

# MASTER OF ACCOUNTANCY

## Program Director

Dr. Raymond J. Shaffer  
rjshaffer@ysu.edu

## Program Description

The Master of Accountancy (MAcc) degree is designed to promote advanced professional competencies and to enhance opportunities for career success. Heavy emphasis is placed on the application of theory to actual practice so that graduates will immediately be able to add value to business organizations. Graduates will meet Ohio and Pennsylvania State Board of Accountancy requirements to sit for the Uniform CPA Examination. In addition, the program will help prepare graduates to sit for other professional exams such as the CMA (Certified Management Accountant) exam. The 30-hour MAcc program can be completed in two semesters of full-time study, or may be completed on a part-time basis.

## Admission Requirements

Students with a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and a minimum accounting GPA of 3.0 will be granted direct admission into the MAcc Program. Students with an overall GPA or accounting GPA between 2.7 and 2.99 may be granted provisional admission as provided by YSU Graduate College admission policies. Students with a GPA below 2.7, either overall or in accounting, will be required to pass foundational coursework to be considered for admission to the MAcc Program and as a requirement for provisional admission. Students with an overall GPA below 2.7 will be required to take the GRE or GMAT to be considered for admission.

As part of the online Graduate Admission application and College of Graduate Studies requirements, applicants to the MAcc Program should submit a letter of application, a current resume/vita, and at least two letters of recommendation which speak to the applicant's capacity and ability to successfully complete a graduate degree program in accounting.

Students without an undergraduate major in accounting must have completed the following prerequisite coursework with a grade of "C" or better: Intermediate Accounting I & II, Federal Income Taxation, Cost Accounting, Accounting Information Systems (AIS), and Auditing. The Program Director will oversee the admission process to ensure student success and overall high-quality of the MAcc program.

Students with a major in accounting where the relevant undergraduate accounting coursework (major accounting courses) was taken several years ago and/or do not have recent, substantial, relevant accounting experience (as judged by the Program Director) should consider taking foundational coursework to be successful in the MAcc Program.

## Graduate Faculty

**Huaiyu (Peter) Chen**, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Equity market; abnormal return

**Marsha M. Huber**, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Tax compliance; education; work-life balance

**Karin A. Petruska**, Ph.D., Associate Professor  
Financial accounting and reporting; international accounting; earnings quality and disclosure; analyst following; forensic accounting

**Jeremy T. Schwartz**, Ph.D., Assistant Professor  
Practice-based case studies; public pensions

**Fran Marie Wolf**, Ph.D., Professor  
Financial management; advanced financial analysis

## Degree Requirements

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
Required Courses		20
ACCT 5814	Federal Taxation 2	3
ACCT 5820	Government and Funds Accounting	3
ACCT 6930	Financial Accounting Regulation	3
ACCT 6945	Accounting Ethics and Professionalism	2
ACCT 6970	Capstone Experience	4
MGT 6945	Business Process Integration	2
BUS 6940	Data Analytics and Data Management	3
Recommended Track CPA Public		10
ACCT 6972	Audit Theory Review and Practice	2
ACCT 6974	Financial Accounting Theory Review and Practice	2
Electives		6
Recommended Track CMA-Corporate		10
FIN 6902	Financial Accounting and Finance for Decision Making	1
FIN 6923	Corporate Financial Management	2
FIN 6953	Advanced Financial Analysis	3
MBA 6931	Effective Business Communication	1
Elective		3
Total Required Hours		30
Graduate Elective Course Options		
ACCT 6922	Accounting for Managerial Decisions	2
ACCT 6935	Research Accounting and Tax	3
ACCT 6910	Business Internship	1-3
ACCT 6915	Estate Planning	3
ACCT 6950	Fraud Examination	3
ACCT 6968	Special Topics in Accounting	1-3
FIN 6945	Business Valuation	3

## Learning Outcomes

1. Acquire advanced knowledge of accounting.
2. Recognize ethical issues considered in a business context.
3. Be able to communicate in a business appropriate manner.
4. Utilize relevant information resources to support decision making.

## Graduate Courses

### ACCT 5814 Federal Taxation 2 3 s.h.

Study of current Federal income tax law applying to proprietorships, corporations, S corporations, and partnerships. Includes fundamentals of researching tax law and preparing business tax returns. 2.5 overall GPA.  
**Prereq.:** "C" or better in ACCT 4813.

### ACCT 5820 Government and Funds Accounting 3 s.h.

Generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit and governmental organizations as established by the appropriately recognized, standard-setting bodies. Includes state and local governments, school districts, colleges and universities, hospitals, voluntary health and welfare organizations, and others.  
**Prereq.:** "C" or better in ACCT 3701 and 2.5 overall GPA.

### ACCT 6901 Financial Accounting Decision Making 2 s.h.

A survey of the fundamental concepts of financial accounting employed by general managers.  
**Prereq.:** Permit required.

**ACCT 6905 Business Tax Planning and Research 1 3 s.h.**

A study of the tax planning process and how it relates to employee and employer matters including, but not limited to, the alternative minimum tax, personal holding companies, unreasonable accumulations of earnings, depreciation recapture, retirement structuring, tax credits, taxation of international persons, and estate tax issues, including both lifetime and testamentary transfers. Paper and electronic research media will be utilized along with various formats for presentation of results.

**Prereq.:** ACCT 5814 or equivalent.

**ACCT 6908 Auditing Theory and Practice 3 s.h.**

A study of auditing standards and procedures, use of statistical and other quantitative techniques, and auditing electronic data processing installations. Other topics include practice before the Securities and Exchange Commission, special reporting problems, current developments in auditing, professional ethics and responsibilities, and extensions of the attest function.

**Prereq.:** ACCT 4808 Auditing or equivalent.

**ACCT 6909 Management Information and Control Systems 3 s.h.**

A study of the formalized set of interrelated methods, procedures, and equipment utilized in developing, processing, storing, and reporting business financial and statistical information. The major emphasis is on computerized systems, although some attention is also given to manual operations and/or subsystems.

**Prereq.:** MGT 6900 and FIN 6900 or equivalent.

**ACCT 6910 Business Internship 1-3 s.h.**

Provides graduate students the opportunity to relate theory to practice through on-the-job work experience with a participating organization. The internship will serve as an elective MBA course.

**Prereq.:** Completion of level I MBA coursework and six semester hours of level II MBA coursework.

**ACCT 6912 Advanced Management and Cost Accounting 3 s.h.**

An examination of the managerial uses of accounting information for planning and control, and an investigation of cost accounting theory and practice.

**Prereq.:** ACCT 3711 Cost Accounting or equivalent.

**ACCT 6915 Estate Planning 3 s.h.**

A study of estate and gift tax law including tax return preparation. Emphasis on the importance of estate planning and the devices available for use in such planning, and effective uses of lifetime gifts, trusts, life insurance, pension plans, profit sharing, and other fringe benefit plans. The effects of state inheritance tax and property laws upon estate planning will be included.

**Prereq.:** "C" or better in ACCT 4813 or equivalent.

**ACCT 6922 Accounting for Managerial Decisions 2 s.h.**

Capital budgeting. Product costing. Pricing. Relevant and timely accounting information associated with these is necessary to make informed decisions. To improve their managerial decision making capabilities, participants will learn to examine, prepare and interpret accounting reports from the perspective of the manager of an organization.

**Prereq.:** Graduate standing.

**ACCT 6925 Oil and Gas Accounting 3 s.h.**

A study of the accounting and taxation principles and procedures of the petroleum industry. Topics include exploration, leasing, drilling and production problems.

**Prereq.:** "C" or better in ACCT 2603 or FIN 6902.

**ACCT 6930 Financial Accounting Regulation 3 s.h.**

The major objective of the course is to enable students to understand both the theoretical and practical aspects of compliance and regulation. Emphasis is on financial statement regulation and standard setting, including differences in financial measurement and reporting practices that exist in the U.S. and internationally. The course will examine how effective governance systems are implemented within all forms of organizations.

**Prereq.:** Graduate standing.

**ACCT 6935 Research Accounting and Tax 3 s.h.**

A study of the practical research process, providing useful guidance and information in conducting professional accounting and tax research. A broad range of case analyses allows a focus on current topics in the accounting profession.

**Prereq.:** "C" or better in ACCT 3702 and ACCT 4813.

**ACCT 6945 Accounting Ethics and Professionalism 2 s.h.**

This course will include coverage of professional ethics in accounting, practice development in accounting (including services marketing), and accounting-related career success skills. The course will be a combination of personal reflection, cases, lectures, outside guests (from accounting firms and entities and those that hire them), and a project identifying a development challenge faced by accountants with recommendations on what should be done.

**Prereq.:** Graduate Standing.

**ACCT 6950 Fraud Examination 3 s.h.**

A study of occupational fraud and abuse. Topics include asset misappropriation schemes, corruption, and fraudulent statements, including fraudulent financial statements. Coverage includes implications for the fraud examiner and corporate management.

**Prereq.:** ACCT 2602 or FIN 6902.

**ACCT 6960 Seminar in Accounting 2 s.h.**

Specific topics selected by the staff from timely and controversial work published in the field.

**Prereq.:** All core courses, plus at least six hours (6900-level) in accounting or permission of instructor.

**ACCT 6968 Special Topics in Accounting 1-3 s.h.**

Topics may vary from semester to semester and will be announced with prerequisites and hours. May be repeated.

**ACCT 6968R Special Topics in Accounting Integrating Design Thinking with Accounting Decision Making 1-3 s.h.**

Topics may vary from semester to semester and will be announced with prerequisites and hours. May be repeated.

**ACCT 6970 Capstone Experience 4 s.h.**

A culmination of learning experiences necessary for accounting professionals. Strong emphasis will be placed upon the CPA/CMA exam experience. An integrative, team-based project will be required. Program level : ACCT 5814, ACCT 6930, completion of at least 12 hours of MAcc coursework.

**ACCT 6972 Audit Theory Review and Practice 2 s.h.**

A culmination of learning experiences in the auditing area necessary for accounting professionals, with a strong emphasis placed upon the CPA (Certified Public Accountant) exam in the financial accounting areas. An integrative, practice-based project in auditing will be required.

**Prereq.:** undergraduate major in accounting or its equivalent.

**ACCT 6974 Financial Accounting Theory Review and Practice 2 s.h.**

A culmination of learning experiences in the financial accounting area necessary for accounting professionals, with a strong emphasis placed upon the CPA (Certified Public Accountant) exam in the financial accounting area. An integrative, practice-based project in financial accounting will be required.

**Prereq.:** undergraduate major in accounting or its equivalent.

**ACCT 6975 Business Tax Planning 2 2 s.h.**

This course continues the study of income tax laws concerning corporations generally, including Subchapter S corporations, corporate reorganizations, partnership taxation, and tax administration and practice.

**Prereq.:** ACCT 6905.

**ACCT 6980 Governmental and Nonprofit Accounting 2 s.h.**

A study of accounting systems for federal, state, and local governmental agencies and other not-for-profit organizations. (Not available for credit to students who have had ACCT 4820.)

**Prereq.:** FIN 6900 Government and Funds Accounting or equivalent.

**ACCT 6996 Research Problems 1-4 s.h.**

Special research project under the supervision of a graduate faculty member. Credit will be determined in each case in light of the nature and extent of the project.

**Prereq.:** Fifteen hours of level II MBA coursework or permission of MBA director.