

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ACCOUNTING

ASPIRE

EXPERIENTIAL MAJOR MAP

ACCOUNTING RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Turn numbers into insights and become a trusted business advisor. Accounting professionals play a critical role in every organization by ensuring financial accuracy, supporting strategic decision-making, and maintaining trust through ethical financial reporting. West Liberty University's Accounting concentration provides a strong foundation in accounting, business analytics, and professional standards, preparing students for rewarding careers in accounting across a variety of industries.

THE WHO...

- Future CPAs
- Financial Analysts in the Making
- Detail-Oriented Problem Solvers
- Business-Minded Leaders
- Career-Focused Professionals

THE SKILLS ...

- Analytical & Ethical Skills
- Financial Analysis
- Interpret & Communicate Complex Auditing, Assurance, & Compliance Data
- Cost & Managerial Accounting Skills
- Taxation, Technology, & Business Systems

THE JOBS ...

- Public Accountant
- Corporate Accountant
- Financial Analyst
- Internal/External Auditor
- Government or Nonprofit Accountant
- Forensic Accountant
- Tax Accountant

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Graduates are prepared for careers across public accounting firms, corporations, government agencies, financial institutions, and nonprofit organizations. The Accounting major provides a strong foundation for professional certifications, such as the CPA license, graduate study, and advancement into leadership and advisory positions. The program prepares graduates with the technical knowledge, professional ethics, and analytical capabilities necessary for immediate workforce entry and long-term career advancement.

HILLTOP ADVANTAGE

The Hilltop Advantage is a structured, student-centered approach that ensures every student graduates with not only a degree, but also meaningful experiences, career-ready skills, and a clear post-graduation plan.

THE PROGRAM

- CPA-Aligned Curriculum
- Experienced Faculty
- Hands-on Learning Opportunities
- Personalized Support
- Career-Focused Preparation
- MBA Fast Track Option

College of Business - Accounting

ASPIRE	FIRST YEAR	MIDDLE YEARS	LAST YEAR	GRADUATE PROGRAMS
A ACADEMIC MASTERY	- Complete foundational courses - Develop proficiency in Excel and quantitative reasoning. - Learn the foundations of ethical decision-making in business.	- Complete core accounting courses - Strengthen technical accounting and analytical skills - Integrate accounting, technology, and data analytics concepts - Apply accounting principles to real-world business problems - Apply critical thinking to complex accounting issues	- Complete advanced and specialized accounting courses - Integrate accounting, technology, and data analytics concepts. - Apply critical thinking to complex accounting issues.	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
S SELF-DISCOVERY & STRENGTHS	- Explore careers in audit, tax, corporate, governmental, and forensic accounting. - Complete career and strengths assessments. - Reflect on professional interests and goals.	- Identify preferred accounting specialization. - Explore the career paths of each accounting specialization. - Clarify long-term career objectives.	- Determine a preferred career area of focus: - Audit / Tax - Corporate Accounting - Cost Accounting - Financial Analysis - Government Accounting - Forensic Accounting	Industry Sectors - Public Accounting - Fin Tech/Technology - Real Estate / Construction - Small / Medium sided enterprises
PI PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION INTEGRATIVE & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING	- Create a professional résumé and LinkedIn profile. - Attend career exploration workshops. - Participate in job shadowing experiences. - Complete introductory accounting software training. - Attend employer presentations and networking events	- Develop proficiency in accounting software such as QuickBooks. - Attend mock interviews and internship preparation workshops. - Secure an internship or relevant summer experience. - Engage with industry professionals through conferences and networking opportunities. - Join relevant state/local accounting societies as a student member and attend networking events.	- Complete a capstone consulting, research, or applied project. - Prepare for the CPA exam and/or professional certifications. - Build a professional portfolio showcasing projects and accomplishments. - Clarify post-graduation goals and professional identity. - Secure employment or graduate school placement.	Career Opportunities - Public Accountant - Corporate Accountant - Financial Analyst - Internal/External Auditor - Government or Nonprofit Accountant - Forensic Accountant - Tax Accountant
RE RELATIONSHIPS & LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT & WELL-BEING	- Join Accounting Club and business student organizations. - Connect with faculty advisors and peer mentors. - Participate in campus activities and service opportunities. - Develop effective time-management and wellness habits.	- Assume leadership roles. - Mentor younger students. - Take active roles in student organizations. - Build relationships with accounting professionals and alumni. - Participate in professional society events. - Engage in community-based service activities.	- Strengthen mentoring relationships with faculty and professionals. - Support student organizations through leadership or mentorship. - Participate in professional association activities. - Develop strategies for career success, personal resilience, and lifelong well-being.	