School of Accountancy

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The School of Accountancy's mission is to foster Enlightened Practice, Professional Achievement, Knowledge Creation and a Commitment to Community among its students, graduates, faculty and others engaged in the accounting profession and related disciplines.

- **Enlightened Practice** means ensuring that our graduates understand the theory and practice of accounting and its ramifications on society, the profession and organizations.
- **Professional Achievement** includes accomplishment at each level of one's career and commitment to lifelong learning, competence and integrity.
- **Knowledge Creation** means scholarship which improves our understanding of accounting, the practice of accounting and the process of educating future accountants.
- **Commitment to Community** is the process of giving of oneself both to the community that supports one's efforts and achievements and to the community at large. **Commitment to Community** is a vital aspect of the accounting profession and is critical to the School's ongoing success.

Our programs achieve this mission by emphasizing technical knowledge and analytical ability, interpersonal skills and intercultural understanding, and ethically based leadership and social responsibility. In the School of Accountancy, students learn to integrate accounting concepts and business applications in the context of communication, ethics, values and technology. This integration is accomplished in the undergraduate business core and in the School of Accountancy core.

The School of Accountancy's strengths include the following:

- an established reputation as a provider of quality programs
- highly qualified faculty who emphasize teaching and relevant research
- student access to faculty—both individually and in relatively small classes
- innovative curricula
- emphasis on state-of-the-art technology throughout the curricula
- emphasis on practical experience
- a rigorous educational experience

The degree prepares students to work as strategic business advisors who can analyze and understand today's complex business environment. Students gain expertise in the traditional accounting arenas of managerial accounting, financial reporting, systems, auditing and tax, as well as in the nontraditional areas of technology, marketing, strategic planning and finance. The School of Accountancy offers a bachelor of science in accounting (BSAcc), a master of accountancy (MAcc) and a dual degree option that allows completion of the bachelor's and master's degrees in five years.

Refer to the appropriate sections of this bulletin for the admission, retention and graduation requirements for the School of Accountancy, which differ from the general requirements of the Daniels College of Business.

**Program Objectives**

Objectives of the BSAcc are to prepare students for entry-level positions in accounting. In this program, students will learn how to

1. prepare and interpret financial statements for business enterprises;
2. use accounting data to evaluate performance and enable decision-making;
3. apply the principles related to the design, integrity and effectiveness of accounting information systems;
4. explain the role of auditing in society, including auditing procedures and reporting requirements;
5. apply federal tax laws pertaining to individuals; and
6. Analyze the legal, ethical and legislative constructs that govern the conduct of business.

**Criteria for Admission to the BSAcc Program**

**Continuing Students**

- Students must have junior status.
- Students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA (overall and in the following courses: ACTG 2200, FIN 2800 and ACTG 2300).
- If a student fails to meet the required GPA, he or she may still be able to qualify for the School of Accountancy. Please consult with the director of the School of Accountancy.
Other specific admission requirements apply. Please see the School of Accountancy for details.

Transfer Students
Undergraduate transfer students must meet the requirements listed for continuing students. Credits are considered for transfer only if they meet the following standards:

- A minimum grade of “B” must be earned in each accounting course.
- Accounting courses beyond principles must be taken at an AACSB-accredited institution or approved by the School of Accountancy.
- Courses must be comparable to required courses offered in the School of Accountancy. Any required courses that do not meet the above criteria must either be validated by examination or retaken. In computing the GPA for purposes of admission to the School of Accountancy, work transferred from previous schools and work at the University of Denver are included.

Retention Requirement for Bachelor of Science in Accounting
To remain in the program, a student must maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher, both overall and in accounting courses.

Accounting
Bachelor of Science in Accounting Major Requirements

Minimum of 43 credits. Students must earn a minimum 2.5 GPA, both overall, in all business courses, and in accounting courses. If a GPA deficiency exists at the time the prescribed program is completed, no more than 10 credits of approved additional accounting courses and non-accounting courses may be taken in an attempt to correct the deficiency.

Accounting Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACTG 3016</td>
<td>Accounting Core I - Accounting Fundamentals</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3018</td>
<td>Intermediate Financial Accounting I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3019</td>
<td>Cost Management</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3036</td>
<td>Accounting Core II - Federal Income Taxation</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3038</td>
<td>Accounting Core II - Intermediate Financial Accounting II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3049</td>
<td>Accounting Information Systems</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3068</td>
<td>Intermediate Financial Accounting III</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3069</td>
<td>Accounting Communications</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3551</td>
<td>Auditing</td>
<td>4</td>
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Additional Accounting Courses
Select 8 credits from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACTG 3462</td>
<td>Corporate &amp; Partnership Tax</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3607</td>
<td>Not-For-Profit and Governmental Accounting</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3284</td>
<td>Consolidated Financial Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACTG 3285</td>
<td>Accounting for Foreign Operations</td>
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Total Credits 43

Core in Accountancy
The core in accountancy is a yearlong, fully integrated series of courses of 11-12 credits each quarter, for a total of 35 credits. Each quarter must be completed in its entirety before the student can move on to the next quarter. Any student with an ACTG GPA below 2.5 at the end of the third quarter will not be permitted to continue in the accounting major. Both accounting and non-accounting subjects are covered in the core. The accounting material includes courses in cost and managerial accounting, financial reporting, systems, tax, auditing and accounting research. Non-accounting material includes oral and written communications, technology, ethics and legal issues. Classes in the core normally are completed during the junior year.

Minor Requirements
The Accounting minor is available only to students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree.

16 credits, including the following:
Undergraduate/Graduate Dual Degree Program in Accounting

The School of Accountancy offers undergraduates an accelerated program leading to the master of accountancy (MAcc). Students may apply for admission to the graduate program after completing the junior accounting core. Admission is based on academic performance, interview, GMAT scores and reference letters. Students accepted to the program may complete the BSAcc and MAcc in a total of five years.

Courses

ACTG 2010 Survey of Accounting (4 Credits)
Accounting for running a business, with modules on financial accounting and a focus on managerial accounting. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. Business minors only.

ACTG 2200 Introduction to Financial Reporting (4 Credits)
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to accounting and its relevance in the business world. Students learn how to analyze transactions and prepare financial statements. In addition, students are introduced to publicly traded company’s annual reports and 10k’s. Prerequisite: degree checkpoint 1.

ACTG 2300 Accounting for Decision Making (4 Credits)
Introduces or reinforces concepts and techniques for using accounting information for managerial purposes. The focus is on interpreting financial information and making business decisions, not accumulating or preparing accounting information. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 1 and ACTG 2200.

ACTG 2992 Directed Study (1-10 Credits)

ACTG 3016 Accounting Core I - Accounting Fundamentals (3 Credits)
This course focuses on the fundamental elements and terminology of business transactions and related financial accounting; the accounting systems or recording, classifying, and summarizing information; accounting as a profession; economic and ethical issues relating to financial accounting; and the skills necessary for the professional accountant. The course is designed to prepare future accountants to understand how the accounting system functions within the larger environment of business. This course is an accounting workshop with students doing problems, exercises, and participating in class discussions. Prerequisite: degree checkpoint 2.

ACTG 3018 Intermediate Financial Accounting I (4 Credits)
Foundations of financial statement content, including structure of financial accounting theory; accounting process and cycle; income determination and reporting; compound interest concepts and relationship to accounting; accounting and reporting for current assets. Case studies of open-ended accounting problems requiring application of GAAP guidance to fact patterns. Prerequisite: degree checkpoint 2.

ACTG 3019 Cost Management (4 Credits)
This course introduces objectives, methods and problems encountered in cost accounting. Cost accounting is a broad field that often links financial and management accounting, involving communication between accountants and management. Prerequisite: DCB checkpoint 2.

ACTG 3036 Accounting Core II - Federal Income Taxation (4 Credits)
This is the first course in taxation which introduces the federal taxation system, the importance of tax authorities, the concepts of gross income and tax deductions and the tax implications of common property transactions. This course generally focuses on property transactions, but the taxation of individuals is emphasized with an objective being that students are able to properly prepare complex individual tax returns. Prerequisites: ACTG 3016, ACTG 3017, ACTG 3018, BUS 3500, and degree checkpoint 2.

ACTG 3038 Accounting Core II - Intermediate Financial Accounting II (4 Credits)
The focus of this course is the foundation and content of published financial statements. Specifically, it covers the following two modules: 1) assets: recognition, measurement and reporting issues, a) fixed assets and b) intangible assets; 2) liabilities: recognition, measurement and reporting issues, a) current liabilities, b) contingencies, and c) long-term liabilities. Common to each of the modules is an emphasis on reading GAAP and applying the GAAP guidance to fact patterns. In particular, the course is designed to enhance each student’s ability to identify, discuss, and resolve open-ended problems (i.e., those having no single “correct” answer). Therefore, each student must commit to being an active participant in the class discussions. The two main reasons to participate are that (1) the class will be a richer experience if we hear a variety of views on each issue and (2) it is important to develop confidence in your ability to analyze and discuss complex technical issues, and to explain and justify your conclusions. Prerequisites: ACTG 3016, ACTG 3017, ACTG 3018, BUS 3500, and degree checkpoint 2.
**ACTG 3049 Accounting Information Systems (4 Credits)**
The objective of this course is to provide an integrated learning opportunity that encompasses financial statement assurance and accounting information systems. The first part of the course exposes these issues using a hypothetical company based on an actual company. The student should develop a knowledge and understanding of this particular industry and how it provides assurance of the company's financial statements as well as address a variety of challenging accounting information systems issues. The second part of the course focuses on a conceptual framework to emphasize the professional and legal responsibility of accountants, auditors, and management for the design, operation, and control of AIS applications. Prerequisites: DCB checkpoint 2, ACTG 3016, ACTG 3018, ACTG 3019.

**ACTG 3068 Intermediate Financial Accounting III (4 Credits)**
This course is a continuation of ACTG 3018 and ACTG 3038 and completes the examination of the foundation and content of published financial statements. Specific topics include: stockholders' equity, investments in debt and equity securities, revenue recognition, income taxes, pensions, leases, statement of cash flows, accounting changes and errors, and interim reporting. Cross listed with ACTG 4282. Prerequisites: ACTG 3036, ACTG 3037, ACTG 3038, and degree checkpoint 2.

**ACTG 3069 Accounting Communications (4 Credits)**
This course emphasizes critical communications skills for future accounting, tax, auditing and consulting professionals. The course develops written communication skills including but not limited to technical writing, reporting the results of research and explaining complex issues. Oral communication assignments include formal presentations, development of debate skills and boardroom presence. Assignments incorporate business etiquette and teambuilding. Prerequisites: ACTG 3036, ACTG 3037, ACTG 3038, and degree checkpoint 2.

**ACTG 3220 Understanding Financial Statements (4 Credits)**
Provides business majors with the necessary understanding to read, interpret, and use published financial statements. Cross listed with ACTG 4222. Prerequisites: ACTG 2200 and degree checkpoint 1.

**ACTG 3230 Financial Statement Analysis (4 Credits)**
Consolidated financial statements, accounting for leases, currency translation, and options and futures impacts, GAAP to restate financial statements for differences between companies. Impact of financial transactions and evaluating a firm's performance from a user's perspective. Cross listed with ACTG 4220. Prerequisites: ACTG 3220 and degree checkpoint 2.

**ACTG 3284 Consolidated Financial Statement (2 Credits)**
Consolidation procedures, issues in the preparation and presentation of consolidated information, and interpretation of consolidated financial statements. Cross-listed with ACTG 4284. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 3282 or ACTG 3068.

**ACTG 3285 Accounting for Foreign Operations (2 Credits)**
Financial statement impact from doing business in a foreign currency, having foreign subsidiaries or operations, and certain hedging activities. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 3282 or ACTG 3068.

**ACTG 3340 Topics and Cases in Managerial Accounting (4 Credits)**
Research and presentation (oral and written) of cases in managerial accounting involving internal reporting, internal uses of financial data, and effects on and considerations of interpersonal and interorganizational relationships. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 2300.

**ACTG 3360 Profit, Planning & Control (4 Credits)**
Comprehensive planning in the corporate environment involving in-depth study of goals, procedures, responsibility, and coordination of planning and control process. Objectives and structuring of planning process, significant problem areas, benchmarks for alternative evaluation processes, and correction and control tools. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 2300.

**ACTG 3440 Business and Investment Tax Issues (4 Credits)**
Income tax conceptual framework applicable to common business and investment transactions, including tax implications of business decisions. How effective business planning depends on accurate assessment of relevant tax factors. Prerequisites: ACTG 2200 and degree checkpoint 1.

**ACTG 3461 Individual Income Tax (4 Credits)**
Federal income tax as it applies to individuals, including discussion of rates, exemptions, deductions, and accounting methods; gross income, property transactions, tax deferred exchanges; business operating taxpayer issues. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 2200.

**ACTG 3462 Corporate & Partnership Tax (4 Credits)**
Federal income tax as applied to the formation, operation and dissolution of business entities. Determination of corporate taxable income, special deductions, credits, methods of computing tax liability and estimated tax requirements. Determination of partnership and S Corporation ordinary income; classification and amount of separately stated items allocable to partners and S Corporation shareholders in accordance with the conduit principle. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 3036 or ACTG 3440.

**ACTG 3551 Auditing (4 Credits)**
This course covers professional ethics and legal environment, generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS), internal control, audit documentation and auditors reports. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2, ACTG 3282 or ACTG 3068 or instructor's permission.

**ACTG 3607 Not-For-Profit and Governmental Accounting (4 Credits)**
Accounting methods and managerial analysis used for governmental bodies and private and public not-for-profit institutions. Cross listed with ACTG 4607. Prerequisites: degree checkpoint 2 and ACTG 3282 or ACTG 3068.
ACTG 3701 Topics in Accounting (1-4 Credits)
ACTG 3702 Topics in Accounting (1-4 Credits)
ACTG 3703 Topics in Accounting (1-4 Credits)
ACTG 3704 Topics in Accounting (1-4 Credits)
ACTG 3705 Topics in Accounting (4 Credits)
Prerequisite: ACTG 3068 or instructor's permission.

ACTG 3880 Internship - Undergraduate (0-4 Credits)
Practical work experience.

ACTG 3885 Undergraduate Field Experience (0 Credits)
Compensated work experience; no academic credit. Prerequisite: instructor's permission.

ACTG 3991 Independent Study (1-10 Credits)
Independent research/study; requires written report. Prerequisite: instructor's permission.

ACTG 3992 Directed Study (1-10 Credits)

ACTG 3995 Independent Research (1-10 Credits)