

Your Guide to the

# Master of Accountancy



*Auditor • Forensic Accountant • Assurance Specialist • Managerial Accountant  
Accounting Analyst • Tax Accountant • Accounting Information Systems Specialist*



UNIVERSITY of  
**SOUTH FLORIDA**

**Muma College of Business**

Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy

# Why a Master's Degree in Accounting?

Students in the Master of Accountancy program are given an in-depth view of issues related to the profession and provided with the ethical and conceptual frameworks to resolve them. They also develop lifelong skills – research, writing, communicating and analytical reasoning – that prepare them for leadership positions in the field.

The MAcc graduate degree is preferred or even required for most management positions, and it can position students to earn a professional credential because it is structured to meet the requirements for the Certified Public Accountant license in the state of Florida. In addition, a MAcc degree from USF's Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy qualifies graduate students to teach undergraduate accounting courses at the community college or university level.

The Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy is one of 190 business schools to hold separate accounting accreditation by AACSB International - the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. There are more than 13,000 business schools worldwide.

## About the Program

The Master of Accountancy program is 30 credit hours, with 15 credit hours devoted to core accounting coursework. Students will choose a specialization in assurance, corporate accounting or tax. Nearly all courses are offered in the evening to accommodate students working full-time. Classes usually have no more than 35 students and most employ an interactive, discussion-based format.

The program offers flexibility for students to be full-time or part-time, based on their needs or preferences.

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What makes the program unique is the critical thinking involved in every course. The professors want us to learn more than what is provided in the textbooks. They provide real-world experiences that can only be beneficial to us as we proceed through our careers.

- James Hanna, '15 MS in Accountancy

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# Coursework

## Academics

### Core Course (15 Credit Hours)

- **ACG 6875** - Financial Reporting and Professional Issues
- **ACG 6841C** - Innovation and Analytics in Accounting
- **ACG 6419** - Data Wrangling and Visualization for Professional Accountants
- **ISM 6136** - Data Mining
- **ISM 6316** - Project Management

### Specialization Courses (9 Credit Hours)

- Assurance
- Corporate Accounting
- Tax

### Accounting Electives (6 Credit Hours)

Students will select these in coordination with the program administrator.

## CPA Evolution Model Curriculum

The Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy has shaped the Master of Accountancy curriculum to meet industry demands of today and tomorrow. CPA licensure is evolving quickly as Industry 4.00 continues to make waves across business and client services. Accounting professionals will soon be expected to have core competencies in: tax compliance and planning, business analysis and reporting, and information systems and control.

The Big Four and accounting firms across the nation are pivoting to a blended professional model where individuals can harness accounting and technology skills. The newly designed MAcc is addressing the curriculum and skill needs ahead of the curve. Graduates of this program will be equipped to meet wide talent gaps within the accounting industry. The CPA Evolution Model, provided by AICPA and NASBA, showcases key areas accounting professionals are expected to reach in the very near future. The MAcc program's curriculum has been designed to equip students with the following skills:

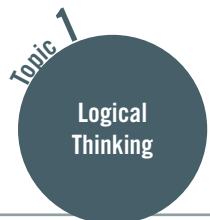


**USF Muma**

College of Business

Lynn Pippenger School  
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UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA



Define main logical thinking concepts related to financial data analytics



Explain main components of financial data and extract-transform-load processes



Explain main concepts of data mining related to financial data



Describe data analysis concepts and models



Demonstrate knowledge of, and the essential ability to respond to change in the world of digital tools and technologies



Demonstrate awareness of data ethics issues



Demonstrate ability to communicate accounting data analysis results



Describe data visualization techniques

## Admission Requirements

Must meet university admission, English proficiency requirements and major admission requirements, listed below. A 3.00 GPA in all upper-level accounting courses (minimum of 21 credit hours at a U.S. accredited program generally within the past five years; OR completion of the following “foundation” courses with a minimum grade of B in each course:

- Intermediate Financial Accounting I (ACG 3103),
- Intermediate Financial Accounting II (ACG 3113),
- Cost Accounting and Control I (ACG 3341),
- Accounting Information Systems (ACG 3401),
- Auditing I (ACG 4632), and
- Concepts of Federal Income Taxation (TAX 4001).

Students with undergraduate degrees with majors other than accounting are encouraged to contact Undergraduate advising at the Muma College of Business.

A minimum GMAT score of 500 or higher or equivalent GRE score of 305 is required for admission into the program. Students may apply for a GMAT waiver if the following conditions have been met:

- The student has obtained an undergraduate degree from USF and earned a GPA of at least 3.30 in the six core accounting major courses; or
- The student earned a bachelor's degree in accounting within the last five years and has passed four sections of the CPA test; or
- The student previously earned a master's degree from an accredited institution.

Admission to the Master of Accountancy degree program is competitive. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.

## Financial Assistance

The Lynn Pippenger School of Accountancy offers a number of scholarships, graduate teaching assistantships, tutoring opportunities and Student Excellence Grants to USF students. Please visit the USF Financial Aid website at [usf.edu/financial](http://usf.edu/financial) for other sources of financial assistance.

## How to Apply

Applications are submitted online at [grad.usf.edu](http://grad.usf.edu) and are evaluated as they are received. Admissions decisions are usually made within four weeks. Non-USF transcripts must be submitted with application.

## Application Deadline

**Summer: February 15**

**Fall: June 1**

**Spring: October 15**

Please contact International Services at [global.usf.edu/is](http://global.usf.edu/is) for more information on international requirements.



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Our college is accredited by:



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