MASTER OF ACCOUNTING (MACC) DEGREE

Program Learning Outcomes for the MAcc Degree

Upon completing the MAcc degree, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate technical proficiency in the major aspects of public accounting.
2. Demonstrate financial valuation expertise.
3. Demonstrate strong written and verbal business communication skills.
4. Demonstrate a sound knowledge of public policy and corporate governance.
5. Demonstrate a critical and analytical approach to problem solving.

Requirements for the MAcc Degree

The MAcc degree is a non-thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees). Students pursuing the MAcc degree must complete:

- A minimum of 17 courses (36 credit hours) to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 (B-) in required coursework.
- A minimum GPA of 2.67 (B-) each term.
- A minimum grade of C (2.0 grade points) in each required course.

MAcc coursework is comprised of 24 credit hours of accounting coursework, 9 credit hours of business coursework, and 3 credit hours of ethics coursework. The program has been structured so that coursework should be completed during one academic year, fall and spring.

The MAcc degree program is a lockstep two-semester program that students typically complete during contiguous fall and spring semesters. Due to internship opportunities or other commitments, a student may take three semesters to complete the program. In such instances, the program must be completed in contiguous fall and spring semesters, and the ensuing fall semester. Students requesting the three-semester option must explain in the application cover letter why they need the three-semester option, given the academic goals of the program.

Students approved for the three-semester option must agree to follow a specific course sequence as required by the program director.

Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MACC 511</td>
<td>ISSUES IN FINANCIAL REPORTING II</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes and Additional Information

MACC 503 and MACC 505 are taken for a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade and must be completed with a Satisfactory grade, however, these courses do not apply to the requirement of a minimum grade of C (2.0 grade points) in each required course.

Proposed Plan-of-Study

The following plan-of-study represents the lockstep two-semester sequence in which students pursuing the MAcc degree complete the required coursework. As noted above, in some instances students may apply for, and be permitted to, pursue the MAcc degree as a three-semester program. In those instances, students must agree to follow a specific course sequence as required by the program director. Please see the program director for details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MACC 501</td>
<td>ACCOUNTING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 511</td>
<td>ISSUES IN FINANCIAL REPORTING II</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 512</td>
<td>FINANCIAL STATEMENT ANALYSIS AND VALUATION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 571</td>
<td>FEDERAL TAXATION I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 504</td>
<td>FINANCIAL FUTURES AND OPTIONS</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 505</td>
<td>ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>MACC 562</td>
<td>ACCOUNTING AND DATA ANALYTICS</td>
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First Year

1st Semester

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Fall Semester I

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MACC 504</td>
<td>FINANCIAL FUTURES AND OPTIONS</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACC 505</td>
<td>ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT OF BUSINESS</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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</table>

Fall Semester II

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MACC 514</td>
<td>FAIR VALUE ACCOUNTING</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MACC 581  GOVERNMENT AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT ACCOUNTING  1.5

2nd Semester
MACC 502  BUSINESS LAW FOR ACCOUNTANTS  3
MACC 513  ISSUES IN FINANCIAL REPORTING III  3
MACC 591  ACCOUNTING THEORY  3

Spring Semester I
MACC 503  ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING REGULATION  1.5
MACC 531  ADVANCED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING  1.5
MACC 572  FEDERAL TAXATION II  1.5

Spring Semester II
MACC 541  ACCOUNTING CONTROL SYSTEMS  1.5
MACC 561  ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS  1.5
MACC 562  ACCOUNTING AND DATA ANALYTICS  1.5

Credit Hours  18

Total Credit Hours  36

Polices for the MAcc Degree

Admission Requirements
For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/degrees). Criteria for evaluating participants include: completion of (or plans for completion of) required undergraduate prerequisite courses, academic and professional accomplishments, GMAT or GRE test score, an interview, and, possibly, an admissions assessment examination. Current Rice students and Rice alumni are exempted from the test score requirement, although they may provide a GMAT or GRE score at their discretion.

Rice Undergraduates
Students who are on track to fulfill the requirements of the Rice business minor prior to completing their undergraduate degree are eligible for admission to the program. Non-business minors are also eligible for admission if specific prerequisite courses will be completed before undergraduate graduation; the MAcc program director will consult prospective applicants to determine what prerequisite classes are needed. All MAcc applicants, regardless of being a business minor, need to have completed the introductory financial accounting course (BUSI 305), the first intermediate financial accounting course (BUSI 405), and the auditing course (BUSI 440) prior to beginning the MAcc program. Students potentially interested in the MAcc program are encouraged to take BUSI 305 in their sophomore year. Rice undergraduates can apply and gain conditional admission to the MAcc program as early as the fall semester of their junior year and as late as the spring semester of their senior year. Conditionally admitted students who lack any of the prerequisite accounting courses must take appropriate classes to correct their deficiency.

Non-Rice Undergraduates
Students should apply in the fall semester of their senior year. Admitted students who lack the prerequisite accounting course work must take summer pre-term classes.

Academic and Professional Standards
Students must meet both academic and professional standards to continue academic work and to graduate. In accepting admission to the MAcc program, all students agree to be governed by the standards and procedures for dismissal or disciplinary action stated below.

Academic Standards
A minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.67 (B-) is required for graduation. All courses taken towards the MAcc degree are counted in the cumulative grade point average calculation.

Students with a cumulative grade point average lower than 2.67 at the end of any semester will be notified of dismissal. A student who has been notified of dismissal may appeal to the Academic Standards Committee of the Jones Graduate School of Business. The committee will decide, based on the circumstances of the appeal, whether the student:
1. may resume studies on probation,
2. is to be suspended for one semester or an academic year, or
3. is to be dismissed from the MAcc program.

Students are removed from probation only upon achieving a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.67 at the end of the following semester of work.

Students proposing to return after a period of academic suspension must apply to the Academic Standards Committee and receive permission to be readmitted. If permitted to return, the student will pay the current rate of tuition, based upon the class of students s/he is joining.

Only grades of C (2.0 grade points) and above are counted for credit toward graduation. If a student receives a grade below a C (2.0 grade points) in a course, s/he must meet with the program director to determine remediation. Any plans for remediation must be approved by the Academic Standards Committee.

Professional Standards
Masters students are held to the high standards of professional conduct expected of managers—standards substantially exceeding those expected of them simply as students. Students may be dismissed or suspended for failure to meet professional standards, as defined in the University Code of Conduct (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/rights-responsibilities/code-student-conduct). The dean may place a student on disciplinary probation for unacceptable conduct, giving oral and written notice that future misconduct will lead to filing specific charges. (This probationary notice, however, is not required as a precondition for filing specific charges.)

Guidelines for Appealing Academic Dismissal

The Process
A student who wishes to appeal a dismissal should address the following issues in a letter to the Academic Standards Committee. The student must send the letter to the chair of the Academic Standards Committee. These questions should be answered in the appeal letter:

1. What circumstances led to your academic performance last semester and to what degree were those circumstances beyond your control?
2. If your performance in a particular course(s) last semester was below par, describe any circumstances specific to that course that explain your performance.
3. Do you expect the circumstances that created the problems for you last semester to change next semester? If so, how?

Students may include any additional information they deem relevant in the appeal letter.
**Timing**
If the student intends to appeal the letter to the committee must be filed within two weeks after receiving a dismissal letter. If a student plans to appeal, he/she should continue to attend classes. It is important to keep up in with studies during the appeal process. If the appeal is accepted, the student may continue progress towards the completion of their degree.

**Appeals**
Appeals beyond the Academic Standards Committee must go to the dean of the Jones Graduate School of Business, who may seek guidance from other constituents of the school. All decisions rendered by the dean are final.

**Confidentiality**
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and amendments govern the records of actions related to appeals.

**Grade Appeal Process**
Once a course grade has been assigned by an instructor, it is generally considered final and is rarely changed for any reason other than calculation or transcription errors. The procedure below outlines the process by which a student may appeal a course grade.

1. The student should first pursue any grading question with the instructor following the formal or informal process the instructor has outlined for the course.
2. If the matter is not resolved in step 1 above, the student must file a written appeal to the instructor and send a copy to the senior associate dean of degree programs. This written appeal must be filed no later than two weeks after the final grade for a course was assigned.
3. The instructor must schedule a meeting with the student within two weeks of receiving the written appeal to further discuss the appeal with the student. Notice of the appeal time and date will be provided by the instructor to the senior associate dean of degree programs.
4. If step 3 does not resolve the issue to the satisfaction of both parties, the student may appeal to the Academic Standards Committee by sending a written notice describing the grounds for the appeal within two weeks of the date of the scheduled meeting in step 3.
5. The Academic Standards Committee will seek out information on the appeal from the instructor and the student and, at its discretion, hold a hearing to further consider the matter. The decision of the Academic Standards Committee will be rendered within 4 weeks of receiving a written notice of appeal (step 4).
6. Appeals beyond the Academic Standards Committee must go to the dean of the Jones Graduate School of Business, who may seek guidance from other constituents of the school. All decisions rendered by the dean are final.
7. In the event that the protested grade is necessary for the student to graduate, an accelerated schedule will be followed.
8. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and amendments govern records of these actions.

**Additional Information**
For additional information, please see the Accounting website: https://business.rice.edu/academic-program/master-accounting-macc.