

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ACCOUNTING

General Information

The graduate-level academic Certificate in Accounting is offered to those wishing to reach the eligibility requirement of 150 credits of coursework to practice as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in California.

This may also appeal to individuals working in accounting who wish to update their knowledge and skills. Students in this program will be able to test the waters before committing to a longer program of study such as the Master of Science in Accountancy (M.S.A.) degree. This program is also appropriate for individuals with accounting degrees from other countries who wish to prepare for the CPA exam by taking courses specific to American accounting regulations.

Who Can Apply

Individuals with a bachelor's degree, an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better, and a basic knowledge of financial accounting provided by courses like ACCT 100 or ACCT 780 taken at San Francisco State University are eligible to apply for the Certificate in Accounting.

Program Features

The certificate offers students flexibility in choosing from a variety of courses in different areas of accounting. The program is held at the San Francisco State University Downtown Campus, close to the Financial District, with plenty of opportunities for part-time and full-time work.

Program Learning Outcomes

Develop key skills to prepare students for the certified public accountancy examination and a professional career in accounting, including:

- Financial Reporting
- Auditing
- Ethics
- Business Law
- Taxation
- Cost Accounting
- Accounting Information Systems

Certificate in Accounting – 9 units

Select **one** course from each category:

Financial Accounting Focus (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
ACCT 800	Financial Accounting I	3
ACCT 801	Financial Accounting II	3
ACCT 808	International Accounting	3
ACCT 814	Seminar in Accounting Data Analytics	3
ACCT 831	Financial Statement Analysis	3
ACCT 851	Advanced Financial Reporting	3

Tax and Managerial Accounting Focus (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
ACCT 802	Strategic Management Accounting	3
ACCT 811	Introduction to Federal Tax	3
ACCT 812	Advanced Federal Taxation	3
ACCT 848	Seminar in Cost Accounting	3

Audit, Business Law, Accounting Information Systems, Ethics, and Not-for-profit (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
ACCT 803	Auditing Principles and Practice	3
ACCT 804	Legal and Professional Responsibilities in Accounting	3
ACCT 807	Seminar in Accounting Information Systems	3
ACCT 818	Advanced Accounting Ethics	3
ACCT 823	Advanced Topics in Not-for-Profit Accounting	3
ACCT 835	Corporate Governance and the Design and Testing of Internal Controls	3

How to Apply

Applicants will need to complete the online application (<https://www2.calstate.edu/apply/>) for San Francisco State University's graduate programs (through Cal State Apply). Select "Certificate of Accounting" as the program of choice from the pull-down menu. As part of the application process, applicants will need to submit a resume as well as unofficial transcript(s) from all colleges and universities attended.

We're Here to Answer Your Questions

Graduate Advisers

Professor Theresa Hammond (<http://cob.sfsu.edu/directory/theresa-hammond/>)

Professor Katie Hetherington (<http://cob.sfsu.edu/directory/katherine-hetherington/>)

Professor Su-Jane Hsieh (<http://cob.sfsu.edu/directory/su-jane-hsieh/>)

Professor Jung Hoon Kim (<http://cob.sfsu.edu/directory/jung-hoon-kim/>)