

What is Accounting?

Author and management consultant Peter Drucker supplies a good definition of modern accounting and how our major in accounting can prepare you to take on an expanded organizational role:

“People usually consider accounting to be “financial”. But that is valid only for the part, going back 700 years, that deals with assets, liabilities and cash flows; it is only a small part of modern accounting. Indeed, accounting deals with operations rather than with finance, and for operational accounting money is simply a notation and the language in which to express nonmonetary events. Indeed, accounting is being shaken to its very roots by reform movements aimed at moving it away from being financial and toward being operational.”

Why study Accounting at the Palumbo - Donahue School of Business?

Our accounting program provides excellent preparation for a career in corporate, industrial, government, nonprofit or public accounting.

In addition, we aim to make sure that you graduate with more than the technical knowledge needed in your first professional position. Our program is designed to develop your critical thinking skills, and accounting classes challenge you to identify and analyze problems and make recommendations about today’s vital business issues.

Accounting classes also emphasize communication and interpersonal skills as well as the ethical responsibilities of accounting professionals.

Accounting majors have access to the state-of-the-art Accounting Lab, which provides students with access to Netsuite Oracle, ACL and other accounting software. Students use the Accounting Lab for course assignments and projects across the accounting curriculum.

A number of extracurricular activities will enhance your classroom experience. Two organizations, Beta Alpha Psi and the Student Accounting Association, host guest speakers on campus and organize networking events. These events give you the chance to meet accounting professionals and learn about career opportunities. In addition, to help you make the transition to professional life, the Accounting Advisory Board, composed of regional professionals, sponsors a dynamic mentoring program.

The accounting program satisfies the accounting course requirements of Pennsylvania’s 150 hour CPA law. Therefore, students who complete our undergraduate program have the option of choosing from a variety of graduate programs to satisfy the additional 30 academic credits needed to reach 150 in total. Graduate programs such as the Masters of Accountancy, the Masters of Science in Information Systems Management, or the MBA, will allow students to customize their education given their career aspirations.

Scholarship and awards

Each year, many accounting students receive internal awards and scholarships, which are based on academic merit, leadership and dedication to Duquesne University’s tradition of service to the community. Alumni and accounting firms as well as corporations and professional organizations that support the mission of the accounting program have provided more than \$70,000 annually in scholarships to accounting students.

Career Prospects

Accounting majors have historically been able to choose from a wide variety of career paths and employers. Most accounting students have job offers by the first semester of their final year, and almost all accounting students have jobs by graduation or shortly thereafter.

(continued on reverse)

Courses

Course	Prerequisites	Semesters Offered
BUSINESS CORE COURSES (48 credits)		
REQUIRED COURSES (24 Credits)		
ACCT 310 Accounting Information Systems	ACCT 214, ACCT 215	Fall, Spring
ACCT 311 Intermediate Accounting I	ACCT 215	Fall, Spring
ACCT 312 Intermediate Accounting II	ACCT 311	Fall, Spring
ACCT 314 Advanced Accounting	ACCT 312	Fall, Spring
ACCT 315 Cost Accounting	ACCT 215	Fall, Spring
ACCT 411W Auditing	ACCT 312	Spring
ACCT 412W Introductory Income Tax Accounting	ACCT 214, ACCT 215	Fall
ACCT 414 Corporate and Partnership Taxation	ACCT 412	Spring
ELECTIVE (3 Credits)		
BLAW 354 Commercial Transactions*	BLAW 251	Spring
BLAW 355W Law of Business Organizations	BLAW 251	Fall
BLAW 454 Law of International Commercial Transactions	BLAW 251	Fall
FINC 334 Theory of Finance	FINC 331	Fall, Spring
FINC 333 Financial Management	FINC 331	Fall, Spring
ISYS 381W Systems Analysis and Design	ISYS 184	Fall
BUAD 401 Business Administration Internship	60 credits & two major courses completed	Fall, Spring, Summer

**Students taking the CPA examination are strongly encouraged to take BLAW 354 as an elective.*

Recommended Sequence

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Junior Year	310 Accounting Information Systems 311 Intermediate Accounting I	312 Intermediate Accounting II 315 Cost Accounting
Senior Year	314 Advanced Accounting 412W Income Tax Accounting	354 Commercial Transactions 411W Auditing 414 Corporate and Partnership Taxation

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn a minimum overall GPA of a 2.0.

A Minor in Accounting (18 Credits)

Students can earn a minor in Accounting by completing ACCT 214, 215 (from the Business Core), plus ACCT 311, 312, 314 and 315.

It is the responsibility of the student to know both University-wide graduation requirements and those of the major field of study and to meet all requirements satisfactorily for graduation.

This information is subject to change and this publication cannot be considered an agreement or contract between the individual and the School. The Palumbo-Donahue School of Business reserves the right to alter or amend the terms, conditions and requirements and to eliminate courses as necessary. Students should consult on a regular basis with their advisor for specific information related to their major and/or minor requirements. Rev.7/18