

Accountancy

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Science in Accountancy (MSA)

Specializations

- Business Analytics
- Taxation

Accountancy at SIUE

The master of science in accountancy (MSA) degree program in the School of Business provides an advanced professional plan of study designed to prepare individuals for careers as professional accountants in public accounting, industry, or the not-for-profit and governmental sectors. The degree program in the Department of Accounting provides you with the skills and knowledge needed to enter the accounting field and to form a foundation for advancement to the highest levels of the profession. Completion of this program will provide, in most cases, the educational qualifications required to sit for the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination. Upon completion of the MSA program, candidates should have acquired the technical knowledge that will serve as a basis for preparation for the relevant professional examination required for certification as a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Management Accountant or Certified Internal Auditor.

The MSA program is designed to be completed on either a full-time or part-time basis. Full-time students with recent undergraduate degrees in accounting can complete the program courses and elective requirements in one year. Part-time students with recent undergraduate degrees in accounting can complete the program courses and elective requirements in two years. Depending on the number of courses taken each semester, students with undergraduate degrees in non-business fields can complete the program and elective requirements in two to four years. Courses in the MSA program are offered in an evening/hybrid format. Accelerated eight-week courses meet one evening per week. This flexible format combines traditional classroom instruction with online assignments. Beginning in spring 2019, courses will be offered in seven-week formats.

Career Opportunities

MSA graduates qualify to sit for the CPA exam in Illinois and have rewarding careers in public accounting as auditors, tax specialists or consultants. Graduates who work in corporate accounting may be employed as managerial accountants, internal auditors, income tax specialists, systems experts or management consultants. In the not-for-profit sector, accountants play important roles in governmental entities, health care organizations and charitable agencies. Based on their wide range of business exposure and knowledge, many accountants ultimately move into high-level management positions.

Hands-on Learning

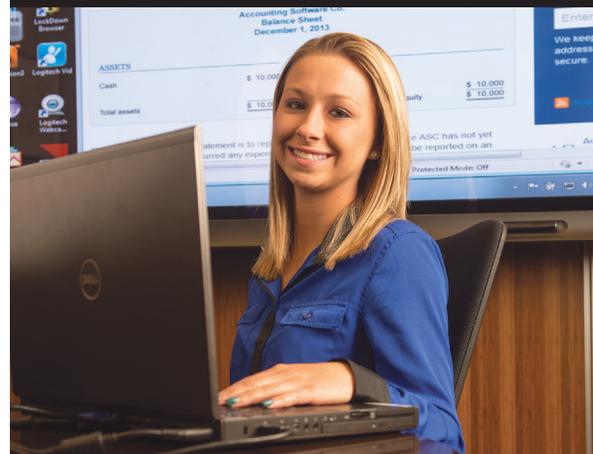
Students in the MSA program earn internships with local corporations and public accounting firms through the SIUE Career Development Center. The School of Business offers several study abroad options. Through study abroad opportunities, students in the MSA program can earn academic credit to satisfy some of the required elective hours. MSA students also have the opportunity to obtain tax experience and expertise by assisting with our IRS-approved, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Admission Requirements

1. Graduate School application and \$40 fee
2. Submission of all post-secondary academic transcripts
3. Successful completion of a bachelor's degree prior to enrollment
4. Minimum GPA of 2.50
5. Applicants for admission to the MSA program who have earned an undergraduate accounting degree from a program with separate AACSB accounting accreditation and an overall GPA of 3.5 (A=4.0) will be admitted to the MSA. Applicants who qualify under this condition will not be required to take the GMAT or GRE and can apply to the MSA any time after the start of the final semester of their undergraduate accounting program.
6. All other applicants for admission to the MSA program must complete the GMAT or the GRE. Candidates who submit GMAT scores must have a minimum score of 500 and a score of at least 25 each on the verbal and quantitative portions of the examination.
7. Personal history information
8. International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent



School of Business Department of Accounting



Graduate Faculty

The Department of Accounting holds separate accounting accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). There are fewer than 180 accounting programs in the world to hold separate accreditation from the AACSB. Faculty members in the MSA program have earned either PhDs or LLM degrees in taxation. Our faculty members also hold the following professional certifications:

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CII)
- Certified Financial Manager (CFM)
- Certified Global Management Accountant (CGMA)

Linda M. Lovata, PhD

1983, Indiana University

Steven D. Brant, MS

1979, Illinois State University

Andrew D. Gross, PhD

2010, University of Arkansas

Jeffrey A. Hemker, LLM

2013, Washington University School of Law

Jamie L. Hoelscher, PhD

2013, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Brad J. Reed, PhD

Department Chair
1995, University of Arizona

Gregory E. Sierra, PhD

Graduate Program Director
2004, Washington University

Admission Requirements, Cont.

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at graduateadmissions@siue.edu.

Based on the formula where the admission score equals 200 times the undergraduate grade point average (A=4.0) plus the GMAT score, admissions requires a total score of 1100. If a candidate submits GRE scores, the scores will be converted to comparable GMAT scores using the GRE Comparison Tool for Business Schools. The converted scores must meet the GMAT and formula standards outlined above.

Applicants with non-accounting undergraduate degrees can satisfy the programs prerequisite requirements by completing appropriate undergraduate prerequisite courses.

Review the SIUE Admissions Policy for more information.

Undergraduate Prerequisite Courses

Applicants can satisfy the program's prerequisite requirements by completing the following admission prerequisite courses, or their equivalent, with a grade point average of 2.7 or better: ACCT 200 or 524, ACCT 301, 302, 303, 311, 312, 315, and 321. These courses do not carry credit toward the MSA degree. Prerequisite courses taken prior to admission to the MSA program ordinarily must have been taken within six years of the date the applicant is admitted. An MSA student undertaking prerequisite courses may be terminated from the program if the student's grade point average calculated over all prerequisite courses taken at SIUE falls below 2.7 for more than 1 semester, the student receives a grade of less than C in any prerequisite course, or the student fails to make satisfactory progress.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete all program requirements and have a 3.0 grade point average in all courses taken in the MSA program (excluding prerequisite courses) and in all program courses and approved elective courses. Only program and elective courses taken within a six-year period preceding the completion of all requirements for the MSA degree will count toward the degree. Foundation courses taken to provide the common body of knowledge in business must be taken within an eight-year period preceding the completion of all requirements for the degree.

A significant research project resulting in a written report and a final examination based on the approved program of study are required of each student to be awarded the MSA degree. Both requirements will be completed as part of the requirements for ACCT 580. A satisfactory grade must be received on both the research report and final examination for completion of the degree requirements.

Ordinarily, the final examination will be administered as part of ACCT 580. The examination will include questions related to the students' program of study, their work in ACCT 580 and their research projects. Some parts of the final examination may be common to all students, while other parts will relate to the individual programs of study. Examination committees will consist of the ACCT 580 instructor and two other members of the graduate faculty from the School of Business appointed by the program director. For a student to pass the final examination, at least two of the three members of the examination committee must concur that the student should receive a passing grade.

Students who do not pass the MSA final examination on the first attempt will have one additional opportunity to complete the final examination. A student who fails the final examination on the second attempt will be required to complete additional course work specified

by the program director before attempting the final examination a third time. Students who do not pass the final examination after three attempts will be terminated from the program.

Each program will be individually tailored so all students can follow their interests through integrated sequences of courses. The entire program is designed to place emphasis on critical thinking, research, and problem-solving. Therefore, the research requirement is not meant to be viewed as the isolated requirement of a single course but the culmination of the student's program of study.

Review the graduation policy for more information.

Program of Study

The MSA degree requires completion of 30 semester hours of course work beyond the prerequisite courses. No more than 12 hours of 400-level course work may apply toward elective requirements of the MSA degree. Specific courses, or their equivalents, used to satisfy a student's undergraduate degree requirements may not be used by that student in satisfying the program or elective requirements of the MSA degree. No more than nine (9) elective hours taken outside the School of Business will count toward the MSA degree. At the discretion of the program director, a maximum of six (6) semester hours of elective requirements may be satisfied by transfer of credit from other institutions. For transfer credit, a grade of B or better must have been earned in the course. Ordinarily, business courses may be transferred only from institutions accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Courses transferred may not have been used to satisfy requirements for any other degree.

Each student's program of study must be approved by his or her graduate advisor. The program of study consists of three parts following completion of all admission prerequisites:

1. **Foundation Courses (up to 18 semester hours):** For students not having completed appropriate courses in the business disciplines within a reasonable time prior to admission, course work will be determined after evaluation of prior courses completed in the area and grades received in those courses, the time since completion of the prior course work, and other evidence of currency of their business knowledge. Determinations of deficiencies made by the program director are final. An undergraduate business degree from SIUE, or the equivalent, completed within six (6) years prior to admission to the MSA program normally will satisfy the foundation course requirements.
2. **Program Courses (9 hours):** ACCT 510, 580 (taken in the last semester of study), and one of the following courses: ACCT 531, 541, 561
3. **Elective Courses (21 hours):** The same course may not be used to meet both the program course and elective course requirements
 1. Accounting Electives (6 to 12 hours; at least 3 hours in courses numbered above 530): ACCT 401, 431, 531, 541, 550, 553, 556, 557, 561, 565, 567, 597
 2. Other electives (9 to 15 hours; no more than 9 hours outside the School of Business)

To remain in good standing in the MSA program, students must maintain a 3.0 (B) grade point average in all courses taken in the MSA program (excluding prerequisite courses) and in all program and approved elective courses. Students who are not in good standing for more than one semester may be terminated from the program.

Contact Information

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Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
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