

**G. W. Daverio School of Accountancy  
MS (Accounting) Program  
Program Guidelines**

**Effective August 2006**

**(Revised June 21, 2006)**

**Program Description**

The Master of Science in Accountancy is an advanced professional degree that offers students the opportunity to develop substantive knowledge, skills, and abilities in accounting. The program offers students flexibility to combine their accounting backgrounds with coursework in information systems and finance. It also allows students without undergraduate degrees in accounting to combine their diverse backgrounds with a graduate degree in accounting. Students may pursue [a professional accountancy option](#) or [an accounting information systems option](#).

**Program learning goals**

Consistent with the School's mission, students in the program will:

1. develop advanced knowledge and understanding of accounting concepts, the regulatory environment, and professional practice issues and challenges;
2. enhance their critical thinking skills and develop the ability to apply advanced knowledge of accounting concepts, principles and practices in innovative ways;
3. develop the ability to research accounting issues and write research reports that incorporate qualitative and quantitative data analysis and integrate information from multiple sources;
4. demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills;
5. understand and appreciate the role of information technology in contemporary accounting, research, and decision-making; and
6. understand and appreciate the significance of ethics, professionalism and social responsibility in accounting.

**Admission requirements**

The MSA curriculum consists of 30 semester credits. Admission to the program is open to the following individuals:

1. Individuals with undergraduate degrees in accounting from a regionally accredited institution or international equivalent.
2. Individuals with a non-accounting undergraduate business degree from a regionally accredited institution or international equivalent.
3. Individuals with a non-business degree from a regionally accredited institution or international equivalent.

All students must earn a satisfactory score on the GMAT in order to be accepted into the program.

**The program**

Individuals in categories 2 and 3 must complete all Pre-MSA foundation courses and Pre-MSA financial reporting courses listed below. Students who have

completed similar courses at the undergraduate or graduate level may apply for waivers. Applications for waivers will be reviewed on a case by case basis, considering such factors as the student's background, work experience, institution, grades earned, and date when similar courses were taken.

**Pre-MSA Foundation Courses (12 credits)**

6200:603 Accounting Decision Support Systems  
 6400:602 Managerial Finance  
 6400:623 Legal Aspects of Business Transactions  
 6500:601 Quantitative Decision Making

**Pre-MSA Financial Reporting Courses (12 credits)**

6200:321 I Intermediate accounting I or equivalent  
 6200:322 Intermediate accounting II or equivalent  
 6200:610 Process Analysis and Cost Management  
 6200:540 Auditing

Students in the MSA must complete a total of 30 credits from the groups of courses listed below. At least 21 credits must be at the 600-level; a minimum of 15 credits must be graduate accounting (6200) courses; and at least 12 credits must be 600-level accounting (6200) courses. Students completing the MSA Accounting Information Systems option must have a minimum of 12 credit hours of accounting information systems or management information systems classes.

Added: June 21, 2006
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**A. Accounting & Assurance Core (12 – 15 credits)**

6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications  
 6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues  
 6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance  
 6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project (*capstone course*)  
 6200:520 Advanced Accounting\*

*\*All courses in this group are required, except for 6200:520, which is not required for students in the AIS option. Students who have completed a similar advanced accounting course at the undergraduate level must take a different course.*

**B. Taxation Core (3 - 6 credits)**

6200:627 Survey of Federal Taxation or 6200:531 Tax 2\*\*  
 6200:628 Tax Research  
 6200:631 Corporate Tax 1

*\*\*Students are required to take a different taxation course if they have completed the equivalent of 6200:627 or 6200:531. Students are required to complete at least one course but no more than two courses in the taxation core.*

**C. Electives in accounting (0 - 6 credits)**

6200:554 Information Systems Security  
 6200:570 Government & Institutional Accounting  
 6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining

*These electives are open only to students who have not previously completed similar courses.*

**D. Information Systems Electives (0 - 12 credits)**

6500:643 Analysis and Design of Business Systems

6500:641 Business Database Systems

6500:648 Management of Telecommunications

6500:678 Project Management

*The Chair of the School of Accountancy may approve or substitute other relevant information systems courses not listed in Group D above.*

*Students pursuing the Accounting Information Systems Option must complete a minimum of 12 credits of information systems courses (i.e., Group D and accounting information systems courses from Group C).*

**E. Finance Electives (0 – 15 credits)**

6400:631 Financial Markets and Institutions

6400:645 Investment Analysis

6400.674 Strategic Financial Decision Making

6400:678 Capital Budgeting

6400:681 Multinational Corporate Finance

6400:691 International Markets and Investments

*The Chair of the School of Accountancy may approve or substitute other relevant finance courses not listed in E above.*

This document includes several tables that show when courses will be offered and the recommended sequence of courses for the [Professional Accounting](#) and the [Accounting Information Systems](#) options, respectively.

**G. W. Daverio School of Accountancy**  
**Expected Long-Term Course Scheduling**

***This document shows the ANTICIPATED long-term course offerings for the MSA program.  
 Course offerings are subject to faculty availability and budgets.***

	OFFERED IN *		
	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>Pre-MSA Foundation Courses (12 credits)</b>			
6200:603 Accounting Decision Support Systems	X		
6400:602 Managerial Finance	X	X	
6400:623 Legal Aspects of Business Transactions		X	
6500:601 Quantitative Decision Making	X	X	X
<b>Pre-MSA Financial Reporting Courses (12 credits)</b>			
6200:321 Intermediate accounting I or equivalent	X	X	X
6200:322 Intermediate accounting II or equivalent	X	X	X
6200:610 Process Analysis and Cost Management*	X	X	X
6200:540 Auditing	X	X	X
<b>A. Accounting &amp; Assurance Core (12 – 15 credits)</b>			
6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications		X	
6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues		X	
6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance	X		
6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project ( <i>capstone course</i> )		X	
6200:520 Advanced Accounting	X	X	X
<b>B. Taxation Core (3 - 6 credits)</b>			
6200:627 Survey of Federal Taxation	X		X
6200:531 Tax 2	X	X	X
6200:628 Tax Research	X		
6200:631 Corporate Tax 1	X		
<b>C. Electives in accounting (0 - 6 credits)</b>			
6200:554 Information Systems Security	X	X	X
6200:570 Government & Institutional Accounting		X	
6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining		X	
<b>D. Information Systems Electives (0 - 12 credits)</b>			
6500:643 Analysis and Design of Business Systems		X	
6500:641 Business Database Systems	X		

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6500:648 Management of Telecommunications	X		
6500:678 Project Management		X	
<b>E. Finance Electives (0 – 15 credits)</b>			
6400:631 Financial Markets and Institutions		X	
6400:645 Investment Analysis	X		X
6400:674 Strategic Financial Decision Making	X	X	
6400:678 Capital Budgeting	X	X	
6400:681 Multinational Corporate Finance		X	
6400:691 International Markets and Investments		X	

**Note:**

\* X indicates the semesters when each class will be offered.

**MSA (Professional Accounting Option)**  
**RECOMMENDED PROGRAM & SEQUENCING**  
**For Students without an Undergraduate Accounting Degree**

	When Classes are Offered		
	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>Fall Semester (Year 1)**</b>			
6200:321 Intermediate Accounting I or equivalent (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:603 Accounting Decision Support Systems (Required Foundation Course)	X		
6400:602 Managerial Finance (Required Foundation Course)	X	X	
6500:601 Quantitative Decision Making (Required Foundation Course)	X	X	X
Fall Options*			
6200:627 Survey of Federal Taxation (Tax Core Option)	X		X

<b>Spring Semester (Year 1)</b>			
6200:322 Intermediate Accounting II or Equivalent (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:540 Auditing (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:610 Process Analysis and Cost Management (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6400:623 Legal Aspects of Business Transactions (Required Foundation Course)		X	

<b>Fall Semester</b>			
6200:520 Advanced Accounting (Required A&A Core)	X	X	X
6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance (Required A&A Core)	X		
Fall Options*			
6200:554 Information Systems Security (Accounting Elective)	X	X	X
6200:531 Tax 2 (Tax Core Option)	X	X	X
6200:628 Tax Research (Tax Core Option)	X		
6200:631 Corporate Tax 1 (Tax Core Option)	X		
6400:645 Investment Analysis (Finance Elective)	X		X
6400:674 Strategic Financial Decision Making (Finance Elective)	X	X	
6400:678 Capital Budgeting (Finance Elective)	X	X	

<b>Spring Semester</b>			
6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project (Required A&A Capstone Course)		X	
Spring Options			
6200:570 Government & Institutional Accounting (Accounting Elective)		X	
6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining (Accounting Elective)		X	
6400:631 Financial Markets and Institutions (Finance Elective)		X	
6400:681 Multinational Corporate Finance (Finance Elective)		X	
6400:691 International Markets and Investments (Finance Elective)		X	

\* Students must take at least one taxation course but not more than two.

\*\* We recommend that students take a first course in accounting at the undergraduate or graduate level prior to starting the program. 6200:201 Principles of Accounting I, offered each summer, is highly recommended. Alternatively students may complete an approved non-credit course in Accounting. The School of Accountancy will provide additional guidance on such non-credit courses. Note that 6200:201 or its equivalent does not count towards the MSA graduate degree.

At least 21 credits must be at the 600-level; a minimum of 15 credits must be graduate accounting (6200) courses; and at least 12 credits must be 600-level accounting (6200) courses.

**MSA (Professional Accounting OPTION)****RECOMMENDED PROGRAM & SEQUENCING**

For Students with an Undergraduate Accounting Degree from an AACSB Business School

	<b>When Classes are Offered</b>		
	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>Fall Semester</b>			
6200:520 Advanced Accounting (Required A&A Core - if 6200:420 not previously taken)	X	X	X
6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance (Required A&A Core)	X		
Fall Options*			
6200:554 Information Systems Security (Accounting Elective-if 6200:454 not previously taken)	X	X	X
6200:531 Tax 2 (Tax Core Option-if Tax I taken and Tax II or equivalent not previously taken)	X	X	X
6200:628 Tax Research (Tax Core Option)	X		
6200:631 Corporate Tax 1 (Tax Core Option)	X		
6400:645 Investment Analysis (Finance Elective)	X		X
6400:674 Strategic Financial Decision Making (Finance Elective)	X	X	
6400:678 Capital Budgeting (Finance Elective)	X	X	
<b>Spring Semester</b>			
6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project (Required A&A Capstone Course)		X	
Spring Options			
6200:570 Government & Institutional Accounting (Accounting Elective-if 6200:470 not taken)		X	
6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining (Accounting Elective)		X	
6400:631 Financial Markets and Institutions (Finance Elective)		X	
6400:681 Multinational Corporate Finance (Finance Elective)		X	
6400:691 International Markets and Investments (Finance Elective)		X	

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**MSA (Accounting Information Systems Option)**  
**RECOMMENDED PROGRAM & SEQUENCING**  
**For Students without an Undergraduate Accounting Degree**

	<b>When Classes are Offered</b>		
	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>Fall Semester (Year 1)**</b>			
6200:321 Intermediate Accounting I or equivalent (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:603 Accounting Decision Support Systems (Required Foundation Course)	X		
6400:602 Managerial Finance (Required Foundation Course)	X	X	
6500:601 Quantitative Decision Making (Required Foundation Course)	X	X	X
Fall Options*			
6200:627 Survey of Federal Taxation (Tax Core Option)	X		X
<b>Spring Semester (Year 1)</b>			
6200:322 Intermediate Accounting II or Equivalent (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:540 Auditing (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6200:610 Process Analysis and Cost Management (Required Pre-MSA Fin. Rpt. Course)	X	X	X
6400:623 Legal Aspects of Business Transactions (Required Foundation Course)		X	
<b>Fall Semester (Year 2)</b>			
6200:554 Information Systems Security	X	X	X
6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance	X		
6500:641 Business Database Systems	X		
6500:648 Management of Telecommunications	X		
Fall Options*			
6200:520 Advanced Accounting (A&A Core-Optional for AIS)	X	X	X
6200:628 Tax Research (Tax Core Option)	X		
<b>Spring Semester (Year 2)</b>			
6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues (Required A&A Core)		X	
6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project (Required A&A Capstone Course)		X	
6500:643 Analysis and Design of Business Systems (IS Elective-Recommended)		X	
Spring Options			
6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining (Accounting Elective)		X	
6500:678 Project Management (IS Elective)		X	

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**MSA (Accounting Information Systems Option)**  
**RECOMMENDED PROGRAM & SEQUENCING**  
**For Students with an Undergraduate Accounting Degree from an AACSB Business School**

	<b>When Classes are Offered</b>		
	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>Fall Semester</b>			
6200:554 Information Systems Security (if 6200:454 not taken)	X	X	X
6200:658 Enterprise Risk Assessment and Assurance	X		
6500:641 Business Database Systems	X		
6500:648 Management of Telecommunications	X		
Fall Options*			
6200:520 Advanced Accounting (A&A Core-Optional for AIS, if not previously taken)	X	X	X
6200:531 Tax 2 (Tax Core Option-if Tax I taken and Tax II or equivalent not previously taken)	X	X	X
6200:627 Survey of Federal Taxation (Tax Core Option-if Tax I not previously taken)	X		X
6200:628 Tax Research (Tax Core Option)	X		
<b>Spring Semester</b>			
6200:615 ERP and Financial Data Communications		X	
6200:637 Contemporary Accounting Issues		X	
6200:660 Accounting and Assurance Project		X	
6500:643 Analysis and Design of Business Systems		X	
Spring Options			
6200:659 Assurance Services & Data Mining (Accounting Elective)		X	
6500:678 Project Management (IS Elective)		X	

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