

Business professionals need a broad range of skills for advanced managerial positions while also demonstrating expertise in specialized roles. This MBA program with an accounting concentration offers accounting professionals the opportunity to develop and practice advanced management and decision-making skills while focusing on in-depth topics and current developments in the accounting profession. Although students in the program would greatly benefit from having an undergraduate degree in a business discipline, it is not required.

Each state sets forth standards required to be eligible to take the CPA exam and apply for licensure or certification as a CPA. The Certified Management Accountant (CMA) certification requires membership in the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) as well as education, work experience, and examination requirements. While the programs at West are designed with consideration for the standards proposed by the National Association of State Boards of Accounting (NASBA) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the IMA, West cannot assure that successful graduates will meet their states' or IMA's specific eligibility requirements to take the CPA or CMA exams or apply for licensure or certification as a CPA or CMA. Applicants should check with their appropriate state organization and/or the IMA to determine if the West program, combined with their undergraduate degree, work experience, and any other specific criteria, meets examination and licensing eligibility requirements for the CPA and/or CMA designations. State and/or IMA requirements may vary from the time of admission to program completion. There is no assurance at the time of program completion that the specific jurisdiction's requirements will be consistent with the requirements at the time of admission.

For gainful employment disclosures about this program, visit <http://west.edu/etc/west/gainful-employment/mbaacc/Gedt.html>

## Program Learning Outcomes

1. Develop an understanding of accounting and business environment terms and concepts.
2. Utilize professional tools used in accounting, audit, and tax for research and application.
3. Evaluate a set of facts and circumstances through professional judgment to develop business solutions.

## Required Course of Study

*MBA Accounting Core Requirements - 24 credits*

*Major Requirements - 12 credits*

*Capstone - 3 credits*

*Credits Required for Degree: 39*

## MBA Accounting Core Requirements

*MBA Accounting Core Requirements – 24 credits*

### CUL 623 Global Communication for Professionals

This course provides an overview of critical topics related to professional communication in the global economy and prepares students to develop strategies for successful intercultural exchanges. Students evaluate verbal and non-verbal communication models as they are manifested across cultures and create research-based analyses of cross-cultural scenarios. Course content addresses the application of intercultural communication skills to organizational structures and decision-making, negotiations, and ethics.

### ACC 550 Accounting Principles and Foundations

This course is designed to provide students without a background in accounting (undergraduate education or professional work experience) the fundamental concepts such as accounting cycle, debits and credit, managerial/cost techniques, and basic financial statement preparation.

### FIN 645 Corporate Finance\*

This course focuses on the analytical methods required for corporate financial management within domestic and international firms. Students interpret financial statements and perform stock, bond, project, and firm valuations using various methodologies. Subjects include dividend theoretical models, risk and return valuation, capital budgeting, and short-term financing.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 550 or ACC 600 or IT 638 or MPA 645

### INB 601 International Business Environment

This course develops an understanding of the economic, political, social, and technological issues of many nations as they relate to the global business environment. Also covered are strategic plans and



logistical systems of the multinational firm and how they are adjusted to meet the corporation's goals. Alternative management structures of corporate policies and strategies as related to the global operation are also examined.

#### **IT 620 Information Resource Management**

This course includes the techniques and methodology of managing data, information, and knowledge at all levels of an organization. Students describe the business environment within the structures of the information age and how information management informs organizational strategies. Themes include information systems planning, systems development, outsourcing, and leadership.

#### **MGT 625 Strategic Management**

This course examines the process for developing and implementing a strategic plan in order to gain a competitive advantage. Students are immersed in the process of strategy creation through a focus on case studies to reinforce the application of theory to contemporary business realities. Topics include microeconomic foundations of competitive strategy, mission and vision statement development and analysis, and strategy evaluation.

#### **MKT 646 Strategic Concepts in Marketing**

Through this course, students learn the critical role of marketing in modern, cross-cultural businesses. Students learn to formulate strategies that are built upon in-depth marketing research and analysis, understanding of consumer behavior decision-making, and the development of integrated marketing programs to achieve target objectives. The course focuses on the marketing process whereby students learn to create, communicate and deliver value to chosen target customers. As a final deliverable, students develop a marketing plan for a new or existing service-oriented offering that integrates all components of the marketing process.

#### **RES 600 Graduate Research Methods**

This course provides graduate students with the tools necessary for completing the in-depth research, reading, writing, and speaking activities central to all coursework at West. Students advance their studies of research design and methodology and apply these skills to their programs of study. Subjects include primary and secondary research, descriptive and inferential statistics,

regression and correlation analysis, and research presentation.

### **Major Course Descriptions**

*Major Requirements – 12 credits*

#### **ACC 601 Intermediate Accounting Applications I\***

This course provides an in-depth discussion of the accounting cycle including preparation of the balance sheet, and focuses on a more comprehensive study of the sections of this key financial statement. An advanced discussion of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) is also included. In addition to discussion of the standards and principles of financial accounting and accounting information systems, additional topics include the further study of both current and long-term assets, as well as liabilities and stockholder's equity.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 550 or equivalent

#### **ACC 602 Intermediate Accounting Applications II\***

This course furthers an advanced discussion of the income statement and statement of cash flows, including the effect of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) on these financial statements. Students explore the concepts of securities, investments, income taxes, pensions and post-retirement benefits, leases, and full disclosure. Topics are studied through in-depth analysis of corporate financial statements.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 601

*Select two of the following courses:*

#### **ACC 610 Advanced Cost Accounting\***

This course is designed to present cost accounting concepts and skills at the graduate level. It addresses general business concerns of cost management and control. Managers use cost accounting information to make decisions on strategy formulation, research and development, budgeting, production planning, and pricing. Students gain hands-on experience in the application of these cost accounting concepts.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 550 or equivalent

#### **ACC 617 Accounting Theory and Research\***

This course is designed to introduce students to the concepts of accounting theory, which provides an



understanding of why companies elect certain accounting methods. The course will cover accounting principles and relationships that explain observed practices and predict unobserved practices. In addition, students learn how accounting theory can be verified through accounting research.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 550 or equivalent

#### **ACC 618 Advanced Auditing\***

This course serves as a graduate-level introduction to the auditing of financial statements. Students learn about professional responsibilities of the auditor, ethics, how to evaluate potential clients, audit planning, evidence gathering and evaluation of internal controls, audit conduct, and the audit report. The course also addresses the responsibilities of corporate executives under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 602

#### **ACC 622 Federal Taxation\***

This course is designed to give students an overview of federal taxation laws and forms. Students obtain a basic understanding of issues related to tax laws, the origin of tax laws, concepts, and their application. Other course topics include the determination of income, deductions, exclusion, and deferrals. Students work with the individual 1040 form and related Schedules A, B, and C. The course also covers business taxation, including that of partnerships, corporations, and Subchapter S Corporations using forms 1065, 1120, and 1120S. In addition, the course introduces the principles and concepts related to researching tax issues.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 550 or equivalent

#### **ACC 623 Forensic Accounting\***

This course serves as an introduction to forensic accounting and focuses on the detection and deterrence of fraud. Students will be exposed to the major types of fraud schemes, including skimming, cash larceny, billing schemes, check tampering and payroll schemes, as well as the most common fraudulent financial statement schemes. Students will also learn the techniques associated with gathering and preserving evidence, interviewing witnesses and writing reports. Resources available to the fraud investigator will be discussed, and students will have an opportunity to examine various components of a corporate code of conduct to analyze how it can be used in fraud investigation.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 602

#### **ACC 641 International Accounting\***

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic concepts in international accounting, financial reporting, and financial control. The course will compare International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). It will explain international accounting terminology, application, and the importance of international dimensions of accounting for today's professionals. It will also provide students with hands-on experience preparing international financial statements.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 602

#### **ACC 642 Multinational Taxation\***

The objective of this course is to provide students with an introduction to the complex rules of international taxation and present a broad survey of the U.S. federal income taxation rules relating to international transactions. This course addresses inbound transactions, the treatment of non-resident aliens, and foreign corporations investing and/or doing business in the United States. It also addresses outbound transactions, the treatment of U.S. citizens and residents investing and/or doing business outside the United States. In addition, the course emphasizes the reading and application of original source authorities. Upon successful completion, students will have a working knowledge of international taxation, enabling them to discuss international tax issues.

\*Prerequisite: ACC 622

#### **ACC 675 Advanced Consolidation Accounting\***

This course is designed to introduce students to concepts related to financial accounting and reporting, specifically business combinations, consolidated financial statements, foreign currency translation, international accounting, and translation of financial statements of foreign affiliates. The course addresses how convergence with international accounting standards is important to every aspect of financial reporting. It will also provide students with hands-on experience in the process of business combination and financial statement preparation. International Financial Reporting Standards are emphasized throughout the course.



\*Prerequisite: ACC 641

## Capstone Course Descriptions

*Capstone – 3 credits*

### **ACC 698 Accounting Capstone\***

The Accounting Capstone course incorporates various accounting components such as financial reporting and analysis. A course-long project will be the major component of the course, allowing students to demonstrate achievement of the program objectives.

\*Prerequisite: 33 credits