

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

Quinnipiac's accounting curriculum provides a blend of relevant expertise and rigor that will set a foundation for your career. The Bachelor of Science in Accounting program features a broad business education, designed to foster the technical competence and analytical skills required to maximize each student's potential as a business professional. Sometimes referred to as the language of business, accounting is used to communicate financial and other information to people, organizations and governments, and is integral to effective management.

An understanding of accounting is necessary to thrive in various accounting, finance and management settings. The accessibility of Quinnipiac's faculty and staff, the resources provided to students, and the school's contacts in the business world all contribute to the success of accounting majors.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Accounting is to prepare students for successful careers in accounting and related fields. The department's mission is guided by the missions of the university and the School of Business. To fulfill our mission, we strive to:

Create and support a learning environment that produces students who are inquisitive, thoughtful and engaged participants in the process of continuous learning and development, and who have:

- an understanding of business and accounting concepts and requisite technical skills
- critical thinking skills required to identify problems, gather and interpret information with an appropriate level of professional skepticism, evaluate alternatives and formulate solutions
- an understanding of ethical issues in accounting, personal responsibility and integrity
- skills for working in collaborative environments
- respect for diverse opinions and cultural backgrounds
- effective verbal and written communication skills.

Recruit and retain faculty who, in collaboration with students, accounting professionals and the business community:

- deliver current and engaging curricula informed by practice and research
- foster an engaging learning environment that promotes an expectation of the highest ethical standards and practices
- produce research that advances knowledge and informs their teaching, including contributions to practice, pedagogical, case and discipline-based scholarship
- contribute to department service, school and university communities and the broader academic community
- Bachelor of Science in Accounting (<http://catalog.qu.edu/business/accounting/accounting-bs>)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems and Accounting (<http://catalog.qu.edu/business/computer-information-systems/computer-information-systems-accounting-bs>)

Students who wish to specialize in computer information systems with applications in accounting may earn a dual degree in computer information systems and accounting.

- Minor in Accounting (<http://catalog.qu.edu/business/accounting/accounting-minor>)
- Master of Science in Accounting (<http://catalog.qu.edu/graduate-studies/business/accounting-ms>)
- Accelerated Dual-Degree BS/MSA (3+1) (<http://catalog.qu.edu/graduate-studies/business/accounting-ms/accelerated-dual-degree-bs-ms>)
- Dual-Degree BS/MSA or BA/MSA (4+1) (<http://catalog.qu.edu/graduate-studies/business/accounting-ms/dual-degree-bs-ms>)

Accounting (AC)

AC 211. Financial Accounting. 3 Credits.

This course introduces students to the purposes of financial statements and the recognition, measurement and disclosure concepts and methods underlying financial statements. Students begin to use and interpret financial statements and the related impact of elementary transactions and events on those statements. Minimum grade for accounting majors B-.

Prerequisites: Take MA 107 or higher.

Offered: Every year, All

AC 212. Managerial Accounting. 3 Credits.

This course provides an introduction to the uses of accounting information by managers for internal reporting and decision making. Students begin to focus on classifying, measuring and analyzing product and service costs for decision making, budget preparation and performance evaluation. Minimum grade for accounting majors B-. Accounting majors must have B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 211.

Offered: Every year, All

AC 305. Intermediate Accounting I. 3 Credits.

This course is the first of three intermediate-level courses. Students study the conceptual framework, standards, roles of standard-setting bodies and presentation of financial statements. Additional topics include the recognition, measurement and reporting of cash, receivables and inventories. In addition to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) students also are exposed to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Minimum grade for accounting majors B-. Accounting majors must have B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 211.

Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring

AC 306. Intermediate Accounting II. 3 Credits.

This continuation of intermediate accounting covers such topics as property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, current liabilities and contingencies, long-term liabilities, stockholders' equity and earnings per share. In addition to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), students also are exposed to the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). AC 306 may be taken concurrently with AC 307. Minimum grade for accounting majors B-. Accounting majors must have B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 305.

Offered: Every year, Fall and Spring

AC 307. Intermediate Accounting III.**3 Credits.**

This continuation of intermediate accounting covers such topics as investments, revenue recognition, accounting for income taxes, pensions, leases, accounting changes and correction of errors, the statement of cash flows, and disclosure issues. In addition to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), students also are exposed to the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). AC 307 may be taken concurrently with AC 306. Minimum grade for accounting majors B-. Accounting majors must have B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 305.**Corequisites:** Take AC 306.**Offered:** Every year, Fall and Spring**AC 323. Cost Accounting.****3 Credits.**

This class includes an in-depth treatment of accounting theories and practices used to control and manage costs. Topics include job-order, process, activity-based costing systems, cost variance analysis, budgeting, cost-volume-profit analysis and product mix decisions. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-. Accounting majors must have a B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 212.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 335. Accounting Systems.****3 Credits.**

This class introduces the use of information technology in accounting systems. Topics include design, development, implementation, control and audit of information systems used to generate and manage accounting information. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-. Accounting majors must have a B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 212.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 350. Advanced Excel Programming (CIS 350).****3 Credits.**

This course utilizes advanced topics in Excel to solve a range of complex business problems. Topics include: spreadsheet design, the use of complex formulas, functions, list and data management, macros and Visual Basic for Applications.

Prerequisites: Take CIS 101.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 402. Accounting Internship.****3 Credits.**

This internship is open to accounting majors. Students must complete the internship application form to receive credit. This course is graded on a pass/fail basis. A minimum of 150 hours is required.

Offered: Every year, All**AC 405. Advanced Accounting.****3 Credits.**

This course provides an in-depth study of accounting principles and analysis of problems for business combinations (mergers and acquisitions), international operations and governmental and not-for-profit accounting. Students learn standard-related research skills and complete several research cases using the FASB codification database. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-. Accounting majors must have a B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 306.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 411. Auditing Theory and Practice.****3 Credits.**

This course focuses on an introduction to auditing standards and to audit practice. It includes an examination of auditor independence and ethical responsibilities, audit risk, audit evidence, internal controls, and development of an overall audit plan. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-. Accounting majors must have B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 305.**Offered:** Every year, Fall**AC 412. Advanced Auditing.****3 Credits.**

This continuation of AC 411 includes coverage of the steps necessary to complete an audit engagement. These steps include the design and performance of appropriate tests of controls, substantive tests of transactions and tests of details of balances for an audit of a company's balance sheet and income statement accounts. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-.

Prerequisites: Take AC 411.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 431. Federal Income Taxation of Individuals.****3 Credits.**

This course introduces students to the research, analysis and planning of individual federal income tax with emphasis on the identification of the proper taxpayer, the concepts of income, characterization of income, timing of income (realization and recognition), deductions, deferral and non-recognition of income. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-. Accounting majors must have a B- or better in the prerequisite course.

Prerequisites: Take AC 212.**Offered:** Every year, Fall**AC 432. Federal Income Taxation of Business Entities.****3 Credits.**

This course considers the tax effects of formation, operation and liquidation of business entities. Students identify and analyze data relevant to the taxation of different business entities. Emphasis is placed on issues and data identification, research and analysis of relevant tax information that affects entities' elections and alternative tax treatments. Minimum grade for accounting majors C-.

Prerequisites: Take AC 431.**Offered:** Every year, Spring**AC 499. Independent Research.****3 Credits.**

Independent research supervised by a faculty member. Requires the approval of the faculty member, chair of the department and dean of the business school.

Offered: Every year, All**AC 613. Financial Statement Analysis.****3 Credits.**

In this course, students gain an additional understanding of the accounting numbers that appear in financial statements for accounts such as receivables, deferred revenue and leases. Topics include revenue recognition, income-statement geography, short-term liquidity, working-capital efficiencies, solvency, cash-flow analysis and quarterly reporting. Also considered are the many reporting choices given to firms and how their use of different accounting methods for similar economic events creates challenges for analysts. Instances of questionable financial reporting and strategies that can aid in their discovery are addressed. Firms' filings of financial statements and note disclosures with the SEC on Form 10-K are examined throughout the course. In addition, the usefulness of governance disclosures contained within firms' proxy statements is considered. Students cannot receive credit for both AC 613 and AC 640.

Offered: Every year, Fall

AC 620. Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision Making (MBA 620). 3 Credits.

This course provides an introduction to the use of accounting information for decision making in organizations. Topics include reporting and analysis of financial statement information and the use of managerial decision-making tools to support planning and control. Students can receive credit for either AC 620 or MBA 620 but not both.

Offered: Every year, All

AC 635. Advanced Financial Accounting. 3 Credits.

This course provides an in-depth study of accounting principles and analysis of problems for multi-corporate entities, focusing on business combinations, consolidation concepts and procedures, and intercompany transfers. Includes the accounting for multinational entities, and segmental, interim and SEC reporting. Students learn standard-related research skills and complete several research cases using the FASB codification database.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate intermediate accounting course.

Offered: Every year, Fall

AC 640. Financial Statement Analysis. 3 Credits.

In this course, students gain additional understanding of how firms communicate through financial statements. They learn how to use financial statement analysis in strategic decision making. Students will learn to interpret financial statements, analyze cash flows, and make judgments about the quality of earnings, assets and liabilities. Students cannot receive credit for both AC 613 and AC 640.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate intermediate accounting course.

Offered: Every year, Fall

AC 645. Information Assurance. 3 Credits.

This course is designed to broaden and deepen students' conceptual and technical understanding of the CPA's attest function, provide students with a framework for analyzing contemporary auditing and assurance issues, and help students understand the complete audit of a client. This course utilizes case studies to study current issues and practices associated with information assurance services.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate accounting auditing course.

Offered: Every year, Fall

AC 650. Advanced Accounting Information Systems. 3 Credits.

This course provides students with in-depth knowledge of the role accounting information systems play in a business environment. Using a combination of course delivery methods, this course emphasizes information, communication and networking technology—in the context of business processes, transaction cycles and internal control structures—that enhances the production of accurate and reliable accounting information.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate accounting information systems course.

Offered: Every year, Fall

AC 660. Strategic Management Control Systems. 3 Credits.

This course provides students with broad exposure to the ways in which management control systems and management accounting information are used to support various organizations' strategies. The course involves both textbook/problem-based and case-based learning methods to cover issues related to strategy selection, performance evaluation, organizational profitability, customer profitability, organizational structure, and employee compensation. Special emphasis is placed on ethical considerations, not-for-profit organizations and sustainability issues.

Offered: Every year, Spring

AC 665. Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination. 3 Credits.

This course provides a survey of forensic accounting and fraud examination. Students gain an understanding of different types of fraud, sources of evidence and analysis of fraud schemes highlighting the skills needed to identify and investigate fraudulent accounting allegations. This course employs case studies to study current issues, practices and techniques related to fraud examination and forensic accounting services.

Offered: Every year, Spring

AC 670. Advanced Business Law, Regulation, Ethics and Reporting Environments. 3 Credits.

In this course, students learn to identify and resolve complex legal and ethical issues typically encountered by businesses. Emphasis is placed on business law topics relevant to the accounting profession. Topics may include agency law and worker classification, formation and performance of contracts, debtors, creditors, guarantors, secured transactions, bankruptcy, federal securities regulation, formation, operation, termination of business entities, and liability of accountants.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate business law course.

Offered: Every year, Spring

AC 675. Governmental and Not-For-Profit Accounting. 3 Credits.

This course provides an in-depth study of the financial reporting concepts and standards applicable to state and local governments, and not-for-profit entities such as colleges and universities, health care entities, and voluntary health and welfare organizations. It emphasizes the differences between governmental and private sector (for-profit) accounting. Particular attention is placed on the preparation and analysis of governmental financial reports.

Prerequisites: Take one undergraduate intermediate accounting course.

Offered: Every year, Spring

AC 680. Advanced Federal Income Taxation and Tax Research. 3 Credits.

In this course, students gain the knowledge and understanding of concepts and laws relating to federal income taxation of individuals and entities. In addition, students learn how to apply the knowledge and skills gained from this course in professional tax preparation and tax advisory positions. Some of the topics covered include federal tax process, procedures, accounting and planning, as well as federal taxation of individuals, entities (C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, trusts and estates and exempt organizations) and taxation of property transactions.

Offered: Every year, Spring

AC 688. Seminar in Accounting. 3 Credits.

Permission of the MBA director and School of Business dean is required.

Offered: As needed

AC 689. Independent Study - Accounting. 3 Credits.

Independent research under the guidance of a faculty member. Requires approval by the faculty member, chair of the department, and dean of the School of Business.

Offered: As needed