
Master of Science in Accounting
Department of Accounting
Walker College of Business

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<http://www.business.appstate.edu/departments/accounting/>

The Walker College of Business, through the Department of Accounting, offers the Master of Science (M.S.) in Accounting and course work at the graduate level in support of the Walker College of Business degree programs.

Courses in the following disciplines are offered through the Department of Accounting:

ACC: accounting courses

Prerequisite to enrollment in a graduate course offered by the Department of Accounting is admission to a graduate program of study, or permission of the instructor and the departmental chair. In addition, enrollment in MBA courses requires permission of the MBA Program Director. A non-degree student must obtain permission from the Graduate School to enroll in 5000-level courses.

The basic educational objective of the M.S. in Accounting is to provide advanced education to meet the needs of persons planning careers in accounting at the professional level. The M.S. in Accounting program offers courses of study which greatly enhance success in completing certifying examinations needed for designation as Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), and other professional designations. Additionally, the program broadens the general business knowledge and intensifies accounting knowledge of its graduates so as to improve their performance beyond the entry/certification stage in their professional careers.

Application for admission to the M.S. program will be open to any graduate of an accredited four-year baccalaureate program. Admission is competitive, with admission granted only to students showing high promise of success in graduate business study. Admission to the M.S. program is based on a balanced appraisal of the applicant's total record and overall excellence. The foundation for the admission decision is the GMAT score and undergraduate academic performance. The trend of grades during undergraduate schooling, the GPA in the undergraduate major, and relevant work experience may also be considered in the admission process.

For students without adequate preparation in accounting and business, the following undergraduate equivalent courses that are prerequisite to graduate study must be completed: Accounting Principles, Economics, Statistics, Behavioral Science, and Finance.

In addition, the undergraduate preparation must include the following accounting courses: Intermediate Accounting sequence; Cost Accounting; Accounting Systems; Individual Income Taxation; Auditing

Any or all of these courses may be waived if the student has taken equivalent work. Prerequisite courses may also be waived through written examination or, if the student feels academically prepared, through appropriate business experience. There is a fee for such examinations. Students lacking some or all of the prerequisites, if otherwise qualified, may be admitted to the graduate program with the understanding that the prerequisites will be completed as part of the program.

The program requires a minimum of 30 semester hours of graduate study and allows the student to follow a general concentration or a tax concentration. A student needing no prerequisites will usually complete the program in two semesters and a summer. For students with majors in other academic disciplines, it will take longer, depending on the required prerequisites.

PROGRAM OF STUDY FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING (Major code: 302*/52.0301)

Admission Requirements: Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university; complete application to the Cratis Williams Graduate School (<http://www.graduate.appstate.edu>), including resume, three letters of recommendation, official GMAT exam scores, and official transcripts from all colleges attended; undergraduate course work in Accounting Principles, Economics, Statistics, Behavioral Science, and Finance; undergraduate accounting courses in Intermediate Accounting, Cost Accounting, Accounting Systems, Individual Income Taxation, and Auditing. In extenuating circumstances, an applicant may obtain permission to remove deficiencies in course work after entering the graduate program.

Basic Criteria for Consideration: (Undergraduate GPA x 200) + GMAT = 1100; Minimum GMAT of 450 is recommended.

Hours: 30 semester hours

Location: On Campus

Required:

ACC	5590	Advanced Accounting Topics	3
		Three semester hours (5000 level or above) outside the Department of Accounting (Must be approved by the Program Director)	3
REQUIRED HOURS			6

Concentration (CHOOSE ONE):**GENERAL CONCENTRATION (302C):**

ACC	5210	Advanced Managerial Accounting	3
ACC	5270	Current Issues in Technology and AIS	3
ACC	5390	Contemporary Issues in Accounting	3
ACC	5xxx	Elective	3

TAXATION CONCENTRATION (302B):

ACC	5280	Partnerships and S Corporations	3
ACC	5580	Tax Planning and Research	3
ACC	5xxx	Tax Electives	6
(Must be approved by the Program Director)			

CONCENTRATION HOURS 12

Thesis Options (CHOOSE ONE):**WITH THESIS**

ACC	5999	Thesis	6
		Electives (5000 level or above).....	6
[Electives may be ACC, College of Business (COB) or outside COB and must be approved by the Program Director.]			

WITHOUT THESIS

		Electives (5000 level or above).....	12
[Electives may be ACC, College of Business (COB) or outside COB and must be approved by the Program Director.]			

THESIS OPTION HOURS 12

TOTAL HOURS FOR THE MS DEGREE..... 30

Thesis: Optional

Proficiency: None required

Comprehensive: None required

Product of Learning: None required

GRADUATE COURSES IN ACCOUNTING (ACC)

ACC 5000. Accounting Research and Data Presentation/(3).On Demand. Study of methods used in research and data presentation in accounting; practice in using those methods.

ACC 5080. Income Taxation of Corporations/(3). F;S. Concepts and methods of determining federal tax liability of corporations. Topics include ordinary income, capital gains and losses, net operating loss, reorganizations, contemporary problems in corporate taxation and tax research. The student will also be introduced to estate, gift and partnership taxation. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation) with a minimum grade of "C-". [Dual-listed with ACC 4580.]

ACC 5180. Advanced Issues in Corporate Taxation/ (3).On Demand. An advanced study of the taxation of corporations and shareholders at the federal level, with emphasis on Subchapter C, and tax planning. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation).

ACC 5210. Advanced Managerial Accounting/(3).S. Focus is on the controller's role in the decision-making process. Integration of accounting knowledge with other business and non-business disciplines is an important objective of this course. Topics may include, but are not limited to: cost behavior patterns, inventory planning and control, job-order and process costing, manufacturing cost systems, budgeting concepts, cost allocation, direct vs. absorption costing, transfer pricing and overhead application. Prerequisite: ACC 3200 (Cost Accounting) or equivalent.

ACC 5230. International Accounting/(3).On Demand. This course is designed to provide students with a background in international accounting. Emphasis will be placed upon the fact that accounting is not just a doctrine that has been handed down from generation to generation, but is actually the product of the environment in which it is used.

ACC 5270. Current Issues in Technology and AIS/(3).SS. A current-issues course designed to explore new developments in business technology and accounting information systems. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

ACC 5280. Partnerships and S Corporations/(3).S. A study of the tax implications of forming and operating conduit type businesses, with emphasis on planning for tax minimization. Prerequisite or corequisite: ACC 4580 (Income Taxation of Corporations), ACC 5080 or ACC 5180, or equivalent, or permission of the instructor.

ACC 5310. Auditing Theory Seminar/(3).On Demand. A study of the historical and theoretical aspects of the financial auditing function in the United States. Topics may include: SEC oversight of the auditing profession, internal control: the integrated framework, the changing economics of the public accounting profession, and/or other topics of current interest. Prerequisite: ACC 4560 (Introduction to Auditing) or equivalent.

ACC 5340. Accounting in the Business Environment/(3).On Demand. Various accounting topics will be explored in an international context with a focus on ethical implications of the role of accountants as business persons. Topics will be explored in a seminar environment with a strong emphasis on research and communication through written work and presentations. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

ACC 5350. Development of Accounting Thought/ (3).On Demand. An intensive examination of the major contributions to the development of accounting thought. Students will critically examine the works of major authors, conceptual projects of accounting rule-making bodies, and a variety of research studies. Critiques of the various works will be presented both orally and in writing. Research methodology and design will be emphasized where appropriate. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

ACC 5370. Analysis and Design of Accounting Systems/(3).On Demand. Focus is on the planning, analysis, and design of information systems. Topics include SDLC methodologies; feasibility analysis; project management; information-gathering techniques; use- case, structural, and behavioral modeling; computing architectures; security; user interface design; data storage techniques; and object approaches.

ACC 5380. Multijurisdictional Taxation/(3).On Demand. A study of state and local tax laws including income, franchise, property, sales and use and excise taxes. The state and local taxation of individual and business entities is covered and planning opportunities are discussed. Additionally, the course examines the U.S. laws of international taxation as well as tax issues affecting U.S. multinational companies. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation) or equivalent.

ACC 5390. Contemporary Issues in Accounting/ (3).F. A seminar approach to the major issues facing the accounting profession. Topics may include such items as standards overload, the accounting profession and the SEC, alternative bases of accounting, the future of the FASB, the functioning of the FASB as a problem solving body, Emerging Issues Task Force, Ethics, Congressional oversight of the accounting profession, Government Accounting Standards Board, Cost Accounting Standards Board, social accounting, behavioral sciences and accounting, and other areas of concern as they are identified. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

ACC 5500. Independent Study/ (1-4).F;S.

ACC 5530-5549. Selected Topics/ (1-4).On Demand.

ACC 5550. Accounting for Not-for-Profit and Governmental Organizations/ (3).On Demand. Theory and practice of budgetary and fund accounting, financial reporting, measures of output and performance, techniques for planning and control, and auditing for non-profit and governmental entities. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

ACC 5570. Accounting Systems/ (3).On Demand. A study of emerging issues in accounting information systems. Students will develop competence in understanding and interacting with various systems. Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

ACC 5580. Tax Planning and Research/ (3).F. A research oriented course designed to emphasize the need for tax planning. The student will be required to research and to make class presentations as to her or his findings. The course will cover income tax, estate tax and gift tax code provisions. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation) or equivalent.

ACC 5590. Advanced Accounting Topics/ (3).S. An examination of accounting issues related to business combinations and consolidated entities, partnerships, foreign transactions and operations, and other areas of concern as they are identified. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

ACC 5640. Accounting Regulation/ (3).F. A study of regulation of the accounting profession, with emphasis on taxation, business law, and professional standards. Prerequisite or corequisite: ACC 5080/ACC 4580 (Income Taxation of Corporations) or equivalent, or permission of the instructor.

ACC 5660. Auditing Concepts and Applications/ (3).F. An in-depth study of ASB pronouncements and application of GAAS to an audit (public, internal and governmental) engagement. Emphasis will be placed on system analysis, the relationship of internal control to audit objectives, and the purpose of selected audit procedures. Cases and simulations will be used where applicable. Prerequisite: ACC 4560 (Introduction to Auditing) or equivalent.

ACC 5680. Wealth and Tax Planning/ (3).S. A study of the federal transfer tax laws, with emphasis on family tax planning; also, a study of the income taxation of estates and trusts. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation) or equivalent.

ACC 5780. Issues in Taxation/ (3).SS. This course examines issues that students are generally not exposed to in other tax courses. Topics may include: exempt organizations; advanced individual tax issues, selected corporate tax issues, and basic concepts in multi-state and international tax. Prerequisite: ACC 3580 (Individual Income Taxation) or equivalent.

ACC 5900. Internship/ (3-6).F;S. A full-time work situation for students in the Master of Science in Accounting program. A maximum of three hours may be included in the Program of Study. Prerequisite: permission of the accounting internship coordinator. Graded on an S/U basis.

ACC 5989. Graduate Research/ (1-9).On Demand. This course is designed to provide access to University facilities for continuing graduate research at the master's and specialist's levels. Graded on an S/U basis. ACC 5989 does not count toward a degree.

ACC 5990. Survey of Financial Accounting/ (3).S. An intensive study of financial accounting topics in conjunction with the business environment. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

ACC 5999. Thesis/ (6).F;S. Graded on an S/U basis.