ACCOUNTING PROGRAMES

120 Hour and 150 Hour Accounting Programs & 
Accounting Information Systems Program 
Chair: Ian J. Redpath, JD, LLM 

Introduction 
The Department of Accounting seeks to prepare graduates with the 
skills that are necessary for success in the profession of accounting. 
Accounting professionals are expected to be competent in accounting skills, 
well rounded in the various disciplines of business and possess excellent 
communication and interpersonal skills. Students with degrees in accounting 
find positions in public accounting, the financial sector, government and 
nonprofit entities, and other areas of business. 

The accounting curriculum is registered with the New York State Education 
Department and the 150 hour accounting programs meet the education 
requirements of the state of New York for CPA licensure. To become a 
licensed NY CPA, an accounting graduate should also meet the experience 
requirement of the state of New York. Students desiring to sit for the exam 
and obtain their CPA license in other states should check with those states 
for their specific requirements. Academic options for CPA licensure specific 
to each variation in the Accounting degree program can be found in the 
pages that can be accessed by clicking the Majors tab at the top of this page.

Requirements for Graduation 
To qualify for graduation with any of the undergraduate Accounting degrees, 
a candidate must complete all the graduation requirements outlined in this 
catalog and must have a cumulative grade average of 2.0 in all Accounting 
courses taken at Canisius College as well as an overall GPA of at least 
2.0. Students pursuing an MBA in Accounting as part of a combined 
undergraduate/graduate (150 Hr.) degree program must also achieve a 
cumulative GPA of 2.8 (scale of 4.0) in their graduate studies.

Advisement 
All students should have an advisor in the major and should contact the 
department directly to have an advisor assigned if they do not already 
have one. Meetings with academic advisors are required prior to students 
receiving their PIN for course registration each semester. All majors 
should work closely with their advisor in discussing career expectations, 
choosing their major electives, developing their entire academic program 
and planning their co-curricular or supplemental academic experiences.

Retaking Courses 
Students who are dissatisfied with their grade in a course, did not meet 
the minimum grade requirement for upper level accounting courses, or 
withdrew may repeat the course once (exceptions may be approved by the 
assistant dean of business in consultation with the department chair). In 
such cases both grades will be entered in the student’s record, but, for the 
purpose of computing grade point average, only the second grade will be 
used for the calculation. Because retaking courses that have already been 
passed (any grade of D or above) affects a student’s financial aid, students 
should consult with the financial aid office before retaking any courses.

Double Majors 
Students who wish to expand their educational opportunities may decide to 
declare a double major. This decision may be based on career goals, planned 
graduate studies, and/or other student interests. Before a student declares 
a double major, it is important to meet with the appropriate academic 
departments for advisement. In order to declare a double major, the 
student must complete the Major/Minor Declaration form. This form will be 
submitted electronically and reviewed and approved by each department 
chairperson as well as the appropriate associate dean.

Per college policy, each additional major requires a minimum of 15 credits 
that do not apply to the student’s first or subsequent major. Some double 
major combinations can be completed within the minimum 120 credit hour 
degree requirement, but in other cases additional course work may be 
required. Please note that students will receive only one degree, regardless 
of the number of majors they complete. Both (all) majors appear on a 
student’s transcript.

Note: Many accounting majors choose to dual major by combining an 
Accounting degree with a degree in Accounting Information Systems. 
Please consult your advisor for more detailed information.

Minors in Other Disciplines 
Minors provide students the opportunity to pursue additional interests 
but generally do not require as many courses as a major. Minors generally 
range from five to eight required courses. To receive a minor, the student 
must complete at least 9 credit hours of coursework distinct from their 
other credentials (i.e., majors, other minors). The complete list of minors 
are available on the Canisius website (https://www.canisius.edu/academics/ 
programs/undergraduate?type%5B%5D=17) and in the catalog (https:// 
catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/minors/) and provides links to each 
minor. Some majors and minors can be completed within the minimum 120 
credit hour degree requirement, but in some cases additional coursework 
may be required. Students must complete the appropriate minor request 
form.

Note: While students are encouraged to begin meeting with an academic 
advisor early in their college career to consider various degree options, they 
generally do not have to make a decision about which accounting program 
to pursue until their junior year. For additional information regarding the 
MBA in Accounting (http://catalog.canisius.edu/graduate/wehle-school-
business/mba-professional-accounting/) refer to the Graduate Catalog 
or meet with an advisor. Programs are subject to change to meet State 
standards.

Accounting Majors/Programs

- Accounting (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/wehle-school-
business/accounting/accounting/) - A 120 credit hour degree that 
provides options for students that want to earn a NY Certified Public 
Accountant (CPA) license as well as for those students who do not 
intend to pursue CPA licensure.

- Professional Accounting (http://catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/
wehle-school-business/accounting/professional-accounting/) - A 150 
credit hour degree that prepares students to sit for the NY Certified 
Public Accountant (CPA) license exam.

- Accounting and MBA in Accounting (MBAA) (http://
catalog.canisius.edu/undergraduate/wehle-school-business/accounting/
accounting-mba-accounting/) - A 150 credit hour degree that prepares 
students to sit for the NY Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license 
exam as well as earn both undergraduate (B.S.) and graduate (M.B.A.) 
degrees in Accounting.
Accounting (ACC), (p. 2) Business Law (LAW) (p. 3)

### Accounting Courses

**ACC 201 Financial Accounting** 3 Credits
Introduction to accounting concepts for external financial reporting. Accounting theories and principles relative to asset and liability valuations, and income determination. **Offered:** fall & spring.

**ACC 202 Managerial Accounting** 3 Credits
For Non-Accounting Majors. Introduction to accounting concepts for internal reporting and control. Cash budgeting, decision making, breakeven analysis, and performance evaluation. **Prerequisite:** ACC 201. **Offered:** fall & spring.

**ACC 212 Principles of Accounting II** 3 Credits
For Accounting Majors. Fundamental concepts and procedures of financial and managerial accounting with emphasis on asset funding, including debt and equity and cash flows. Accounting applications of present value concepts, introduction to budgeting and product costing. During the Spring semester the course has a mandatory 1 hour non-credit recitation section for preparation for the intermediate accounting series. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 201. **Offered:** every fall & spring.

**ACC 301 Intermediate Accounting I** 3 Credits
First of a two-course sequence. In-depth accounting concepts and theories pertaining to external financial reporting. Emphasis on theories surrounding asset valuations, liability and equity measurements, income determination and cash flows. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in both ACC 201 & ACC 212, junior standing, & overall GPA of 2.0. **Offered:** fall & spring.

**ACC 302 Intermediate Accounting II** 3 Credits
Second of a two-course sequence. In-depth accounting concepts and theories pertaining to external financial reporting. Emphasis on theories surrounding asset valuations, liability and equity measurements, income determination and cash flows. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 301, junior standing, an overall GPA of 2.0. **Offered:** every fall & spring.

**ACC 303 Cost Accounting** 3 Credits
Preparation and analysis of data utilized by management in planning and control decisions. Inventory valuation and reporting methods. Establishment and use of standards and budgets. The department offers ACC 303PD sections. These sections have a mandatory professional development lab attached to them. Their objective is to guide students as they develop the communication and leadership skills valued by the accounting profession. The course has a mandatory 3 hour non-credit recitation section. **Prerequisite:** ACC 212, junior standing, & an overall GPA of 2.0. **Offered:** fall & spring.

**ACC 307 Accounting Systems and Analytics** 3 Credits
Development, organization, and implementation of accounting and management information systems. Emphasis on data analytics, enterprise risk management... **Prerequisite:** ACC 201 & ISB 101. **Offered:** every spring.

**ACC 331 Data Analytics in Accounting** 3 Credits
Data analytics theories and concepts applied to accounting settings. Emphasis on business intelligence, data analytics models, data visualization, data storytelling, and descriptive, predictive, and prescriptive analytics. Students apply data analytic concepts through data storytelling and the use of analytics software. **Prerequisite:** ACC 307 (may register concurrently). **Offered:** every spring.

**ACC 415 Basic Taxation** 3 Credits
Provisions of Internal revenue Code relating to the determination of income, exclusions, deductions and credits. Emphasis is on the individual and sole proprietors. The course includes learning basic tax research and communication skills. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in both ACC 201 & ACC 212. **Offered:** fall.

**ACC 416 Advanced Taxation** 3 Credits
Internal Revenue Code provisions relating to taxation of corporations, shareholders; partnerships, partners, estates, trusts and multistate taxation. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 415. **Offered:** spring.

**ACC 421 Advanced Accounting Problems** 3 Credits
Accounting for corporate mergers and acquisitions, state and local government, non-profit institutions and foreign exchange transactions. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 302. **Offered:** fall.

**ACC 425 Auditing Theory and Practice** 3 Credits
Generally accepted auditing standards and practice relevant to verification of historical financial statements; responsibilities and ethics pertinent to the public accounting profession; internal control evaluation; applying auditing programs; development of working paper documentation; the application of statistical sampling to gather audit evidence; the determination of the appropriate audit report for a given audit situation. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 302. **Offered:** every fall.

**ACC 426 Information Systems Auditing** 3 Credits
Information system control design and auditing in the internet, electronic and paperless environment; management of security technology; operating and application system processing controls; prevention of unauthorized activity. **Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in each of ACC 307 & one of the following: ACC 331, ACC 452, or ACC 425. **Offered:** fall.

**ACC 427 Advanced Auditing** 3 Credits
This course embeds the advanced study of auditing in an experiential professional context through case analysis, simulations, and professional standards. Emphasis is placed on the development of competencies such as critical thinking, professional judgment, professional skepticism, oral and written communication, ethical reasoning, and leadership and team building. Broad exposure to the professional accounting/auditing literature assists students in reflecting on course technical content. **Prerequisite:** ACC 425. **Offered:** every spring.
ACC 451 Accounting Theory and Research  
3 Credits  
Standard setting procedures at the U.S. and international levels, accounting concepts and principles, contemporary accounting issues, concepts of income determination, database/library research to support or oppose accounting positions.  
**Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 302.  
**Offered:** fall.

ACC 452 Strategic Performance Analytics  
3 Credits  
Evaluating enterprise information, enterprise resource planning (ERP) system design and functionality, data integrity, use of financial and non-financial information for organizational decision-making, business process improvement and risk management.  
**Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C- in ACC 307.  
**Offered:** spring.

ACC 496 Internship  
1-3 Credits  
Internships require an application and approval by the associate dean.  
**Prerequisite:** student must complete a WSB Internship Application and obtain permission of a faculty supervisor, department chair, & the associate dean.  
**Offered:** fall & spring.

ACC 499 Independent Research in Accounting  
1-3 Credits  
Undertaking of a significant piece of independent research. By appointment with chairperson. Independent studies require an application and approval by the associate dean.  
**Prerequisite:** student must complete a WSB Internship Application and obtain permission of a faculty supervisor, department chair, & the associate dean.  
**Offered:** fall & spring.

**Business Law Courses**

LAW 371 Business and Commercial Law  
3 Credits  
American legal system and substantive law relating to business. This course focuses on the Constitution, Torts, Criminal, Cyber, Intellectual Property, Contracts, UCC Sales, International law and ethics and accountants professional responsibility.  
**Offered:** fall.

LAW 372 Business Organizations and Commercial Paper  
3 Credits  
The American Legal System and substantive law relating to business focusing on the law relating to: negotiable instruments, banking, debtor creditor relationships, bankruptcy, secured transactions, agency, partnerships and LLCs, securities regulation, employment, environmental, anti-trust, property and wills and trusts.  
**Prerequisite:** minimum grade of C in LAW 371.  
**Offered:** spring.

LAW 603 Legal Environment & Ethics  
3 Credits  
This course is designed to be an introduction to the basic rules of law and the ethical responsibilities of business decision makers. This course is not intended to make you lawyers or to give legal advice. Almost every chapter/subject covered is a semester or longer in law school. We will address important legal aspects of relating to business transactions and business entities.  
**Offered:** every fall, spring, & summer.