



The Master of Accounting program prepares individuals for professional careers and ultimately for leadership positions in today's business world. Additionally, many states require that those desiring to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) must have 150 hours of college education. The Master of Accounting degree is a natural extension in the pursuit of this requirement.

The 30 credit-hour MAcc degree is an interdisciplinary program, which offers the flexibility to accommodate students with a variety of educational backgrounds and career objectives. Students have the choice of taking 9 to 15 of the graduate credit hours required for the Master of Accounting degree in the MBA or other graduate programs. The program is known for providing personal attention, small class settings and easy access to faculty.

Accreditation The St. Ambrose University Master of Accounting program is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). St. Ambrose University is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Program Objectives

- > Provides an in-depth body of professional knowledge in the field of accounting based on a strong liberal arts undergraduate degree.
- > Allows for the opportunity to pursue additional coursework that helps students stay current in the ever-changing world of accounting.

- > Establishes a potential for career development and advancement in the profession.
- > Provides a theoretical and practical body of knowledge, which will allow for independent thinking, analysis of problem solving and a search for new knowledge in the profession.

Program Structure To accommodate a variety of student needs and situations, the degree can be earned in a number of ways:

- > **Full-time program.** Students may take daytime and evening classes to complete the degree in one year.
- > **Full-time accelerated program.** Students may take daytime and evening classes to complete the degree in a summer session and a fall semester.
- > **Part-time evening program.** Students may take classes in the evening and complete the degree in two years.

Prerequisites The equivalent of an undergraduate degree in accounting from an accredited four-year college will meet the prerequisite requirements for the Master of Accounting program. Prerequisites for other undergraduate degrees include: 24 credits of accounting; 6 credits of economics; 3 credits of mathematics (can be fulfilled by college algebra or higher, Quantitative Reasoning in Business, or a course approved by the program director); 9 credits of business (including 3 credits of business law, 3 credits of business statistics and 3 credits of business elective). A candidate may enroll in a Master of Accounting course as soon as the prerequisites for the course are met.

Curriculum

> Requirements for the Master of Accounting (30 credit hours)

Required Master of Accounting courses (6 credit hours):

Advanced Financial Accounting Theory and Emerging Issues

Advanced Managerial Accounting Theory

Master of Accounting electives (at least 9 credit hours):

Advanced Auditing

Research/Cases in Taxation

Advanced Accounting Information Systems

Research Methods/Report Writing and Communication in Business

Advanced Financial Accounting Topics

Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting

International Accounting

Forensic Accounting

Financial Statement Analysis and Valuation

Law for Accountants

Seminar in Graduate Accounting Topics

Graduate Accounting Internship

A maximum of 15 credit hours of graduate electives approved by the Director of the Master of Accounting Program.

Admission Requirements

Individuals with a bachelor's degree in any field from an accredited institution may apply to the MAcc program for admission in fall, spring or summer semesters.

> Applicants must have an undergraduate degree in accounting or 24 credit hours in undergraduate accounting. Those with other undergraduate degrees must fulfill prerequisite requirements.

> Official transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate school attended must be submitted.

> Students who have an overall GPA of at least 3.5 and a 3.5 or higher GPA in accounting courses are not required to take the GMAT test. Applicants who are non-accounting majors must take all prerequisites before applying the above policy. For applicants who do not meet this policy:

Candidates must submit an official score from the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT). No GMAT score older than five years is accepted. Students planning to complete the program in one year or less must receive an acceptable score on the GMAT before their first semester of enrollment. Students planning to enroll before taking the GMAT may take a maximum of 6 credit hours before receiving an acceptable score on the GMAT. The admission formula is the student's GPA times 200 plus the student's GMAT score ($GPA \times 200 + GMAT$). Candidates with 1100 points will be admitted unconditionally. Applicants with an admissions formula score of 1000 and a score of at least 450 on the GMAT and will be considered for admission.

Admission Status

> **Full Admission** may be granted when the student's file is complete. This includes an application with the non-refundable application fee, official transcripts, and one of the following: Official transcripts showing a 3.5 or higher GPA, overall and in accounting; Official GMAT score not older than five years, with a minimum admissions formula score of 1100 points.

> **Conditional Admission** may be granted when the student's file is incomplete. The College of Business must receive the student's official transcripts by the end of the first semester of enrollment and receive an acceptable score on the GMAT before registering for more than 6 credit hours or for the second semester. Students planning to complete the program in one year or less must either meet the 3.5 GPA rule, or receive an acceptable score on the GMAT, before registering for classes. If these conditions are not met the student may be dismissed from the program.

> **Probationary Admission** occurs when a student has an admission formula score below 1100, but a score of at least 450 on the GMAT and 1000 on the admissions formula. Admission decisions are reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the program director, taking into consideration the student's personal motivation to succeed.

> **Special Student Status** is granted to students who wish to enroll in graduate level courses, but are not seeking a graduate degree or credential. Special Status Students are allowed to take up to two graduate courses without declaring a program of study. They are required to follow regular application and registration procedures (except for the GMAT).

Financial Assistance A limited number of graduate assistantships and fellowships are available. Scholarships from the George J. Till Accounting Scholarship Fund for full-time Master of Accounting students with a GPA of 3.5 or higher are also available. Check with the program director for details. The Financial Aid Office provides information on loans for graduate studies.

International Students Visa holders are subject to federal nonimmigrant laws that vary based on visa type. For information on admission requirements and academic guidelines for specific visa types, contact International Student Services at global@sau.edu.

For Further Information

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The material presented here is for informational purposes and does not substitute for the catalog. Consult the official university catalog for complete program requirements.