



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

# Accountancy

Department of Accountancy, College of Business & Technology

## Program of Study

The Department of Accountancy provides a student-centered environment that promotes academic excellence, professional and personal growth, a spirit of collegiality, and ethical and professional conduct. Western offers students options for careers in accounting. They may elect to complete the four-year Accountancy program, which will enable them to sit for the Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and other certification examinations. Students may also elect to complete a fifth year of education and receive the Master of Accountancy degree and thus meet the 150-hour requirement to sit for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination. The Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Degree Program allows students to begin their graduate studies in their senior year.

The undergraduate Accountancy programs are available both at the main campus in Macomb and at the Quad Cities campus in Moline. The Quad Cities campus is an upper-division campus that enables students to transfer from community colleges or other colleges to complete their junior and senior years.

## Accounting for a Successful Career

A degree in Accountancy from Western not only prepares the student for a first job, it also provides the individual with the ability to advance in a variety of career directions. Alumni have careers as consultants, managerial accountants, auditors, tax specialists, financial planners, forensic accountants, controllers, financial analysts, and chief financial officers. Employers of our graduates in alphabetical order include Accenture, ADM, BDO Seidman, Caterpillar, Deere & Company, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, the FBI, Growmark, the IRS, KPMG, McGladrey & Pullen, State Farm, and others. The Accountancy degree also provides an excellent background for law school.

Graduates with a Master of Accountancy have also obtained teaching positions with community colleges and four-year colleges in the tri-state area or have gone on for doctoral work at major universities.

## State-of-the-Art Accounting Education

Western is large enough to have an outstanding faculty, an excellent library, and state-of-the-art computer equipment and technology, but small enough so a student is not lost in a crowd. Accountancy students and their faculty mentors get to know each other in an environment that encourages a spirit of cooperation and the sharing of information and knowledge.

The Accountancy faculty is committed to excellence in teaching. They hold doctoral degrees from major universities, including Alabama, Florida, Memphis, Mississippi State, Oklahoma State, Saint Louis, and South Florida. Most of the faculty are professionally certified and engaged in research, service, and professional interactions.

The faculty understands the challenges and tremendous opportunities that today's professional accountants face. They strive to ensure that the students develop not only technical accounting skills but also the communication, computer, research, and analytical skills needed for career success. Working with advanced computer software, solving real-world business cases, writing reports and papers, and developing individual and team projects and presentations are all important elements of the program.

HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The excellence of the faculty and curriculum is recognized by the accreditation of all undergraduate and graduate programs in business by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International. In addition, the department holds a separate AACSB International accounting accreditation, a distinction awarded to less than 170 accounting programs in the United States and Canada.

### Scholarships

The department awards over 30 scholarships to Accounting majors each year at the Accounting Awards Banquet. Through the generous endowment funds and contributions of alumni and friends, the scholarships are given to students who are willing to meet the challenge to perform to the best of their abilities.



Detailed information on scholarships is available from the department at (309) 298-1152, the College of Business and Technology at (309) 298-2442, Western's Scholarship Office at (309) 298-2001, or on the Web at [wiu.edu/Scholarship](http://wiu.edu/Scholarship).

### Professional and Personal Growth

The department provides students with numerous opportunities for leadership, teamwork, and collegiate competition, and assists them with career planning and placement.

Our student organizations sponsor numerous professional and social activities. In addition to the Beta Alpha Psi chapters at each campus, the Student Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants (SCIMA) in Macomb and the Society of Accountancy in the Quad Cities are actively involved in developing not only the students' professional skills but also in encouraging a commitment to community service. The QC student organizations provide free income tax assistance to qualified QC residents each year. The Zeta Beta chapter has been recognized as a "Superior Chapter" by the national Beta Alpha Psi organization for each of the last 20 years. In 2009, the IMA named WIU's student chapter (SCIMA) one of the top three chapters in the country for the fourth consecutive year. In addition, we became the first school to win the IMA's prestigious Clark Johnson Achievement Award twice with our innovative team building project.

### Special Opportunities

Successful Western alumni and other practitioners often visit our campuses to discuss their own experiences and available career opportunities. Internships with a wide variety of businesses, accounting firms, and nonprofit organizations are available to interested students. Through the on-campus career fairs, students learn about the diverse job and internship opportunities open to Accountancy majors.

As the global business community grows, international travel and study programs are available to those who would like to acquire valuable cross-cultural experience and/or language skills. Students can go abroad for a semester or participate in short-term programs, ranging from two to six weeks. These experiences will make the graduates more valuable to employers—a definite benefit in career advancement.

### Campus Visit

The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available at 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, and campus tours are conducted at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM daily. Individual appointments with an admissions counselor, advisers/faculty, or a financial aid adviser may be arranged during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM most Saturdays when the University is in session. You may schedule your visit or tour online at [admissions.wiu.edu](http://admissions.wiu.edu) by selecting "Visit Campus." You may also schedule a visit, tour, or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU [742-5948] or (309) 298-3157, or by e-mailing [admissions@wiu.edu](mailto:admissions@wiu.edu).

### Contact

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[wiu.edu/accountancy](http://wiu.edu/accountancy)

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