

# Master of Science in Accounting

The Master of Science in Accounting provides you with the theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and research competencies required to address complex accounting issues found in private corporations, governmental entities, public accounting, and not-for-profit organizations. This program extends the knowledge gained in an undergraduate accounting program to enhance your skills in written communication, research, and complex problem solving. No matter your passion, an accounting degree can help you mix that passion into your profession.

This program has been designed in consultation with industry business leaders, is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) (<http://www.acbsp.org>), and has earned additional ACBSP Specialized Accounting Accreditation ([http://www.acbsp.org/?page=accounting\\_degree](http://www.acbsp.org/?page=accounting_degree)). For professional licensure information, please see State Requirements listed on the AMU or APU (<https://www.apu.apus.edu/academic/schools/business/masters/accounting.html>) program page.

This program has specific admission requirements.

## Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level learning objectives, graduates of this program are expected to achieve these learning outcomes:

- Research and appraise historic, current, and developing authoritative standards in accounting and apply them appropriately to complex financial transactions.
- Utilize Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) to produce and interpret financial statements for various types of organizations.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ethical framework for accountants adopted by professional accounting organizations, such as the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA).
- Analyze, evaluate, and organize financial data to facilitate managerial decision making.
- Conduct an in-depth analysis of an organization's financial information and provide a written assessment of the results.

## Programmatic Admission Requirements

You will need to provide an official transcript of your completed bachelor's or master's degree showing proof of completion of this required coursework:

- Auditing: 3 credit hours
- Cost Accounting or Managerial Accounting: 3 credit hours
- Individual Federal Taxation: 3 credit hours
- Intermediate Accounting: 6 credit hours

Pre-admission courses must be grade C or better at the undergraduate level; B or better at the graduate level.

You will be required to submit a signed statement of understanding (SOU) to enroll in this program.

Please visit our AMU (<https://www.amu.apus.edu/admissions/graduate-requirements.html>) or APU (<https://www.apu.apus.edu/admissions/graduate-requirements.html>) graduate admission page for more information on institutional admission requirements.

## Need help?

If you have questions regarding a program's admission requirements, please contact an admissions representative at 877-755-2787 or [info@apus.edu](mailto:info@apus.edu).

## Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	Institutional Requirements	3
	Core Requirements	9
	Major Requirements	6
	Concentration in CPA (p. 2)	9
	Final Program Requirements	3
	Elective Requirements	6
	Total Semester Hours	36

## Degree Program Requirements

### Institutional Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
BUSN604	Fundamentals of Business Analysis	3
Total Semester Hours		3

Students are required to take BUSN604 as the first course and then should take the first three Core Requirements. If you have a bachelor's degree in a business program that is accredited by ACBSP, AACSB, or IACBE, you are NOT required to take the course listed above, and instead may take a master's-level elective course.

### Core Requirements (9 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
ACCT610	Advanced Accounting	3
ACCT695	Accounting Theory and Concepts	3
ACCT608	Financial Reporting & Analysis	3
Total Semester Hours		9

### Major Requirements (6 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 2 courses from the following:		6
ACCT612	International Accounting	
ACCT615	Individual Tax Research and Planning	
ACCT616	Advanced Federal Taxation	
ACCT617	Advanced Cost Accounting	
ACCT618	Managerial Accounting	
ACCT620	Forensic Accounting	
Total Semester Hours		6

### Concentration in CPA (9 semester hours)

This concentration is designed for students who have a solid understanding of accounting concepts and are interested in pursuing the Certified Public Accountant license. Mastery of accounting disciplines such as auditing, financial reporting, cost/management accounting, regulation, and taxation is expected. This concentration will serve as a review of these concepts in preparation to sit for the CPA exam.

### Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to:

- Apply appropriate Generally Accepted Accounting Principles to various scenarios regarding auditing, business environment and concepts, financial reporting, regulation, and taxation.
- Solve problems relating to auditing, business environment and concepts, financial reporting, regulation, and taxation.
- Demonstrate written communications skills in preparing solutions addressing complex accounting problems and situations.
- Illustrate critical thinking and problem-solving skills in formulating solutions to cases.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
ACCT603	Advanced Business Concepts	
ACCT604	Comprehensive Financial Accounting	
ACCT606	Advanced Auditing Topics	
ACCT607	Business Law and Taxation	
Total Semester Hours		9

### Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
ACCT699	Financial Accounting Theory Capstone <sup>1</sup>	3
Total Semester Hours		3

<sup>1</sup> Taken once all other requirements have been met.

### Elective Requirements (6 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select any graduate courses not already taken to fulfill the requirements listed above.		6
Total Semester Hours		6