



EASTERN
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY



ONLINE GRADUATE DIVISION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING



Earning a master's degree in accounting online through Eastern Connecticut State University (Eastern) offers numerous benefits for aspiring professionals, particularly those who are interested in becoming certified as a public accountant. Completing the 30-credit-hour program can help fulfill the 150 semester hours of college coursework requirement for sitting for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination.

Program Overview

The online M.S. in Accounting program stands out for its flexibility and inclusive approach, welcoming students from diverse backgrounds and disciplines. The program's reputation is backed by dedicated faculty who have years of professional expertise and are committed to delivering exceptional instruction and guidance. The program's robust curriculum includes 21 required credit hours in accounting courses, along with nine (9) credit hours of core courses in the related disciplines of financial management, talent management, and strategic management.

This program helps equip students with in-depth accounting knowledge and challenges them to develop problem-solving strategies, showcase leadership skills, and communicate ideas effectively. By completing a master's degree in accounting online, students can enjoy the advantages of a flexible learning environment while gaining the expertise to thrive in an accounting role.

Who Should Apply?

The online M.S. in Accounting program provides a specialized, graduate-level education in functional accounting, business, and economic areas to students seeking a career as a professional accountant or other related accounting roles across local and state governments, not-for-profit organizations, financial institutions, and public accounting firms. The program also satisfies the educational requirements for pursuing certification in public accounting or other related accounting certifications.

**\$750 per
credit hour**

**Finish in 12
months***

**Flexible application
deadlines**

**No GRE
requirements**

**3 start dates
a year**



4% Job Growth

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), accountants and auditors are expected to see a 4% job growth through 2032 (as fast as the national average). Over the next decade, an average of about 126,500 job openings for accountants and auditors are projected each year, many of which will be due to workers transitioning out of the field or retiring.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Accountants and Auditors, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/accountants-and-auditors.htm> (accessed September 6, 2023).

*You must enroll with full-time status with no breaks in attendance to complete this program in 12 months. Full-time status may vary based on the program and term. This timeline may vary depending on your individual circumstances and course availability.

The Value of Earning a Master's Degree:

Salary Potential by Educational Attainment

Master's Degree
\$90,324

Bachelor's Degree
\$77,636

Associate Degree
\$55,016

Note: This information has been calculated by taking the median usual weekly earnings and multiplying by 52 to determine a yearly salary. Data only includes full-time wage and salary workers aged 25 and older.

Source: "Education pays, 2023." *Career Outlook*, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, April 2024 at <https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2024/data-on-display/education-pays.htm>

National long-term projections may not reflect local and/or short-term economic or job conditions, and do not guarantee actual job growth. Degree program options do not guarantee career or salary outcomes. Students should conduct independent research for specific employment information.

Faculty Overview



Dr. Mohd Rujoub

Program Coordinator

Professor and Department Chair, Accounting

Dr. Mohd A. Rujoub currently serves as the coordinator of the accounting undergraduate and graduate programs at Eastern. He holds a Ph.D. presented with honors in accounting from the Sam Walton School of Business at University of Arkansas and an MBA from Ball State University. His expertise includes accounting information technology and business solutions, assurance services, management accounting, international accounting, and governmental accounting. He also has served as an accountant and internal auditor for several industries.



Dr. Meng Guo

Assistant Professor, Accounting

Accounting and Business Information Systems

Dr. Guo serves as the Assistant Professor of Accounting in the Department of Accounting and Business Information Systems. Dr. Guo earned her B.S. in Business Administration with an Accounting major from The Ohio State University, her M.S. in Accountancy from Bentley University and her Ph.D. in Accounting from The University of Texas at San Antonio. Her research interests are in the areas of ESG reporting, financial accounting, and auditing. She has been published in the Journal of Business Ethics.



Mindyleigh Vail

Lecturer, Accounting and Business Information Systems

Mindyleigh Vail is a collegiate-level adjunct professor with over five years of experience teaching accounting courses. On a full-time basis, she works at a national furniture retailer in the finance department creating company-wide budgets, forecasts, and financial analysis. Her background includes public accounting experience at Connecticut-based firms providing services to non-profits, construction, manufacturing, and real estate businesses. She has a master's in business administration from Western New England University and attended the University of Connecticut for her undergraduate studies.

Curriculum Overview



All courses are worth three (3) credit hours and are seven (7) weeks in length.

**Courses taken in the summer term are six (6) weeks long.*

CORE COURSES | 9 CREDITS

Talent Management MGT 502

Develop measurement and assessment skills relevant for talent management (including absence rates, cost per hire, human capital ROI, training investment, human capital value added, turnover rates and costs, etc.) to make evidence-based strategic talent decisions. Learn how to design effective selection and training, performance management, and employee development and succession planning practices to support the competitive talent acquisition and retention priorities of your organization.

Financial Management FIN 545

Learn how to apply financial concepts and techniques to corporate decisions, including capital budgeting, capital structure, leasing, mergers, and asset management.

Strategic Management MGT 510

Learn how to investigate issues related to developing and implementing business strategies to create and sustain competitive advantage. Emphasis is given to developing pragmatic and action-oriented general management skills. Learn and use concepts drawn from the disciplines of accounting, economics, finance, international business, marketing, political science, and organization theory to develop a broad understanding of how and why strategic decisions are made in organizations.

GRADUATE ACCOUNTING COURSES | 21 CREDITS

Accounting Info Systems and Financial Reporting ACC 515

The purpose of this course is to help students develop a strong background in accounting information systems and financial reporting. It will provide students with the challenge and opportunity to pursue a unique opportunity that integrates the completing fields of accounting systems discipline and advanced financial reporting; a strong conceptual foundation in accounting systems and internal control procedures that enables them to use this knowledge to develop, evaluate, and design accounting applications; and an overview of the concepts, objectives, and importance of properly designed systems.

Accounting For Not-For-Profit Organizations/Govt ACC 520

This course is a study of accounting principles, concepts, and authoritative pronouncements applicable to not-for-profit organizations and governmental units. Additional topics include the budgeting process and the tax treatment of public charities and private foundations.

Accounting for International Operations ACC 525

The objectives of this course are to familiarize students with multinational enterprises and the accounting issues and problems particular to them such as consolidations of foreign subsidiaries, foreign currency translations, foreign investment analysis and multinational risk management. Consideration will be given to international transfer pricing and the peculiarities of internal auditing in an international setting.

Topical and Current Issues in Accounting ACC 530

To acquaint students with topics generally not covered in traditional accounting courses, this course will be directed to current issues and problems faced by accountants and the accounting profession. Topical coverage may include the gaming and recreational industries, health care costs, derivatives, forensic accounting, and ethics.

Accounting Theory and Prof. Development ACC 531

This course places emphasis on the study and application of accounting theory to traditional and emerging issues in accounting practice. Students are expected to develop a thorough understanding of the environment of financial reporting, the standard-setting process in the United States, and the FASB's conceptual framework. Students are also expected to gain a perspective on accounting history, ethics, accounting professional development, and the impact of political and economic forces on the accounting standards setting.

Advanced Studies in Taxation: Estates and Trust ACC 535

This course covers advanced topics in estate and trust taxation, recent legislative and judicial developments, and reporting practices required by the Internal Revenue Service.

Assurance Services ACC 549

Assurance services involve the collection of evidence to make an informed and objective opinion regarding the reliability and relevance of accounting and financial information. This course teaches students how to develop an understanding of the judgmental concerns faced by the accounting profession in providing assurance services and instills the ability to apply professional concepts and standards to solving these judgmental concerns. This course will also introduce students to a variety of assurance services offered by the public accounting profession, and the methods and techniques used in providing these services.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Students accepted into the graduate program with a non-accounting degree and an inadequate background in accounting will be required to complete the following prerequisite undergraduate accounting classes in addition to the 30-credit-hour graduate accounting courses.

Intermediate Accounting I ACC 301

This course discusses traditional intermediate financial accounting topics as well as the recent developments in accounting valuation and reporting practices promulgated by the leading professional accounting organizations and applied by practitioners in industry and public accounting. Emphasis is placed on the conceptual framework underlying financial accounting, financial statement preparation, and asset recognition and measurement.

Intermediate Accounting II ACC 302

A continuation of Intermediate Accounting I, this course includes a concentrated study of stockholders' equity, dilutive securities and investments, income and expense measurement, and the preparation and analysis of financial statements. The behavioral and economic consequences of accounting and reporting alternatives will also be considered.

Intermediate Accounting III ACC 303

A continuation of Intermediate Accounting II, this course includes an advanced study of specialized financial accounting topics and recent developments in accounting practices promulgated by the leading professional accounting organizations.

Cost Accounting Systems ACC 310

This course covers fundamental principles and procedures needed for planning, evaluating, and controlling the organization's internal activities. Students learn how to work effectively with accounting information that involves job-order costing, process costing, and standard costing.

Auditing ACC 412

Emphasis is placed on the philosophy and environment of the auditing process. Attention is given to the nature and purpose of auditing, generally accepted auditing standards, professional conduct, auditor's legal liability, and the procedures followed in performing audits of financial statements.

Advanced Financial Accounting ACC 410

This course introduces students to accounting for business combinations and consolidations, foreign operations, and partnerships. It also provides an overview of the accounting procedures for affiliated companies and branches, international accounting standards and accounting for multinational enterprises, reporting for the SEC, segments of business enterprises and segment reporting, accounting for bankruptcy, and interim reporting.

Federal Individual Taxation ACC 416

Emphasis is placed on basic forms and structures of federal income taxation and the aspects which affect individual taxpayers. Students will be taught the historical development of federal taxation, the legislative process, the underlying rationale of federal taxation, the Internal Revenue Code, and tax research.

What to Expect

With course offerings in assurance services, international operations, taxation, management, and more, the M.S. in Accounting program provides students with a specialized education in accounting as well as core functional areas such as talent management, financial management, and strategic management. Graduates of the program can expect to be prepared to qualify for roles in auditing, finance, taxation, insurance and banking, management, and other related fields.

The program also helps students fulfill the 150-credit-hour requirement needed to sit for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination or to obtain or maintain a CPA license. A CPA license may help increase marketability and job prospects because it expands on the types of accounting work a professional is qualified for. CPAs can also provide financial consultancy and sign audit opinions, represent clients at tax audits, and perform other IRS and government-related services.

Students must earn 30 credits by successfully completing 10 courses. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 to remain in and graduate from the program.

Admission Requirements

You must provide evidence of having earned a bachelor's degree with a minimum 2.7 GPA requirement. Work experience will be part of the assessment if your GPA is below 2.7. GMAT/GRE are not required.

- A completed application.
 - Includes a \$50 non-refundable application fee.
- Recommendations from two references.
 - The contact information the references can be included as supplemental items after submitting the online application.
- Bachelor's degree from an approved/accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 2.7.
- Official college transcript(s) for all non-Eastern colleges/universities attended.
- Personal/Philosophy statement, explaining your professional goals.
 - Personal statements can be uploaded as supplemental items in the online application system.
- A current CV/Resume.

Note: Additional undergraduate course prerequisites may be required after admission for applicants who have not completed a bachelor's degree in accounting.



TOP 25

Best Public Institutions in the North

About Eastern

Eastern Connecticut State University is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE). Eastern engages students from diverse backgrounds in a transformative liberal arts learning experience that provides knowledge and skills to lead enriching, purposeful lives. Eastern is ranked among the top 25 public institutions in the North Region for universities, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* latest rankings.

About Bisk

An added benefit of becoming a student in our online degree programs is that you will receive support from a Bisk representative. Bisk partners with leading institutions to provide the resources, expertise and technology to help institutions grow and students thrive. Bisk is passionate about supporting students and will help ensure that you have the best experience possible.

Our primary objective is to remain focused on what is best for each student. Part of the role of a Student Success representative is to:

- Help you learn about Eastern's online graduate programs and guide you through the process of completing your degree.
- Assist with the application process, including helping obtain transcripts, and provide proactive outreach to help you register for future classes.
- Supplement faculty academic advising with one-to-one guidance throughout the program.



A Bisk representative will be contacting you soon to discuss program details, the application and admission process, and more.



Discover More About the Online Master of Science in Accounting



www.easternct.edu/graduate-division/online/programs/ms-accounting/

Start Your Application

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Program cost, availability, and requirements are subject to change.

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