Accounting

Program Director: Dr. Qianhua Ling, Ph.D.
MS in Accounting website (http://business.marquette.edu/academics/msa)

Degree Offered

Master of Science in Accounting, Plan B Non-Thesis option only.

Program Description

The master of science in accounting (M.S.A.) program is designed to provide students with the broad range of skills that successful accounting professionals need in today's complex and changing business environment. Courses emphasize technical knowledge in the functional areas of accounting, stress communication skills and promote awareness of the accountant's ethical and social responsibilities. The M.S.A. program meets the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) requirement for individual membership in that organization, and eligibility to take the CPA examination. The M.S.A. program is accredited by the Association for the Advancement of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB-International) and reflects the high standards and expectations of that accreditation.

Prerequisites for Admission

Admission to the M.S.A. program requires: a) a four-year bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with a major in accounting or equivalent undergraduate course work preferred; b) an acceptable record of academic achievement at the bachelor's level and in any previous graduate course work; c) acceptable scores on required admission tests; and d) an overall composite profile of admission data (including an evaluation of previous work experience) that predicts success in the program.

Application Requirements

Students may apply for Regular Degree, Temporary Non-degree or Non-degree status. It is recommended that students apply for Regular Degree Status when possible. The application is online via the GSM website (http://business.marquette.edu/academics/gsm). Then click on Apply Now.

1. A completed application form and fee.
2. Essay questions on the application form.
3. Official transcripts from all current and previous colleges/universities except Marquette.
4. Official test scores from the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) test code 1448 or Graduate Records Exam (GRE) test code 5786.
   • Applicants may request a waiver of the GMAT/GRE requirement if they have earned an overall grade point average of 3.250 or higher with proof of quantitative course coverage from an AACSB accredited school.
5. Resume or job profile.
6. (For international applicants or applicants applying for Graduate School financial aid, i.e. assistantship positions) three letters of recommendation.
7. (For international applicants only) an official TOEFL score (test code 1448 and department code 02) or other acceptable proof of English proficiency.

Note: Temporary non-degree applicants (admission valid for one term only) must submit all of the above, except the GMAT or GRE scores. Temporary non-degree status is not available to international students. International applicants must apply for regular degree admission status.

Students are encouraged to complete all application materials and apply for degree status. Temporary non-degree status is valid for one term only. Temporary non-degree status students are not eligible to continue taking M.S.A. classes beyond one term without degree admissions. Typically, non-degree admission is not recommended in the M.S.A. program.

All application material should be sent to:

Marquette University Graduate School of Management
David A. Straz, Jr. Hall, Executive Center, Suite 275
Marquette University
P.O. Box 1881
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

or by courier to: Marquette University Graduate School of Management; David A. Straz, Jr. Hall, Executive Center, Suite 275; 1225 W Wisconsin Avenue; Milwaukee, WI 53233.

Accounting

The M.S.A. program requires a minimum of 30 credit hours: 18 hours of accounting courses (nine hours required and 9-12 hours of electives) and 9-12 hours of non-accounting courses.
The course work involves six functional areas of accounting: financial, managerial, taxation, systems, auditing and governmental/not-for-profit.

### Accounting Required course work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6511</td>
<td>Taxation of Corporations and Partnerships</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6520</td>
<td>Advanced Corporate Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6570</td>
<td>Auditing: Ethical, Legal, Professional and Reporting Responsibilities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 6535</td>
<td>Fraud Examination and Analytics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Accounting Elective course work (9-12 credit hours required)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5040</td>
<td>International Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 6040</td>
<td>International Accounting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5045</td>
<td>International Taxation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 6045</td>
<td>International Taxation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5050</td>
<td>Accounting Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 5050</td>
<td>Accounting Information Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5080</td>
<td>Analysis of Corporate Financial Statements</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 5080</td>
<td>Analysis of Corporate Financial Statements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5119</td>
<td>Tax Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 6119</td>
<td>Tax Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 5931</td>
<td>Topics in Accounting</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ACCO 6931</td>
<td>Topics in Accounting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6525</td>
<td>Governmental Accounting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6535</td>
<td>Fraud Examination and Analytics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6590</td>
<td>Accounting Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6953</td>
<td>Seminar in Accounting</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Business Elective course work (9-12 credit hours required)

Select from other graduate-level business/GSM courses or, with the permission of the program director, other graduate-level non-business courses excluding:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACCO 6180</td>
<td>Financial Statement Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULA 6110</td>
<td>Legal Issues in Business and Technology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUAD 6000</td>
<td>Accounting and Finance for the Non-Financial Manager</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUAD 6005</td>
<td>Economic Foundations for Marketing Decisions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA 6010</td>
<td>Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA 6020</td>
<td>Business Essentials: Accounting, Economics and Finance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA 6030</td>
<td>Business Essentials: Marketing, IT and Operations and Supply Chain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA 6110</td>
<td>Strategic Management Introduction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Bachelor's-Master's Program

This five-year program allows students to earn both their master of science in accounting (M.S.A.) and an undergraduate degree from the College of Business Administration. Undergraduate students begin their graduate work in their junior year by taking two to three graduate level courses or 6-9 credit hours.

These graduate courses double-count toward the undergraduate and graduate degrees. Should a student be denied admission to the M.S.A. program, the courses will be counted toward the undergraduate degree only. A minimum grade of B is required for courses taken as an undergraduate student for graduate credit to apply toward graduate program requirements. Upon completion of the first term as a master's candidate, the student must petition the appropriate Graduate School of Management program director to transfer the courses taken as an undergraduate to the master's degree.

To be considered for admission to the five-year program, applicants must formally apply to the Graduate School of Management during their senior year at Marquette University, complete all of the application requirements as listed above and indicate on their application that they are applying for the five-year program. For information, contact the Accounting Department at (414) 288-8069, or send an email to qianhua.ling@marquette.edu.
Accounting Courses

**ACCO 5040. International Accounting. 3 cr. hrs.**
An overview of accounting issues faced by multinational corporations or firms involved in international business. Issues include the diversity of worldwide accounting principles and the prospects for uniform international accounting standards, foreign currency transactions and translation, inflation, various technical accounting methods and the implications of their application, financial disclosures, analysis of financial statements, auditing, investment analysis, risk management, management information systems, performance evaluation, methods of financing, transfer pricing and taxation. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5045. International Taxation. 3 cr. hrs.**
U.S. Taxation of international transactions and foreign taxpayers. A study of the U.S. and foreign taxation of international commercial transactions involving U.S. and foreign taxpayers, including the taxation of income of U.S. taxpayers operating abroad through branches and subsidiaries; the U.S. foreign tax credit provisions; cross-border asset transfers and related intercompany pricing issues; the U.S. taxation of non-resident individuals, partnerships, associations and foreign corporations; and bilateral and multilateral income tax treaties. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5050. Accounting Information Systems. 3 cr. hrs.**
Substantial hands-on involvement with technology which enables accountants to be more productive and to provide better service to clients and management. Examination of various approaches to the processing of accounting information with technology, with special emphasis on the problems of internal control. Systems auditing and the accountant's role in the systems development cycle. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5050. Accounting Analytics. 3 cr. hrs.**
Organizations create and collect massive amounts of data as result of their day-to-day operations. Frequently referred to as “Big Data”, it represents an important asset for the organization. Big data presents both opportunities and challenges for accounting professionals. Accounting professionals are expected to know how data is created, collected, stored and accessed. As the custodians of the organization’s assets accountants are expected to understand and implement controls over the storage and use of the organization’s data. Further, as business professionals we are expected to know how to use this vast source of data to make better business decisions and identify potential risks. Understanding how to use data to formulate and solve business problems provides an opportunity for the accounting professional to become a forward thinking strategic partner in the organization. The challenge for accountants is to develop the skill set needed to extract value from big data through advanced analytics. Prereq: Admitted to graduate ACCO, ACAN programs or BMAN certificate; and ACCO 4050 or 5050; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5080. Analysis of Corporate Financial Statements. 3 cr. hrs.**
Provides experience in reading, interpreting, and analyzing corporate financial statements. Specific attention is given to the evaluation methods necessary to assess a firm’s short-term liquidity, long-term solvency funds flows, capital structure, return on investment, operating performance, and asset utilization. Effects of alternative accounting methods and footnote disclosures. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5119. Tax Research. 3 cr. hrs.**
The objective is to assist in the development of essential tax research skills and their application in the prevailing federal tax environment. The student learns how to find tax authority, evaluate the efficacy of that authority and apply the results of the research to a specific situation. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 5931. Topics in Accounting. 1-3 cr. hrs.**
Topics vary. Prereq: Admitted to BUAD, ECON, ENMA, HCTM, HURE or NURS program and ACCO 6200; or cons. of M.B.A. prog. dir. Prerequisites vary depending on topic.

**ACCO 6001. Accounting Professional Communication. 1 cr. hr.**
A comprehensive examination of the major forms of communication used in the accounting profession. Instruction in business written and oral communication. Credit not awarded if previously completed ACCO 4000 or equivalent. Prereq: Admitted to graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 6040. International Accounting. 3 cr. hrs.**
An overview of accounting issues faced by multinational corporations or firms involved in international business. Issues include diversity of worldwide accounting principles and prospects for uniform international accounting standards, foreign currency transactions and translation, inflation, various technical accounting methods and the implications of their application, financial disclosures, analysis of financial statements, auditing, investment analysis, risk management, management information systems, performance evaluation, methods of financing, transfer pricing and taxation. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

**ACCO 6045. International Taxation. 3 cr. hrs.**
U.S. Taxation of international transactions and foreign taxpayers. A study of the U.S. and foreign taxation of international commercial transactions involving U.S. and foreign taxpayers, including the taxation of income of U.S. taxpayers operating abroad through branches and subsidiaries; the U.S. foreign tax credit provisions; cross-border asset transfers and related intercompany pricing issues; the U.S. taxation of non-resident individuals, partnerships, associations and foreign corporations; and bilateral and multilateral income tax treaties. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.
ACCO 6050. Accounting Information Systems. 3 cr. hrs.
Substantial hands-on involvement with technology which enable accountants to be more productive and to provide better service to clients and management. Examination of various approaches to the processing of accounting information with technology, with special emphasis on the problems of internal control. Systems auditing and the accountant’s role in the systems development cycle. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6080. Analysis of Corporate Financial Statements. 3 cr. hrs.
Provides experience in reading, interpreting, and analyzing corporate financial statements. Specific attention is given to the evaluation methods necessary to assess a firm’s short-term liquidity, long-term solvency flows, capital structure, return on investment, operating performance, and asset utilization. Effects of alternative accounting methods and footnote disclosures. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6119. Tax Research. 3 cr. hrs.
Development of essential tax research skills and their application in the prevailing federal tax environment. The student will learn how to find tax authority, evaluate the efficacy of that authority, and apply the results of research to a specific situation. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6180. Financial Statement Analysis. 3 cr. hrs.
Focuses on how accounting information is used for making managerial decisions. Includes an overview of financial statement analysis, student preparation of written analytical reports and the use of analytical and cash flow techniques. Group projects, oral presentations and the use of technology are all included. Prereq: Admitted to graduate BUAD, ECON, ENMA, HCTM, HURE or NURS; ACCO 6200 or cons. of M.B.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6200. Managerial Accounting for Decision Making. 3 cr. hrs.
Emphasizes the role of the accounting system as a quantitative information system for decision making. Available data are restructured in the form of internal reports to management for use in planning and controlling routine operations as well as in making non-routine, decisions and formulating major strategic plans and policies. Prereq: Admitted to graduate BUAD, CCOM, ECON, HCTM, HURE, LEDR and NURS; MBA 6010 and MBA 6020; or cons. of M.B.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6511. Taxation of Corporations and Partnerships. 3 cr. hrs.
Partnership and corporation income tax laws studied for proper treatment of various types of income, deductions, the consequences of ownership interests and the application of various tax rates to taxable situations. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6520. Advanced Corporate Issues. 3 cr. hrs.
Study of business combinations (mergers, consolidations, and acquisitions of net assets of common stock). Construction of consolidated financial statements, including analysis of inter-company transactions. Introduction of international accounting issues. Basic accounting for not-for-profit organizations. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6525. Governmental Accounting. 3 cr. hrs.
Study of accounting principles for state and local governmental units as promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and the related financial reporting and disclosure requirements. Examination of objectives of financial reporting of these entities and the theoretical structure underlying these principles. Introduction to federal government accounting and audits of governmental units. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6535. Fraud Examination and Analytics. 3 cr. hrs.
An analysis of how and why fraud is committed, how fraudulent conduct can be deterred and how data analytics and behavioral science combine to investigate fraud and reach a resolution. Basic forensic techniques and data analytics tools are used to discover patterns, anomalies, trends and outliers. Students develop an increased awareness of fraud and the circumstances in which it arises and learn techniques for detecting and preventing fraud. Students measure, collect, analyze and investigate fraud data, reporting their findings. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or admitted graduate BUAD, ECON, HURE and ACCO 6200; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6570. Auditing: Ethical, Legal, Professional and Reporting Responsibilities. 3 cr. hrs.
Focuses on major issues in auditing not addressed in an undergraduate auditing and assurance course. Specific attention is given to the Finance, Inventory, Property, Plant and Equipment and Payroll cycles of the audit engagement, corporate governance, Sarbanes-Oxley Act as well as in-depth coverage of audit reporting, review and compilation reports. A significant component of the course includes analysis and presentation of real-world auditing issues. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program, ACCO 4170 or equiv.; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6590. Accounting Theory. 3 cr. hrs.
Analysis of the theoretical structure underlying financial accounting. Emphasis directed toward its development from both normative and descriptive approaches. Relates accounting theory to the basic financial statements and to selected topical areas. Examination of current issues under study by Financial Accounting Standards Board. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO or ACAN program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6911. Topics in Accounting. 1-3 cr. hrs.
Elective course. Topics will vary. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir. Prerequisites may vary on a course by course basis.

ACCO 6953. Seminar in Accounting. 2-3 cr. hrs.
Topics may vary. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir. Prerequisites may vary on a course by course basis.
ACCO 6986. Internship in Accounting. 1-3 cr. hrs.
Directed work in accounting under the supervision of a working professional in the area of accounting. Requires faculty supervisor. Must have approved academic component and approved total work hours. Maximum of 3 credits of internship may apply toward degree requirements. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

ACCO 6987. Internship Work Period. 0 cr. hrs.
Full-time directed work in accounting under the supervision of a working professional in the area of accounting. Requires faculty supervisor. Must have approved academic component and approved total work hours. Maximum of 3 credits of internship may apply toward degree requirements. (Full-time equivalency for financial aid, zero credits for academics/tuition.) Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; completed 9 credits in program; cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir. SNC/UNC grade assessment.

ACCO 6988. Internship Grading Period. 3 cr. hrs.
Grading for preceding internship work assignments is accomplished by review of Employer Evaluation Forms, Work Exit Reports and other materials as required during each term in school following a work period. (3 credits for academics/tuition; not financial aid eligible.) Prereq: ACCO 6987.

ACCO 6995. Independent Study in Accounting. 1-3 cr. hrs.
Prereq: Admitted to the graduate ACCO program; or cons. of M.S.A. prog. dir.

Business Law Courses
BULA 6110. Legal Issues in Business and Technology. 3 cr. hrs.
Provides an owner/manager's perspective of the significant influence of the law and of legal principles on managerial decision making. Major topics will include government regulation of business activities, contract law, liability law and forms of business organizations. Emphasis is on the application of these principles to managerial decision making in the current business environment. Prereq: Admitted to the graduate BUAD, ECON, ENMA, HCTM, HURE or NURS program; ACCO 6100; or cons. of M.B.A. prog. dir.