
MASTER OF ACCOUNTING SCIENCE (M.A.S.)

The mission of the Department of Accountancy at Northern Illinois University is to enhance the profession of accountancy through quality teaching, research, and professional service. We seek to prepare students for successful business careers through teaching excellence in our undergraduate and graduate programs. We strive to develop both academic and professional research that will improve accounting education and/or facilitate accounting professionals in providing quality services to the business community. We also endeavor to advance the profession by providing service to professional organizations and assistance to firms and business professionals.

The objective of the M.A.S. program is to provide its graduates with the professional skills, knowledge, and competencies necessary to be successful, professional accountants in today's complex business environment.

The M.A.S. program is not simply an additional 30 semester hours of accountancy course work. Rather, the program provides individuals with foundational accountancy knowledge that is not covered in the undergraduate program, and with essential business knowledge from the strategy, information technology, and financial management areas. Additionally, the program includes a research skills course and a capstone course in which accountancy and business knowledge is integrated and applied to business decision-making scenarios.

The educational experience enables students to develop professional skills throughout their course work. The program focuses on broad-based accounting knowledge; knowledge in other business disciplines that complements a professional accounting career; the ability to integrate this knowledge to make business decisions; the development of research, communication, technology and team-building skills; and an understanding of ethical issues and expectations for professional conduct.

Our graduates are successfully placed in a wide variety of organizations, including international and national accounting firms and leading corporations located throughout the Midwest. A number of national rankings indicate the quality of the accountancy program at NIU: our CPA pass rate continues to place us among the top 10 schools in the nation, and our programs continue to be ranked among the elite in the nation by both *Public Accounting Report* (where both our graduate programs are ranked in the top 20) and *U.S. News and World Report* (where we are ranked 23rd in the 2008 Annual America's Best Colleges edition). NIU's accountancy program is well known for its effectiveness in preparing students for successful business careers.

LOCATION

Courses are offered on a regular basis at the DeKalb, Illinois, main campus, and are held in Barsema Hall, the new state-of-the-art educational facility for the College of Business. Barsema Hall features the latest technology in all classrooms and computer labs. Most courses are offered in the afternoon and early evening.

THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE

A state-assisted institution of approximately 25,000 students, NIU is located 65 miles west of Chicago in DeKalb, Illinois. The university is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The College of Business and Department of Accountancy are accredited by AACSB International-The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

ADMISSION TO THE M.A.S. PROGRAM

Admission to the Master of Accounting Science program is limited to graduates of accredited colleges and universities who show high promise of success in graduate business study.

Criteria used for admission include:

- Score on the Graduate Management Admissions Test
- Undergraduate grade point average
- Grade point average in undergraduate accountancy courses
- TOEFL score for international students
- Leadership and communication skills

Students who do not have an undergraduate degree in accounting or business are eligible for admission and are encouraged to apply for admission but will be required to take Phase I accounting and business courses.

Applicants should submit all application materials to the director of the M.A.S. program by the following dates to assure consideration for the term indicated:

Fall term — April 1

Spring term — September 15

Summer term — February 1

FINANCIAL AID/COSTS

The M.A.S. program is affordable. The requirements for the degree can typically be met with in-state tuition and fees of approximately \$15,000.

Graduate assistantships are available to assist students financially. The assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis. Contact John Simon, M.A.S. Director, for further details (jsimon@niu.edu).

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS

The internship program is designed to give qualified applicants valuable work experience in accounting. Internships for academic credit are available with leading public and corporate firms during the spring and summer term. Internship income may be used to help offset the cost of the M.A.S. program.

FACULTY

Members of the NIU accountancy faculty are nationally known for their excellence in teaching, research, and public service. All faculty have appropriate degrees in their fields, and all have significant professional backgrounds. Many faculty have received teaching awards and national recognition.

M.A.S. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

(30 semester hours)

The M.A.S. student will select specific courses leading to an area of study in financial reporting and assurance, managerial accounting systems, taxation, or may work with the director to tailor a program of study for the student's specific academic and career goals.

FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ASSURANCE

AREA OF STUDY

ACCY 633, Advanced Financial Reporting

ACCY 650, Advanced Issues in Taxation

ACCY 664, Financial Statement Auditing

ACCY 670, Accounting Research

ACCY 690, Accountancy Capstone/Financial Statement Analysis and Business Valuation

Accountancy Electives (two of the following):

ACCY 562, Internal Auditing

ACCY 565, Forensic Accounting/Fraud Examination

ACCY 580, Governmental and Not-For-Profit Accounting

ACCY 611, Advanced Accounting Information Systems

ACCY 622, Managerial Accounting Information Systems

ACCY 634, Financial Accounting Theory

ACCY 645, Professional Tax Research, or

ACCY 647, Corporate Taxation

ACCY 667, Information Systems Auditing

ACCY 673, Internship in Accountancy

ACCY 682, International Accounting

Non-Accountancy Electives:

Three graduate-level courses in related areas outside the Department of Accountancy with the approval of the adviser.

MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS

AREA OF STUDY

ACCY 611, Advanced Accounting Information Systems
ACCY 622, Managerial Accounting Information Systems
ACCY 650, Advanced Issues in Taxation
ACCY 670, Accounting Research
ACCY 690, Accountancy Capstone/Financial Statement
Analysis and Business Valuation

Accountancy Electives (two of the following):

ACCY 521, Advanced Cost Management
ACCY 562, Internal Auditing
ACCY 565, Forensic Accounting/Fraud Examination
ACCY 664, Financial Statement Auditing
ACCY 667, Information Systems Auditing
ACCY 673, Internship in Accountancy
ACCY 682, International Accounting

Non-Accountancy Electives:

Three graduate-level courses in related areas outside the Department of Accountancy with the approval of the adviser.

TAXATION AREA OF STUDY

ACCY 645, Professional Tax Research
ACCY 647, Corporate Taxation
ACCY 649, Partnership Taxation
ACCY 656, Taxation of Property Transactions
ACCY 690, Accountancy Capstone/Financial Statement
Analysis and Business Valuation

Business/Accountancy Electives:

Two graduate-level business or accountancy courses with the approval of the adviser.

Non-Accountancy Electives:

Three graduate-level courses in related areas outside the Department of Accountancy with the approval of the adviser.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION

For further information e-mail or call:

Rowene Linden
M.A.S. Program Adviser
Department of Accountancy
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115-2828
Telephone: (815) 753-6200
FAX: (815) 753-8515
E-mail: rlinden@niu.edu

Department of Accountancy Website

www.cob.niu.edu/accy



NORTHERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

Northern Illinois University is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, disability, status based on the Victims Economic Security and Safety Act (VESSA) or status as a disabled or Vietnam-era veteran. Further, the Constitution and Bylaws of Northern Illinois University provides for equal treatment regardless of political views or affiliation and sexual orientation.

Produced by the Northern Illinois University Offices of Publications and Document Services. Recycled paper.

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois.

www.niu.edu 6/08 .3M 42944

ACCOUNTANCY Master of Accounting Science

The Business Degree for Professional Accountants

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Department of Accountancy