The mission of the USD accountancy program is to develop accountants — through the use of personalized, innovative teaching methods developed by faculty who are active in the production and dissemination of knowledge — who have the skills to compete in a diverse and fast-changing global professional environment.

Specifically, the USD graduate accountancy programs will produce accounting graduates who have:

1. Expanded accounting measurement knowledge either in a specific field of accountancy (e.g., taxation, financial accounting, controllership or systems, financial planning) or integrative accountancy and financial management knowledge.
2. Expanded knowledge to critically analyze financial information in new and unfamiliar circumstances using professional research, decision-modeling, or risk analysis techniques as the basis for appropriate decision-making.
3. Expanded knowledge of the ethical attitudes, values and professional responsibilities required by those in the accountancy profession.
4. Expanded business writing and oral communication skills.
5. Expanded leadership and interpersonal skills.

Programs

Several graduate accountancy degree programs are available. The variety of programs allows students to select from among several different configurations of masters level accountancy courses so that they can best meet their career objectives.

Courses are geared toward the development of skills that can be directly used within an accountant’s work environment. The courses have also been designed to meet the needs of a broad range of professionals. Individuals seeking to meet the 150 hour requirements to become a CPA (on either a full-time or part-time basis) or individuals who already hold CPA certificates, but desiring additional skills and/or continuing professional education, should find one of the following USD graduate accountancy degree programs will meet their educational needs:

1. Master of Science in Accountancy (MACC)
2. Master of Science in Taxation (MTAX)
3. Bachelor of Accountancy (BACC) and MACC or MTAX Combined Programs

Academic Advisor

Upon admission to any graduate accountancy programs students will meet with the Academic Director. As the program mentor, the Academic Director will:

1. Orient the student to their program of study.
2. Advise the student when preparing their program plan and approve the final plan. (All students must complete a program plan prior to beginning coursework. The program plan will detail the courses the student will be completing in their program and the timing of each course.)
3. Provide career counseling.
4. Assist the student in dealing with program related issues during their course of study.

Courses are scheduled year-round which allows students to apply and begin their program of study at any point during the year. It is anticipated that each course will be offered only once during each calendar year. Therefore, it is important that each student review the schedule of course offerings and prepare a program plan prior to beginning their program of study.

Accountancy Course Scheduling

Each graduate accountancy course is designated with an MACC prefix and is scheduled to be completed on an accelerated basis. Some courses meet for two nights a week over a five week term. Other courses meet once a week over a ten week term. Summer and Intersession courses conform to the university policy. Some courses might also have a session on one or two Saturday mornings during the term. A class schedule of upcoming MACC or MTAX courses can be acquired from the Accountancy Programs office or from the Accountancy Institute (http://www.sandiego.edu/business/centers-of-excellence/accountancy-institute) website.

Most of the MACC or MTAX courses have been designed to build student skills interactively in-class. Therefore, active student attendance and participation in each class session is critical. Students should not enroll in any course where they will be unable to attend and participate in all scheduled class sessions.