

Master of Science in Accounting Program

The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) is a specialized graduate degree offered by the College of Business at Prairie View A&M University. Students of the program develop a technical understanding of advanced accounting and finance principles in preparation for professional opportunities in the public and private sectors.

Program Details

Students enrolled in the MSA program must complete 30 graduate credit hours of coursework, including six (6) accounting courses and one (1) finance course.

Required Core Courses		Semester Offered	Class Format
ACCT 5311	Advanced Auditing	Spring	Hybrid
ACCT 5312	Accounting Information Systems	Summer	Hybrid
ACCT 5133	Accounting for Managerial Decisions	Fall	Hybrid
ACCT 5314	Accounting Theory	Summer	Hybrid
ACCT 5315	Seminar on Tax Consulting, Planning and Research	Spring	Hybrid
ACCT 5332	Data Analytics in Accounting	Fall	Hybrid
FINA 5310	Financial Management	Fall, Spring, Summer	Face-to-Face or Online

Students complete core accounting classes in a hybrid format (50% traditional classroom, 50% online). Face-to-face class sessions occur at Prairie View A&M's NW Houston Campus location on alternating Saturdays in designated semesters. FINA 5310 (Financial Management) can be completed in either face-to-face or online formats, with face-to-face delivery also offered at NW Houston Campus.

In addition to seven core courses, students must complete three (3) elective courses from an approved list of course options. These options include:

- Applied Database Management
- Business Analytics and Modeling
- Data Communication
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Financial Markets and Institutions
- Human Resource Management
- International Marketing
- International Trade and Business
- Investment Analysis and Management
- Management Information Systems
- Managerial Economics
- Marketing Management
- Organizational Behavior
- System Analysis & Design

Please speak with Graduate Director for questions about the instructional format of certain elective courses.

Program Prerequisites

Individuals who have not earned a four-year undergraduate degree in accounting must complete certain prerequisite (leveling) courses. A minimum of nine (9) credit hours of accounting prerequisite coursework must be completed before applying to the program.

Arrange to speak with the Graduate Director for recommendations on how best to complete prerequisite courses in a timely manner. A grade of 'C' or better is required for each prerequisite.

Prerequisite Courses	
ACCT 2301	Principles of Accounting
ACCT 2302	Managerial Accounting
ACCT 3321	Intermediate Accounting I
ACCT 3322	Intermediate Accounting II
ACCT 3333	Federal Income Tax I
ACCT 4322	Auditing
FINA 3310	Principles of Financial Management

Admission & Application Requirements

- Four-year baccalaureate degree from accredited institution. Overall undergraduate GPA of 2.5 or above.
- Complete and submit university's Graduate Studies application online, along with application fee.
- Official transcript from institution where undergraduate degree was awarded.
- Three recommendations from former professors, co-workers, supervisors, or other individuals with professional affiliation. [Please use Graduate Studies recommendation form.]
- Response to essay question: *Please share your short-term and long-term career goals. Explain how the graduate business degree contributes to accomplishing these goals.*
- Updated professional resume is optional, but **strongly** recommended.
- Applicant Information Form (available in Application Checklist document)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the MSA degree? The MSA degree is designed to support the educational requirements for professional positions requiring advanced accounting skills. This degree also contributes to the requirements to sit for the State of Texas CPA exam.

What is the difference between the MSA and MBA degree? The MSA degree is a specialized masters credential that supports a career path in accounting. Degree requirements include the completion of 21 graduate credit hours in accounting and finance, with an additional nine (9) graduate credit hours in elective business coursework.

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree is a professional credential that encompasses the study of a broad range of business areas, with the goal of building up strategic thinking to benefit the larger organization.

Is the GMAT or GRE required for the program? No! There is no test requirement for the MSA Program.

Is the MSA degree at PVAMU accredited? Yes! The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accredits all undergraduate and graduate degrees offered by the College of Business at Prairie View A&M University.

How long does it take to earn the MSA degree? Full-time graduate students may take up to three classes per semester, so it is feasible to complete the degree in four semesters. Part-time graduate students may choose to take one to two classes per semester. Students must enroll in specific semesters to complete certain graduate accounting courses. Finance and certain elective course offerings may be completed throughout the academic year.



College of Business Graduate Programs website:

<https://www.pvamu.edu/business/departments/graduate/>

For assistance with general questions about the program, please contact Mrs. Terry Robinson, Administrative Associate, at (936)-261-9215 or tgrobinson@pvamu.edu.

To arrange an initial advising appointment with the Graduate Director, please submit an email request to Mr. Gabriel Crosby at gacrosby@pvamu.edu.