The accounting major
AT THE DARLA MOORE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Program Overview
Perhaps no major in business requires the student to understand more about all areas of a business than accounting. The accounting major develops your ability to analyze and solve business problems. If the problem affects money, as almost every business problem does, accountants participate in the decision-making process. A degree in accounting is a good fit for people who:
• Want to understand business as a whole
• Are good at using information, especially numbers, to solve problems
• Seek a profession that is always in high demand

The School of Accounting at the Moore School prepares students to succeed as accounting professionals in a global information society. Our faculty is known both for their leading-edge research and for their strong commitment to mentoring students in the classroom and beyond. Faculty maintain close ties with leading accounting firms, whose managers regularly provide input that keeps our curriculum current with the evolving needs of the profession.

The School of Accounting is distinguished from other large accounting programs nationwide by maintaining:
• Regular student-to-instructor interaction for majors in all upper-division accounting courses
• Rigor throughout the curriculum, with an emphasis on both technical and skill-based learning objectives
• Up-to-date and in-depth curriculum
• Faculty who are highly engaged with students both in the classroom and beyond

Outcomes
An accounting degree leads to leadership careers in public or private accounting, budget planning, tax accounting, auditing and consulting. Accountants are found in every industry sector and at management and executive levels in almost every company. Many accounting majors go on to graduate school or become certified public accountants.

The Moore School has long been viewed as a primary talent pipeline by major accounting firms including Deloitte, Dixon Hughes Goodman, Elliott Davis Decosimo, Ernst & Young, Grant Thornton, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and many more. Recent graduates have secured jobs at companies such as Eaton and at banks such as Deutsche Bank and TD Bank.

Average starting salary for Moore School accounting majors graduating in May 2016 was $51,765.

Accounting at a Glance
Number of students: 510
Number of faculty: 33
Student organizations: Beta Alpha Psi accounting fraternity, Institute of Managerial Accountants student chapter, National Association of Black Accountants
The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, sexual orientation or veteran status.

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Degree Requirements
In addition to the university’s general education requirements and the Moore School’s 40-hour business core, accounting majors complete 24 hours of required course work in accounting*:

• ACCT 401: Financial Accounting I
• ACCT 402: Cost/Managerial Accounting
• ACCT 403: Tax I
• ACCT 404: Accounting Information Systems I
• ACCT 405: Financial Accounting II
• ACCT 406: Auditing I
• Two additional 500-level accounting courses selected from approved list of electives

*Note that these are 2017-18 degree requirements and are subject to change as the school regularly updates its curriculum in response to the evolving needs of the business community.

Accounting majors have the option of completing international courses in business and accounting. They also select a minor (minimum of 18 hours) outside the business school or a program of approved directed course work. Accounting majors support their programs of study with course work in information technology, finance and international business to name a few.

Accounting Spotlight: Internship Programs
Accounting majors are encouraged to gain hands-on experience in the field by obtaining paid internships in the summers after their junior and senior years. Students have the opportunity to secure summer internships with the firm of their choice, anywhere in the country. Internships offer students a valuable opportunity to preview the accounting profession and learn more about a firm where they think they would like to work.

Students may also obtain a winter internship, which allows them to experience audit and tax season first-hand. The winter internship program, which occurs in the spring semester of the final year, is competitive and facilitated by the Moore School’s Office of Career Management. Students work for a firm for the first half of the spring semester and then return to campus to complete their course work. Students interested in internships should contact Janice Fergusson at fergusson@moore.sc.edu.

Upon completion of the summer or winter internship, students typically receive job offers from the firms where they intern. Many also earn enough money during the internship to help pay for graduate school.

Accelerated Bachelor’s/MACC Program
A flexible curriculum, a close-knit family of students, and faculty who prepare graduates for long-term success make the Moore School’s Master of Accountancy program much more than just a master’s degree. With the accelerated program, you can complete up to 12 hours that are counted toward both undergraduate and graduate degree requirements, allowing you to complete both degrees in a shorter amount of time than the traditional path. As a MACC graduate, you will meet the education requirements for the CPA license and are expected to complete the CPA Exam during the program. Contact macc@moore.sc.edu for more information on the accelerated program, including eligibility requirements.