

THE JOSEPH W. LUTER, III SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING

CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY



THE PROFESSION

Year after year, accounting graduates are among the most heavily recruited in the nation. As a result, accounting majors are on the fast track to a dynamic, secure and rewarding career.

While accounting has been referred to as the “language of business,” it is much more. Accounting information is a critical element in the decision-making processes of virtually all economic entities. Those with an understanding of accounting are in a unique position to provide valuable assistance to businesses and others making economic decisions. There are abundant employment opportunities for individuals with the skills to create, analyze and interpret accounting information.

We find accountants at the highest levels of responsibility in a wide variety of organizations, including federal, state and local governments, and nonprofit organizations. Accounting graduates frequently use their training to enhance nonaccounting careers in management, finance, law and government administration.

OUR ACCOUNTING PROGRAM

Our program provides students with both a broad-based liberal arts foundation and a quality professional major. The accounting program is large enough to offer a variety of courses. At the same time, we have small class sizes with substantial individual attention. The average class size for major courses is fewer than 20 students.

The accounting program prepares students for both professional accounting careers and graduate training in business or accounting. Courses are rigorous and highly competitive, and our students are frequently among the best at the University.

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internships in a wide variety of areas, ranging from public and government accounting to private corporate accounting.

Our graduates have gone on to varied and highly successful careers. Recent graduates can be found in public accounting (including Big 4, regional and local CPA firms), corporate accounting, cost accounting, tax accounting, internal auditing, federal and state government accounting, and top graduate school programs.

Graduate schools actively recruit our accounting majors. In recent years, our students have been accepted at George Mason University, North Carolina State University, the Ohio State University, University of Virginia, University of Wisconsin, Virginia Tech, and the College of William & Mary, among others.

Faculty and students in the accounting program enjoy a collegial relationship. Faculty support and work with students in the Accounting Club. The accounting program also supports students' civic engagement through the IRS-sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

CPA REQUIREMENT

To sit for the CPA exam, Virginia requires 120 hours of coursework, a baccalaureate or higher degree, and an accounting concentration or equivalent. Graduates who take the recommended classes are currently eligible to sit for the CPA exam in Virginia.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Accounting students participate each year in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to provide free tax assistance for low-income taxpayers. Students prepare more than 200 state and federal tax returns each year.

CAREER PATHS

In good economies and bad, we find a continuing need for accountants. A wide variety of opportunities is available to those with accounting skills:

- Corporate accountant
- Cost accountant
- Credit analyst
- Financial analyst
- Financial auditor
- Forensic accountant
- Governmental accountant and auditor
- Operational auditor
- Management accountant
- Management consultant
- Personal financial planner
- Systems accountant
- Tax accountant

High profile firms that have hired our graduates:

- Anheuser Busch
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Canon Virginia
- Central Intelligence Agency
- Deloitte & Touche
- Dominion Energy
- Ernst & Young
- Ferguson Enterprises
- KPMG
- Liebherr
- PBMares
- Pentagon Federal Credit Union
- Price Waterhouse Coopers
- Smithfield Foods
- STIHL