Master of Professional Accounting (MPAcc)

Why MPAcc?
- You have more opportunities to delve into specialized accounting topics and achieve mastery
- Earn a Master’s degree while earning credits required for professional licensing as a CPA
- Enhance your research and analytical thinking skills necessary for successful professionals
- The MPAcc program is small and selective. Students receive individualized attention from faculty
- Required internship during winter quarter, usually paid, provides students with a valuable experience
- Generous Accounting Department scholarships
- Two options: 3+2 and 4+1
- MPAcc students landed jobs 100% of the time before graduation
- Graduates recruited by regional and national firms including Moss Adams, EY, and VSH
- Graduates recruited by non-accounting firms
- First-time pass rate on CPA exam is 91%

Program Options
Integrated 3+2
- Designed for outstanding junior-level students
- Example 3+2 Schedule:

Fourth Year (Undergraduate)
- ACCT 461, ACCT 470
- Graduate Courses: Colloquium, 2 MPAcc Courses
- Remaining Undergrad Courses

Fifth Year (Graduate)
- MPAcc courses planned with advisement
- Capstone
- Internship

Traditional 4+1
- Designed for outstanding students who have completed their undergraduate Accounting degree

Fifth Year (Graduate)
- MPAcc courses planned with advisement
- Capstone
- Internship

Need more info? See FAQs section on next page
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FAQs

Q: Why would someone want to earn a MPAcc degree?
A: To take the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) exam, students must have 225 quarter credits, which is equivalent to a 5th year of college. The MPAcc program offers students the opportunity to earn a master's degree in accounting and meet the 5th year educational requirement to become CPA.

Q: What's the advantage of the MPAcc over other methods of meeting the additional educational requirement?
A: MPAcc students are exposed to a wider variety of accounting topics than undergraduate students. The program permits students to customize their graduate study by taking designated MPAcc seminars, MBA or other supporting courses and additional graduate-level accounting electives beyond the 12 credits received as an undergraduate. Each student will plan his or her program through discussion with an MPAcc Advisor.

Q: Why should I consider the WWU MPAcc?
A: WWU's MPAcc program combines a high-quality professional level education, small classes, and a collegial environment at a lower cost than other Accounting Masters Programs. The MPAcc program has a maximum enrollment of 15 students to make sure that each student gets a more personalized instructional experience than larger MPAcc programs.

Q: How does the MPAcc compare with an MBA?
A: The difference between the MPAcc and the MBA is the focus of study. The MPAcc focuses on Accounting technical and conceptual skills, while the MBA focuses on more generalized business skills required to be a business professional.

Q: What are the entrance requirements and how do I apply?
A: Admission to the MPAcc program is competitive. State law requires a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 90 credits completed. We generally require a 3.2 GPA in upper-division accounting coursework (300 & 400 level classes). A GMAT score above 600 is preferred but lower scores may be overcome with a strong academic record. See the Accounting Department site for more information - https://cbe.wwu.edu/acct/admission-requirements
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Q: Can I apply to the MPAcc if I have not taken the GMAT?
A: You may apply prior to taking the GMAT; however, we must have an unofficial GMAT score to consider an application and make an admission decision.

Q: The graduate program admission site mentions letters of recommendation but the MPAcc page does not. Could you clarify this for me please?
A: Letters of recommendation are not required. They may be submitted, however, to augment your application if you think they may help the admission committee.

Q: Is this a daytime or evening program? Can I complete the MPAcc part-time?
A: This is a full-time day program. The MPAcc requires a full-time commitment during fall, winter, and spring quarters—it cannot be completed part-time. We urge students to limit outside commitments while they are enrolled.

Q: Will the Accounting Department find me the required winter internship? What if I don't have an internship?
A: The Accounting Department does not provide or guarantee a winter internship. Students find their own internships with the assistance of a graduate career advisor. In extraordinary circumstances and when an internship cannot be acquired, other accommodations may be available, but not guaranteed.

Q: Does the MPAcc program offer scholarships?
A: Yes, there are department-awarded scholarships available.

Q: Who can I talk to about the WWU MPAcc program?
A: Dr. Burak Dolar: dolarb@wwu.edu or (360) 650-2270 or Dr. Audrey Taylor: Audrey.Taylor@wwu.edu or 360-650-2204