ACCOUNTING MAJOR
(23 credits)

Accounting is the universal language of business, spoken around the world by business and government leaders, investors, analysts, and others seeking to measure, understand, and apply the dynamics of financial success. Today, more than ever, businesses need Iowa State University accounting graduates who understand financial data to help guide their organizations through changing accounting regulations and tight economic times. The accounting major prepares students to analyze, synthesize and report data so others can use it to make informed decisions. The degree helps students pursue diverse careers in business and accounting including auditing, consulting, public accounting, budgeting, and forecasting. Accounting majors are required to complete 23 credits of accounting courses. Included in these 23 credits are seven required courses.

Required Courses (20 Credits)
ACCT 383 Intermediate Managerial Accounting
ACCT 384 Accounting Information Systems
ACCT 386 Intermediate Accounting I
ACCT 387 Intermediate Accounting II
ACCT 485 Principles of Federal Income Tax
ACCT 497 Introduction to Auditing
ACCT 498 Capstone in Accounting (2 credits)

Prerequisite(s)
ACCT 285, and Credit or Enrollment in ACCT 301
ACCT 285, CR/EN ACCT 301 and CR/EN in MIS 301
ACCT 285 and 301
ACCT 386
ACCT 386
ACCT 384, 387 and STAT 326
ACCT 383, 384, 387, and CR/EN in ACCT 485;
Senior classification

Elective Courses (3 Credits)
ACCT 315X (MIS 315X) Business Data Streams and Issues
ACCT 483 Application and Communication in Managerial Accounting
ACCT 484 Advanced Accounting Information Systems
*ACCT 487 VolunteeerIncome Tax Assistance (1 credit repeatable–max. 3 credits)
ACCT 488 Government and Non-Profit Institution Accounting
ACCT 489X Corporate Social Responsibility Reporting
ACCT 495 Advanced Accounting Problems
ACCT 496 Accounting in the Global Economy

ACCT 301 is a required course and prerequisite for all 300 level ACCT courses. It is recommended to be taken concurrently with ACCT 285.

*ACCT 487 must be completed 3 times to satisfy requirement.

**CPA and MAcc information is available on the third page of this document.

Other Graduation Requirements: (for full degree requirements see your degree audit or the curriculum guide)
1. Minimum of 122 credits total;
2. 42 credits of 300 level or higher coursework from a four year institution;
3. Grade of “C” or better in two of the three required English courses;
4. Grade of “C” or better in at least 30 credits applied to the business core and major;
5. 50% of required business courses must be earned at Iowa State University;
6. The last 32 credits applied to a degree must be taken at ISU (exceptions for Study Abroad and Internship may be requested);
7. All 300 level and higher business credits must be earned at a four-year college;
8. Cumulative ISU grade point of at least 2.0 with no Quality Point Deficiencies;
9. Multiple business majors must have 15 distinct credits in each of the major requirements; see your adviser regarding multiple business degree requirements.

NOTE: CR/EN = credit for or concurrent enrollment in the course.
ACCOUNTING MAJOR – addendum

CPA Note

The Accounting major requires 24 credits of accounting beyond principles (ACCT 284, 285, 215, and 316). This satisfies the State of Iowa CPA exam requirement. ACCT 316 Business Law is also highly recommended; please note this class does not count toward the aforementioned 24 hours required to sit for the exam. The CPA licensure designation is a symbol of competence in the accounting profession which employers value both immediately upon graduation and throughout career advancement.

While students may sit for the CPA exam in Iowa after completing the required accounting course work and earning a bachelor’s degree, CPA candidates must complete a total of 150 credits in order to be certified or licensed to practice in Iowa. Qualified students should consider earning the Master of Accounting (MAcc) to satisfy the 150-credit requirement. Juniors and seniors in accounting who are interested in graduate study should contact the coordinator of the MAcc program as early as possible to complete their graduate degree in an efficient manner. Students planning certification outside Iowa must check local rules, as each state determines its own exam qualification and licensing requirements.

Master of Accounting 4+1 Program Note

The Master of Accounting (MAcc) is a 30-credit hour, non-thesis graduate program. The degree requirements are typically completed in one year including optional CPA preparation. This program provides a solution to satisfying the 150-credit hour CPA requirement while earning a higher degree! Our graduate faculty link coursework to real-world practice in order to prepare students for the demands of their professional careers. Study abroad options in London are available. Students considering the MAcc should apply during the first semester of their junior year. At the latest, students are required to apply the semester before beginning graduate coursework. For more information: [http://www.business.iastate.edu/masters/macc](http://www.business.iastate.edu/masters/macc)

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Please address MAcc questions to Kayla Sander, MAcc coordinator and adviser, at kayla@iastate.edu. An Accounting Highlights Planning Guide can be obtained through your academic adviser. This informational packet provides useful, detailed information on both the CPA exam and the Iowa State University Master of Accounting 4+1 program. Get yours now, and start planning early!