ACCOUNTANCY, MASTER OF (M.Acc.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN DATA ANALYTICS

Program accreditation

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (http://www.aacsb.edu)

Program goal

The purpose of the Master of Accountancy program is to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to be future leaders in the professional business community and the public sector for students who wish to specialize in the areas of accounting/information systems, auditing, financial reporting and accounting/other fields of business.

Student learning outcomes

- Students demonstrate current knowledge of financial accounting standards and other professional guidance that affects the profession, and they are able to apply that knowledge in a variety of professional contexts.
- Students demonstrate the ability to analyze accounting data, propose recommendations and design appropriate methods to communicate their recommendations.
- Students demonstrate the ability to distinguish ethical dilemmas and apply the appropriate ethical principles in a variety of accounting contexts and circumstances. Students evaluate information in a manner free of distortion, personal bias or conflicts of interest; recognize situations where professional ethical standards apply; respect confidentiality.

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students.

Degree candidacy requirements

A student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master’s or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student’s graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student’s faculty regarding the student’s academic achievements and the student’s readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements.

Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements.

Other information

School of Business policies and procedures for graduate master’s degree students are available on the school’s website at business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/current-graduate-students (http://business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/current-graduate-students).

Apply online at graduate.admissions.vcu.edu (http://www.graduate.admissions.vcu.edu)

Admission requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Semester(s) of entry</th>
<th>Deadline dates</th>
<th>Test requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.Acc.</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Jul 1</td>
<td>GMAT or GRE*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Mar 1</td>
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</table>

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements), applicants to the Master of Accountancy degree program who do not hold an undergraduate degree in accounting or business may be required to take up to 24 credit hours of business prerequisite courses and 27 credit hours of accounting prerequisite courses. These prerequisite courses may be waived for students who have successfully completed an equivalent course.

* May be waived for candidates with an undergraduate or graduate degree from an accredited U.S. institution with a minimum GPA of 3.25

Accounting prerequisites

Candidates must complete at least eight non-accounting business courses from the following list. (Equivalent 500-level courses may be
substituted.) These courses may be waived if a student has completed the equivalent course in an undergraduate program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 203</td>
<td>Introduction to Accounting I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; ACCT 204</td>
<td>and Introduction to Accounting II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCT 205</td>
<td>Introductory Accounting Survey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 301</td>
<td>Tax Accounting Principles</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 303</td>
<td>Intermediate Accounting I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 304</td>
<td>Intermediate Accounting II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 305</td>
<td>Intermediate Accounting III</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 306</td>
<td>Cost Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 307</td>
<td>Accounting Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 406</td>
<td>Auditing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Degree requirements

In addition to the VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info), students in the Master of Accountancy program must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate course work with at least 15 credit hours in graduate accounting course work.

### Curriculum requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 604</td>
<td>Advanced Auditing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 610</td>
<td>Forensic Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 662</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCT 680</td>
<td>Tax Research and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCMA 648</td>
<td>Analytics for Organizational Decision-making</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Information systems and analytics concentration electives**

Select 12 credits from the following:

- INFO 614  Data Mining
- INFO 640  Information Systems Management
- or INFO 661 Information Systems for Managers
- INFO 664  Information Systems for Business Intelligence
- SCMA 632  Statistical Analysis and Modeling
- SCMA 643  Applied Multivariate Methods
- SCMA 645  Management Science
- SCMA 669  Developing and Implementing Forecasting Methods for Business

**Business electives**

Select one course from the following:

- FIRE 622  Financial Management of Financial Institutions
- FIRE 623  Financial Management
- FIRE 635  Investments and Security Analysis
- FIRE 639  International Finance
- FIRE 650  Derivatives
- FIRE 654  Short-term Financial Management
- MGMT 637  Advanced Human Resource Management

**Total graduate credit hours required (minimum) 30**

**Graduate program director**

Austen Gouldman
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**Additional contact**

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Phone: (804) 828-4622

**Program website:** [business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/master-of-accountancy](http://business.vcu.edu/graduate-studies/master-of-accountancy)