BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MASTER OF (M.B.A.)/ ACCOUNTANCY, MASTER OF (M.ACC.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN DATA ANALYTICS [DUAL DEGREE]

Advanced study in business administration and accountancy is available through a dual degree program sponsored by the school of business.

The dual degree Master of Business Administration and Master of Accountancy with a concentration in data analytics program allows students to earn two degrees with a minimum of 63 graduate credits rather than the 75 graduate credits necessary if the two degrees were pursued separately. This efficiency lowers the overall cost of tuition while also reducing time to earning both degrees.

Prerequisite and/or foundation courses may effectively increase the number of credits needed to earn the degrees. Most students considering this program will hold a bachelor's degree or certificate in accounting.

Program goals

The objectives of this dual degree program are to:

- Prepare accounting and other professionals to be effective leaders and managers in today's organizations
- Equip aspiring managers with accounting tools and techniques for effective managerial decisions
- Develop the ability to organize and use accounting and other information for strategic decision-making
- Develop interpersonal and professional skills critical to business, including communication and presentation skills, leadership and management, among others

Among the many benefits offered by participation in the dual degree program are the following:

- Complementing the general management skills obtained in the M.B.A. with a solid specialization in accounting for managerial decisionmaking, or complementing the specialized accounting skills obtained in the accountancy program with general management skills needed for effective decisions
- Enhanced ability to effectively compete for managerial positions across a wide spectrum of levels in today's organizations, where there is increasing emphasis on both general managerial and specialized knowledge
- Enhanced job prospects for candidates intending to switch careers or striving to move up within their organizations
- The ability to effectively complete both degrees within a shorter time frame with considerable time and tuition savings through the 12 shared credits

The diplomas for this dual degree program may be awarded sequentially or simultaneously. Students are not required to begin both programs in the same semester, but must be enrolled in both degrees for at least one

semester prior to graduation from either program for credits to be shared across programs.

Student learning outcomes

See each degree program page for student learning outcomes.

Other information Advising

A program manager will serve as an adviser and administrative liaison for students. The assigned program manager will assist in developing a plan of study to meet the curriculum requirements of both programs. A faculty adviser from the Department of Accounting will help students consider electives that will best serve their professional goals.

Admission requirements

Students must officially apply and be admitted to each degree program separately before the pursuit of the dual degree program may begin. It is not required to begin both programs in the same semester. View the application requirements for each program for additional details.

Degree requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 63 total credits to earn the Master of Business Administration and Master of Accountancy with a concentration in data analytics. Students without sufficient background in accounting may be required to first complete prerequisite course work.

A total of 12 credits may be counted toward both programs:

Course	Title	Hours
ACCT 604	Advanced Auditing (core requirement for M.Acc.; satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 610	Forensic Accounting (core requirement for M.Acc.; satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 662	Advanced Topics in Accounting Information Systems (core requirement for M.Acc.; satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
INFO 661	Information Systems for Managers (core requirement for M.B.A.; satisfies M.Acc. concentration elective)	3

The diplomas for this dual degree program may be awarded sequentially or simultaneously.

Curriculum requirements for the dual degree

Course	Title	Hours
M.B.A. requirements		
 Required courses 		
ACCT 507	Fundamentals of Accounting	3
ACCT 608	Managerial Accounting Concepts	3
ECON 610	Managerial Economics	3
FIRE 520	Financial Concepts of Management	3
FIRE 623	Financial Management	3
INFO 661	Information Systems for Managers (satisfies data analytics concentration elective)	3
INFO 664	Information Systems for Business Intelligence	3

MGMT 641	Leading People and Organizations	3
MGMT 642	Business Policy and Strategy	3
MKTG 671	Marketing Management	3
SCMA 524	Statistical Fundamentals for Business Management	3
SCMA 675	Operations Management	3
 Electives 		
Satisfied by ACCT	604, ACCT 610 and ACCT 662	9
M.Acc. requireme	nts	
• Required course	s	
ACCT 604	Advanced Auditing (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 610	Forensic Accounting (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 621	Accounting Analytics	3
ACCT 662	Advanced Topics in Accounting Information Systems (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 680	Tax Research and Planning	3
 Data analytics co 	oncentration electives	12
(INFO 661 satisfie	s three credits)	
Select an addition	al nine credits from the following:	
ACCT 620	Accounting Research	
FIRE 540	Financial Analytics	
INFO 609	Data-centric Analysis/Planning	
INFO 645	Prescriptive Analytics	
INFO 648	Business Data Analytics	
MKTG 673	Marketing Research	
MKTG 678	Marketing Analytics	
SCMA 603	SAP ERP and Supply Chain Management	
SCMA 632	Statistical Analysis and Modeling	
SCMA 642	Decision and Risk Analytics	
SCMA 643	Applied Multivariate Methods	
SCMA 669	Developing and Implementing Forecasting Methods for Business	
• Business elective	e	3
Select one course	from the following:	
FIRE 610	Financial Modeling and Analysis	
FIRE 621	Cases in Financial Management	
FIRE 622	Financial Intermediation and Analysis of Fixed-income Securities	
FIRE 623	Financial Management	
FIRE 629	Cases in Real Estate	
FIRE 630	Real Estate Valuation	
FIRE 635	Investments and Security Analysis	
FIRE 639	International Finance	
FIRE 650	Derivatives	
FIRE 654	Short-term Financial Management	
FIRE 658	Real Estate Finance and Investments	
MGMT 641	Leading People and Organizations	
MGMT 654	Negotiations	
MGMT 655	Entrepreneurship	

SCMA 606	Supply Chain Innovation	
Total Hours		63

The minimum number of graduate credit hours required for this dual degree is 63.

Sample plan of study

What follows is an example plan that meets the prescribed requirements. Students may work with their adviser to consider an individual enrollment plan that best meets their goals. Part-time enrollment and summer courses may be considered.

courses may be considered.		
Year one		
Fall semester		Hours
ACCT 507	Fundamentals of Accounting	3
FIRE 520	Financial Concepts of Management	3
INFO 664	Information Systems for Business Intelligence	3
SCMA 524	Statistical Fundamentals for Business Management	3
	Term Hours:	12
Spring semes	ter	
ECON 610	Managerial Economics	3
INFO 661	Information Systems for Managers (satisfies data analytics concentration elective)	3
MGMT 641	Leading People and Organizations	3
SCMA 675	Operations Management	3
	Term Hours:	12
Year two		
Fall semester		
ACCT 608	Managerial Accounting Concepts	3
FIRE 623	Financial Management	3
MGMT 642	Business Policy and Strategy	3
MKTG 671	Marketing Management	3
	Term Hours:	12
Spring semes		
ACCT 610	Forensic Accounting (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 680	Tax Research and Planning	3
Data analytics	concentration electives	6
	Term Hours:	12
Year three		
Fall semester		
ACCT 604	Advanced Auditing (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
ACCT 621	Accounting Analytics	3
ACCT 662	Advanced Topics in Accounting Information Systems (satisfies M.B.A. elective)	3
Data analytics	concentration elective	3
<u></u>	Term Hours:	12
Spring semes	ter	

Spring semester

Business elective	3
Term Hours:	3
Total Hours:	63

The minimum number of graduate credit hours required for this dual degree is 63.

Contact

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Program website: business.vcu.edu/academics/mba-options (https://business.vcu.edu/academics/mba-options/)