

# DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

## Mission Statement

As a unit of the School of Business, the Accounting Programs embrace the overall mission and objectives of the School. Building on a liberal arts and sciences education, Truman Accounting graduates will integrate analytical, research, communication, interpersonal and leadership skills with business and financial knowledge to be effective financial professionals and prospective leaders.

## Degree Programs

### • Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Accounting

The undergraduate degree program places emphasis on the integration of analytical, research, communication, interpersonal, and leadership skills with business and financial knowledge. Graduates who successfully complete the B.S. in Accounting degree are prepared for positions in corporate, government, and not-for-profit accounting, as well as continuing their education at the graduate level.

- **Master of Accountancy** The program provides students with an increased conceptual understanding of the body of accounting and business knowledge and provides professional research opportunities within the framework of advanced topics. Graduates of the program are prepared for roles in protecting the interest of investors, creditors and other stakeholders. In combination with an undergraduate degree in accounting, the Master of Accountancy program will fulfill the 150-hour CPA certification coursework requirements.

## Accolades

- Truman's Accounting is one of only 177 business programs in the country to hold **accreditation in both Business and Accounting by AACSB International**. AACSB is the "gold standard" of business accreditation world-wide. Fewer than 7% of schools nation-wide hold both accounting and business accreditations.
- School of Business students are prepared for a **global economy** and are required to complete two semesters in one foreign language and advanced economics.
- Truman consistently places in the top 15 schools in the nation for first time pass rates on all parts of the Uniform CPA examination.
- Numerous opportunities are available for students to conduct **undergraduate research** with a faculty member, either on-campus or off-campus, both during the academic year and the summer.

- We have **study abroad opportunities and direct student exchange agreements** with international business schools in locations such as France, Germany, Spain, and Hungary.
- Students have **many opportunities for internships** including credit, non-credit, summer, regular semester, local, regional, national, and international.
- **Seventy-seven percent** of the Master of Accountancy students participated in one or more professional internships.
- Over 45% of students complete **a second concentration** in business or accounting, or minor outside of business.
- Students assisted more than 390 clients in 2011 through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).
- For the last 10 years, Accounting students have scored in **the top 5%** of the national population who sat for the Major Field Achievement Test in Business, a nationally-based test which measures business knowledge.

## Faculty

The Accounting Department has eight full-time faculty members with seven holding the Certified Public Accountant credential. All of the faculty members either hold terminal degrees (doctorate) or have significant professional experiences, with four having worked for national public accounting firms.

- Our faculty members are foremost excellent **teachers, but also are active scholars** and collaborate with students on undergraduate research projects.
- Our faculty members are also active in professional business organizations, industry, and the community. They currently or recently have served as members or executives of organizations such as the Missouri Society of CPAs, the Chamber of Commerce, and the American Accounting Association.
- Every accounting faculty member has completed a significant professional experience related to his/her current teaching assignment in the most recent five year period.
- Faculty members have won the prestigious campus-wide Walker and Doris Allen Fellowship for Faculty Excellence multiple times.
- **Dr. Keith Harrison**, Professor of Accounting and Chair, was awarded the 2009 Golden Apple Award by The Order of the Omega.
- **Dr. Debra Kerby**, Dean and Professor of Accounting, was awarded the 2009 Outstanding Educator Award by the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants. The Award recognizes distinguished contributions to classroom teaching, motivating students, educational innovation, and active involvement in the CPA profession.

## Students

- There are 290 undergraduate accounting students and 50 graduate accounting students.
- Student organizations have received national recognition for their excellence. The organizations are **Alpha Kappa Psi** (professional business fraternity), **Beta Alpha Psi** (accounting), **Beta Gamma Sigma** (honor society for AACSB business schools), **Delta Sigma Pi** (professional business fraternity), **National Association of Black Accountants**, **Phi Beta Lambda** (professional organization), **Students in Free Enterprise** (entrepreneurship).
- Of reporting students, 60% of graduates go on to earn graduate or professional degrees.

## Professional Development

- Programs like Boeing Blitz, Professor-for-a-Day, and the Raymond F. Bentele/ Mallinckrodt Executive-In-Residence Program bring industry leaders and employers to campus as guest speakers.
- Events such as Career Week and Meet the Firms bring employers to campus to recruit business and accounting students.
- Student professional organizations regularly bring corporate speakers to talk on topics ranging from networking to interviewing.
- The School of Business emphasizes personal and professional growth; students develop advanced skills and abilities by application of course material and through direct experiences such as:
  - leadership,
  - oral and written communication,
  - teamwork, and
  - critical thinking.

## Employment

Truman Accounting Program graduates are recruited by nearly 250 different organizations. In the article, "The Best Places To Launch A Career: The top 50 employers for new college grads" (*Business Week* Sept. 18, 2008) 50 nation-wide firms are identified. Of those firms, 13 come to campus and recruit Truman students. Twelve of the top fifteen public accounting firms from the St. Louis area and six of the top ten public accounting firms from the Kansas City area actively recruit accounting graduates from Truman.



Accredited by AACSB  
International in Business  
and Accounting

## Employers

Aldi	IBM
Allstate	IRS
Ameren	KPMG LLP
Anders, Minkler, and Diehl	Kraft Foods
Archer Daniels Midland	Missouri Department of Revenue
BKD LLP	Missouri State Auditor's Office
Boeing Company	Monsanto Company
Cargill	Mueller Prost
Caterpillar Inc.	Nestle Purina
Cerner	Pfizer
Deloitte & Touche	Pinnacle
Department of Defense	Principal Financial Group, Inc.
Edward Jones	Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP
Eli Lilly and Company	RubinBrown LLP
Emerson Electric Co	Sprint Nextel Corporation
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Social Security Administration
Ernst & Young LLP	Target Corporation
Federal Reserve Banks: St. Louis, Kansas City, & Chicago	U.S. Army Audit Agency
Harden Cummins Moss & Miller	UHY Advisors
Hy-Vee	Williams Keepers LLC
	Wells Fargo & Company
	Wolfe Nilges & Nahorski PC

## Graduate Schools

Cleveland Marshall College of Law	University of Chicago
George Washington University	University of Illinois
Harvard University	University of Kansas
London School of Economics	University of Michigan
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of Missouri
Northern Illinois University	University of Missouri-Kansas City
Stanford University	University of Notre Dame
St. Louis University	University of North Texas
Texas Tech University	Washington University in St. Louis
The Ohio State University	
University of Arkansas	

<http://accounting.truman.edu>