DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

Carolyn S. Norman, Ph.D.
Chair


The future development of the accounting profession depends upon the quality of the educational foundation on which it rests. The Department of Accounting is committed to the support of professional accounting through the delivery of educational experiences directed toward practice and through research that addresses the important policy issues of the day.

The mission of the department is to prepare students for careers in accounting, to interpret and expand accounting knowledge, and to render service to the profession and communities. The department does so by:

1. Providing a learning environment in which students are encouraged to interact with others in identifying and solving accounting and business problems
2. Investigating, developing and sharing knowledge, which has the potential for significant influence on accounting, business and education
3. Interacting with the accounting profession, the business community and the community at large

   • Accounting, Bachelor of Science (B.S.) (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/business/accounting/accounting-bs)

   • Accounting, Certificate in (Post-baccalaureate undergraduate certificate) (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/business/accounting/accounting-certificate)

ACCT 202. Accounting for Non-business Majors. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. The course is open only to non-business students. A nontechnical introduction to the principles of financial and managerial accounting with emphasis on the use and interpretation of financial reports, managerial planning and control. The course is for the individual who seeks a basic knowledge of accounting and its uses. It is designed for the user of accounting information rather than the preparer. This course cannot be substituted for ACCT 203, 204 or 205. Students graduating with a major in the School of Business cannot receive credit for this course.

ACCT 203. Introduction to Accounting I. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Theoretical and technical facets of financial and managerial accounting for business. Accumulation, analysis, interpretation and uses of accounting information. Course will focus on financial accounting.

ACCT 204. Introduction to Accounting II. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 203 with a minimum grade of C. Theoretical and technical facets of financial and managerial accounting for business. Accumulation, analysis, interpretation and uses of accounting information. Course will focus on managerial accounting.

ACCT 205. Introductory Accounting Survey. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Restricted to students in the post-baccalaureate undergraduate certificate programs in accounting and information systems, students seeking a B.S. in Financial Technology, students enrolled in the School of Engineering, or by permission of instructor. An accelerated course covering theoretical and technical facets of financial and managerial accounting for business. Accumulation, analysis, interpretation and uses of accounting information. May not be counted toward any of the B.S. programs offered by the School of Business other than the B.S. in Financial Technology.

ACCT 291. Topics in Accounting. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course. 1-3 credits. Prerequisite: permission of instructor. An in-depth study of selected accounting topics. Graded as pass/fail.

ACCT 301. Tax Accounting Principles. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 204 or ACCT 205 with a minimum grade of C. Restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). Income tax legislation and the concept of taxable income; federal income tax law applicable to individuals.

ACCT 303. Intermediate Accounting I. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 203 or ACCT 205 with a minimum grade of C. Restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing) or 24 credits with minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5. Focuses on financial accounting and accounting standards, including the conceptual framework for financial accounting. Includes an in-depth study of the income statement, the balance sheet and an introduction to the statement of cash flows. Also covers valuation of inventories.

ACCT 304. Intermediate Accounting II. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 303 with a minimum grade of C. Restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). Continues the study of financial accounting, covering accounting for acquisition and disposition of property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, contingencies, long-term liabilities, stockholders’ equity, earnings-per-share, and investments.

ACCT 305. Intermediate Accounting III. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 304 with a minimum grade of C. Restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). Continues the study of financial accounting, covering accounting for income taxes, accounting for pensions and post-retirement benefits, accounting for leases, accounting changes and error analysis, statement of cash flows, full disclosure in financial reporting and International Financial Reporting Standards.

ACCT 306. Cost Accounting. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 204 or ACCT 205 with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). Cost accumulation for inventory pricing and income determination. Cost behavior concepts for planning and control. Job order and process cost systems, standard costs, budgets and special topics in relevant costs for managerial decisions.

ACCT 307. Accounting Systems. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 303 with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). Examines design and evaluation of manual and computerized accounting information systems. Emphasis on the system of internal controls and the impact of computers on those controls.
ACCT 401. Governmental and Not-for-profit Accounting. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 304
with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to students who
have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). The role of
accounting in the management of resources entrusted to government
and nonprofit entities, including accounting and reporting standards.
Accounting in municipalities and nonprofit entities such as hospitals,
charitable and health organizations, and colleges and universities.

ACCT 402. Advanced Cost Accounting. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 303 and
ACCT 306, each with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to
students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing).
An advanced conceptual cost/managerial course designed to familiarize
students with the more complex aspects of cost/managerial accounting
concepts including process costing, standard costing, activity-based
costing, Just-in-Time inventory systems, enterprise resource planning
and issues relating to the relative strengths and limitations of managerial
accounting.

ACCT 403. Management Control Systems. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 303 and
ACCT 306, each with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to
students who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing).
An advanced conceptual management control systems course designed
to expose students to the theoretical and conceptual foundations of
management control systems and to integrate accounting into the
managerial decision/control process. Uses a predominantly case-
oriented approach. While primary emphasis will be on integrating
accounting into the management control process, significant attention
also will be devoted to the behavioral issues involved in management
control system design and implementation. Students also will receive
hands-on experience in structuring and formulating control systems in an
Enterprise Resource Planning system environment.

ACCT 404. Introduction to Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination. 3
Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 304 with
a minimum grade of C. Introduction to the area of forensic accounting.
Topics include the detection of fraudulent financial reporting, employee
fraud, money laundering, digital forensic analysis and electronic evidence,
evidence management, computer forensics, and an introduction to
business valuation.

ACCT 406. Auditing. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 304 and
307 with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to students who
have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing). A study of the
conceptual, theoretical and practical procedures applicable to auditing —
both external and internal. Primary emphasis is placed upon the theory
of audit evidence; the objectives, techniques and procedures for financial
and operational audit reports.

ACCT 408. Data Analytics for Accountants. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 307
with a minimum grade of C; and MGMT 301, SCMA 301, STAT 210 or
STAT 212. Enrollment is restricted to students who have completed at
least 54 credit hours (junior standing). The spreadsheet analysis and
written communication of data relating to accounting-focused business
problems.

ACCT 409. Research and Communication for Accountants. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ACCT 304 with a
minimum grade of C. Restricted to students who have completed at least
54 credit hours (junior standing). Focuses on the research of accounting
issues and preparation of technical reports relating to that research.
Leadership and team dynamics are explored using group projects.

ACCT 410. Advanced Tax Accounting. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 301 and
ACCT 303, each with a minimum grade of C. This course is restricted to
students who have completed a minimum of 54 credit hours (junior standing).
Complex tax problems of the trust, partnership and
corporation. Particular emphasis is given to tax planning.

ACCT 491. Topics in Accounting. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; 1-3 lecture hours. 1-3 credits. Prerequisites vary by
topic. Study of current topics. Topics may vary by semester. See the
Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered.

ACCT 492. Independent Study. 1 Hour.
Semester course; 1 lecture hour. 1 credit. Restricted to accounting
majors who have completed at least 54 credit hours (junior standing).
The purpose of this course is to allow international students to take
advantage of an internship work experience. Graded as pass/fail.

ACCT 493. Internship in Accounting. 3 Hours.
Semester course; 3 credits. Prerequisites: ACCT 304 with a minimum
grade of B; senior standing in accounting and permission of the
department chair. Intention to enroll must be indicated to the instructor
prior to or during advance registration for semester of credit. Involves
students in a meaningful experience in a setting appropriate to the
major. A structured course in which the first three weeks are spent in the
classroom, followed by 11 weeks at a workplace. The last week of the
semester students return to the classroom for discussion and reflection
on the work experience. An internship portfolio is required at the end of
the course. Graded as pass/fail.

ACCT 497. Guided Study in Accounting. 1-3 Hours.
Semester course; variable hours. 1-3 credits. Maximum total of three
credits. Prerequisites: junior standing in accounting and approval of
adviser and department chair prior to course registration. Intensive study
under supervision of a faculty member in an area not covered in-depth or
contained in the regular curriculum.