements: non-
accounting major.

ACCT:3100 Professional Accounting Seminar 1 s.h.
Seminar topics, including accounting careers, curriculum,
M.Ac. program, internships, CPA examination and other
professional certificates, Beta Alpha Psi, ethics, and global
standards. Offered fall semesters. Corequisites: ACCT:2200 or
ACCT:3200.

ACCT:3200 Income Measurement and Asset
Valuation 3 s.h.
Accounting rules that determine how economic events
and transactions are described in published financial
reports; emphasis on revenue and expense recognition,
asset valuation, accrual accounting model. Prerequisites:
ACCT:2100 with a minimum grade of B- and ACCT:2200 with
a minimum grade of B-. Corequisites: ACCT:3400.
Requirements: admission to Professional Program in
Accounting.

ACCT:3300 Valuation of Financial Claims 3 s.h.
Current and long-term liabilities and stockholders’ equity, off-
balance sheet financing, cash flow statement, earnings-per-
share, financial instruments. Prerequisites: ACCT:3200 and

ACCT:3400 Introduction to Taxation 3 s.h.
Federal income taxation of individuals and businesses,
including corporations, partnerships, and sole proprietorships;
emphasis on developing a broad perspective on structure,
administration, and rationale of federal income tax system.
Prerequisites: ACCT:2100 with a minimum grade of B-
and ACCT:2200 with a minimum grade of B-. Corequisites:
ACCT:3200. Requirements: admission to Professional Program
in Accounting.

Programs

Undergraduate Program of Study
Major
• Major in Accounting (Bachelor of Business Administration)
ACCT:3450 Tax Practicum (VITA) I  0-1 s.h.
Transformative opportunity to work on real world tax problems with real clients; application of skills learned in classroom to real world problems; development of crucial accounting career soft skills including communication (explaining complicated ideas in simple language), moving out of one's comfort zone, working as a team, and having an appreciation for the importance of community service. Corequisites: ACCT:3400. Requirements: acceptance to undergraduate accounting program.

ACCT:3451 Tax Practicum (VITA) II  2 s.h.
Transformative opportunity to work on real world tax problems with real clients; application of skills learned in classroom to real world problems; development of crucial accounting career soft skills including communication (explaining complicated ideas in simple language), moving out of one's comfort zone, working as a team, and having an appreciation for importance of community service. Requirements: successful completion of ACCT:3450 and certification on the most recent Internal Revenue Service certification tests.

ACCT:3500 Advanced Tax Topics  3 s.h.
Taxation of corporations and partnerships from organization through liquidation; relative merits of conducting business as C corporation, partnership, S corporation; the alternative minimum tax; introduction to tax research. Prerequisites: ACCT:3400. Requirements: senior standing.

ACCT:3550 Financial Statement Analysis  3 s.h.
How to analyze published financial statements; practical experience using financial statement information to assess accounting quality, historical performance, forecasted performance, credit risk, firm value. Prerequisites: ACCT:3020.

ACCT:3600 Accounting Information Systems  3 s.h.
Application of computer technology and internal controls to accounting and transaction processing systems; auditing of information systems; information systems infrastructure and trends; problem solving with Python and databases; accounting cycle operations. Prerequisites: ACCT:2200 and ACCT:2100 and (BAIS:3005 or CS:2110). Same as BAIS:3100.

ACCT:4000 Special Topics in Accounting  1-3 s.h.
ACCT:4001 Continuing Education: Special Topics in Accounting  arr. Independent study topics determined by faculty member.


ACCT:4100 Auditing  3 s.h.
General framework underlying auditing, role of audit standards in planning and conduct of audits, effect of regulation, ethics, liability on audit practices. Prerequisites: ACCT:3100 and ACCT:3300 and ACCT:3600 and (BAIS:2800 or ECON:4800 or STAT:2020 with a minimum grade of B or STAT:4101). Requirements: senior standing.

ACCT:4200 Accounting for Management Analysis and Control  3 s.h.
Advanced topics in cost estimation, measurement, accumulation; use of cost data for decision making, performance evaluation in multi-unit organizations. Prerequisites: (STAT:2020 with a minimum grade of B or ECON:4800 or STAT:4101 or BAIS:2800) and (CS:2110 or BAIS:3005) and ((ACCT:2100 with a minimum grade of B- and ACCT:2200 with a minimum grade of B-) or ACCT:3200). Requirements: admission to Professional Program in Accounting.

ACCT:4300 Accounting Ethics and Law  3 s.h.
Integration of ethics with study of legal topics for accountants (e.g., contracts, debtor-creditor law, agency law, employment law, securities law, accountant's legal liability, business entities); selections from American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Code of Professional Conduct; students analyze ethical considerations of essential topics (e.g., fraud, fiduciary duties). Prerequisites: MGMT:2000 and ((ACCT:2100 with a minimum grade of B- and ACCT:2200 with a minimum grade of B-) or ACCT:3200). Requirements: senior standing.

ACCT:4400 Advanced Financial Accounting  3 s.h.
Accounting and reporting standards for business combinations, including mergers, consolidations, and multinational enterprises; accounting for partnerships, business segments, transactions denominated in foreign currency, including hedges using foreign currency derivative instruments; reporting standards for interim financial statements and fund accounting applied to government and nonprofit entities. Prerequisites: ACCT:3300. Requirements: senior standing.

ACCT:4500 Accounting Measurement: Research and Analysis  3 s.h.
How uncertainty and risk influence accounting judgments, estimates, and forecasts that underlie reported financial statement amounts; applications drawn from familiar accounting measurement challenges and those unique to industries (e.g., airline transportation, healthcare, insurance, gaming, oil and gas exploration). Prerequisites: ACCT:3300. Corequisites: ACCT:4100.

ACCT:4600 Tax Research  2 s.h.
Understanding the validity and use of various tax law sources; performing tax research using printed and electronic tax materials; evaluation of tax law provisions and application to specific facts and circumstances; preparing tax memorandums. Prerequisites: ACCT:3500. Requirements: accounting major.

ACCT:4999 Honors Thesis in Accounting  arr. Independent student project directed by faculty or staff advisor; culminates in thesis that conforms to University of Iowa Honors Program guidelines; may include empirical research, library research, applied projects. Prerequisites: BUS:1999.


ACCT:7950 Directed Readings in Accounting  arr. Individual guided readings in accounting topics.

ACCT:9020 Strategic Cost Analysis    2-3 s.h.
Introduction to cost accumulation, reporting, cost
management systems; managerial and divisional performance
evaluation; appropriate use of cost data for short- and long-
run decisions; product costing in manufacturing and service
industries. Prerequisites: MBA:8140.

ACCT:9030 Financial Accounting Standards and
Analysis    2-3 s.h.
Accounting model, underlying measurement concepts,
valuation rules for assets, liabilities, related issues of
income determination; emphasis on economic substance of
transactions, evaluation and interpretation of financial data.
Prerequisites: MBA:8140.

ACCT:9040 Financial Statement Analysis and
Forecasting    3 s.h.
Use of corporate financial statements for investment and
lending decisions; emphasis on financial analysis techniques,
valuation, business analysis, cash flow projections, credit
scoring, related research evidence. Prerequisites: MBA:8140
or (ACCT:3200 and ACCT:3300). Recommendations: for Iowa
M.B.A. majors - MBA:8180 or prior undergraduate finance
course.

ACCT:9050 Taxes and Business Strategy    2-3 s.h.
Effect of taxes on business decisions, including investment
strategies, capital structure decisions, compensation policies,
international business, mergers and acquisitions, and
financial reporting. Prerequisites: ACCT:3020 or ACCT:3500 or
MBA:8140 or LAW:8194. Requirements: graduate standing in
business.

ACCT:9110 Special Topics in Taxation    3 s.h.
Timely and relevant topics in taxation and/or topics related
to taxation not covered in ACCT:3400 and ACCT:3500.
Prerequisites: ACCT:3500 or LAW:8194.

ACCT:9120 Design and Use of Cost Management
Systems    3 s.h.
Development of cost accumulation and reporting systems
that complement a firm’s strategy and structure; how activity-
based cost management systems increase competitiveness
by helping a firm manage its costs, processes, people.
Prerequisites: ACCT:4200 or ACCT:9020.

ACCT:9130 Financial Reporting: Theory and
Practice    3 s.h.
Corporate accounting choices in framework of traditional
accounting theory, economic consequences, firm valuation.
Prerequisites: ACCT:3300. Requirements: graduate standing in
business.

ACCT:9140 Advanced Auditing    3 s.h.
Advanced issues such as ethics, internal control audits,
forensic auditing, and fair value auditing. Prerequisites:
ACCT:4100. Requirements: graduate standing in business.

ACCT:9150 Tax Research    3 s.h.
Understanding the validity and use of various tax law
sources; performing tax research using printed and
electronic tax materials; evaluation of tax law provisions and
application to specific facts and circumstances; preparing tax
memorandums. Prerequisites: ACCT:3500. Requirements:
admission to M.Ac. program.

ACCT:9170 Advanced Accounting Analytics    3 s.h.
Application of the latest business intelligence software
packages to real world problems from auditing, managerial,
financial, and tax accounting; how to use Big Data to make
better business decisions and identify potential risks and
opportunities. Prerequisites: ACCT:4100 and ACCT:4200.
Corequisites: BAIS:9210.