Recommendations

B.S. Accounting

To learn more about making the most of your educational experience within and beyond the classroom:

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## PARTICIPATE

### Community Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Related course</th>
<th>ACCT 403, ACCT 503, ACCT 751, ACCT 752</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sites/experiences</td>
<td>VITA - Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program: This IRS monitored and approved program provides income tax preparation assistance for lower income individuals, free of charge. It is sponsored by the accounting fraternity, Beta Alpha Psi and by the student chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>All three accounting student organizations—Beta Alpha Psi, National Association of Black Accountants, and the IMA Student chapter are involved in community service with organizations such as Epworth Children’s Home, the Children’s Miracle Network, and the local school districts at both the elementary and high school levels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Why this is important</td>
<td>Students contribute to their community while enhancing skills learned in undergraduate and graduate accounting courses (i.e. Acct 403, 503, 751, and 752). Almost all professional accountants are expected, by their employers, to be actively engaged in community service. Students also have the opportunity to act as valuable role models to younger students, encouraging them to value education.</td>
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### Global Learning

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<tr>
<th>Related course</th>
<th>ACCT 506, ACCT 590, ACCT 730, ACCT 754, Doing Business in Turkey (IBUS 490)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Timing for “study abroad”</td>
<td>Dependent upon availability. Summer preferred.</td>
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<td>Destinations</td>
<td>Germany, Turkey, Africa</td>
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<td>Why this is important</td>
<td>Study abroad opportunities not only offer exposure to various cultures and to business philosophies outside of the United States, but also provide students the opportunity to talk with those involved in the international accounting fields and obtain first-hand knowledge and experience. Specifically, they come to understand the cultural differences that drive disparate views &amp; approaches used in cost control, decision analysis, management &amp; evaluation of foreign operations.</td>
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### Peer Leadership

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<tr>
<th>Student Organization(s)</th>
<th>Beta Alpha Psi, National Association of Black Accountants, Institute of Management Accountants Student Chapter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunities</td>
<td>Each of these organizations has a minimum of four officers, who take on various responsibilities within the organization. Additionally, project committees often emerge from student organizations to accomplish specific tasks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Why this is important</td>
<td>Developing leadership skills now will help later on in one’s career. Additionally, CPA firms and businesses actively sponsor accounting student organizations and heavily recruit from their ranks.</td>
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Internships

**Related Courses**
All accounting courses

**Program Requirements**
Many, if not most, accounting students complete paid internships with either CPA firms or businesses.

**Recommended sites/work experiences**
Various sites are available depending upon the time frame of the internship

**Professional Organizations**
Accounting Internships, Mentoring Program, Beta Alpha Psi, Institute of Management Accountants

**Why this is important**
Internships are offered in both summer and winter with a variety of firms dependent upon students' needs. Internships provide valuable hands-on experience and give students an opportunity to put the skills they have learned in their classes to use. The Mentoring program links an accounting student with a particular accounting professional working in that student's area of interest. The student will receive knowledge and guidance from their mentor in regards to their chosen field of study. Beta Alpha Psi and the Institute of Management Accountants meet regularly throughout the semester, and professionals attend every meeting. Socializing before the meeting provides wonderful networking opportunities and career advancement.

Research

**Related courses**
All accounting courses provide research opportunities. In addition, Magellan grants fund undergraduate research and most recently the University has been included in the annual PricewaterhouseCooper Case competition.

**Sample research projects or topics**
Past undergraduate research projects outside of accounting courses have been coordinated by Stan Smith, Lecturer - School of Accounting, and funded by Magellan grant. These have included a Lean Accounting study, Customer Profitability Research, Performance Measurement Systems research and a survey of current management accounting techniques being used in SC companies. The IMA Student Chapter is also heavily involved with hands-on research. The PwC Case competition allows multiple teams to participate in a project that can provide them with monetary reward and valuable recognition.

**Why this is important**
Students not only expand their knowledge in their chosen field of study, but also benefit from the opportunity to network with professionals and develop their research and analysis skills. These opportunities help to build confidence in their field of study. IMA's undergraduate research program affords students the opportunity to work on meaningful projects for companies. This leads to greater exposure for students, which should facilitate new internships and part & full time job opportunities with companies looking to hire students for controller-ship/treasurer career tracks.

CREATE

LEAD

**Initial career opportunities**
Students with a bachelor's degree in accounting are eligible for positions in industry and government.
Students with a bachelor’s degree in accounting may also choose to pursue a Masters in Accountancy in either the Tax or Business Measurement and Assurance tracks. The Masters in Accountancy thoroughly prepares the student to sit for the CPA exam in South Carolina and opens up other opportunities in the accounting work force.

Related graduate programs

Future career opportunities

Audit, forensic accounting, CPA, government & nonprofit accounting, tax accounting