In the School of Accounting, we strive to create intelligent, thoughtful leaders with the technical knowledge and problem-solving skills necessary for long-term professional success wherever their career paths may lead. The Rawls College of Business houses the first separately-accredited School of Accounting in Texas and one of only about 40 such schools nationwide. The accounting program is also one of only 168 programs in the U.S. that is separately accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). These rigorous standards require a focus on continuous improvement through an emphasis on regular 360 degree assessment of inputs to and outcomes of the accounting program. As a result, accounting students can be assured that they are receiving instruction that is current, relevant and supported by cutting-edge research conducted by faculty who are experts in their field. Graduates of our flagship 150-hour program are recruited by the top firms in the accounting profession with opportunities to begin their careers in a variety of offices both nationally and internationally. Placement rates from the 150-hour program have been at or near 100 percent for the past 25 years.

“Establishing the state’s first separately-accredited School of Accounting is the result of years of outstanding graduate placement, high CPA pass rates, distinguished alumni and impactful faculty scholarship.”
— Lance Nail, Ph.D., Dean, CPA

“In the last two years, the School of Accounting at the Rawls College of Business has been recognized as a Top 50 Accounting Program in the Public Accounting Report, the tax program has been ranked as a Top 20 research program in the Brigham Young University rankings, and now the MSA program has been ranked as one of the 10 best accounting programs in the nation by tax recruiters. When you bring great students together with outstanding faculty, the result is a world-class program. We are proud of the accomplishments of our alumni, our faculty and our student body, and we expect even better things to come. From here, it’s possible.”
— Robert Ricketts; Director, School of Accounting

EXCELLENCE IN TAXATION

“The dynamic nature of taxation requires that a quality tax program be prepared to regularly adapt its curriculum to ensure that students are ready for successful careers in taxation. Our five Rawls School of Accounting Tax Faculty, who collectively have over 70 years of university tax education experience in addition to over 50 years of professional tax experience, firmly believe in this strategy. We also feel that soliciting ongoing input from the international, national and middle market firms that hire our students is a key element to our success. Using insights from the firms and our years of experience in academic tax education, we have developed a top-notch curriculum that incorporates a variety of teaching methods, technical topics and professional development strategies that has undoubtedly helped our tax program rank in the top 10 nationwide.”

John J. Masselli, Ph.D., CPA
Haskell Taylor Professor of Taxation

EXCELLENCE IN AUDIT AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

“The School of Accounting has positioned itself to adjust for the age of ‘big data’ in the accounting profession, specifically by focusing on improving traditional audit techniques. The M.S.A. Audit track teaches students how to access and analyze large data sets, using state-of-the-art computer-based audit techniques. Students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to manage and interpret large amounts of financial and economic data, including searching for and detecting fraudulent activity.”

Ralph E. Viator, Ph.D.
Clark and Lois Webster Professor
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The 150-hour Program in Accounting equips students with a thorough understanding of core accounting knowledge, augmented with advanced study in either the taxation or auditing/financial reporting tracks. The program integrates the undergraduate and graduate curricula, allowing students to earn both a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Master of Science in Accounting in a combined 150 hours of study. Upon successful completion of the program, students are prepared to sit for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination and begin careers in the public accounting profession. The School of Accounting also offers a stand-alone Master of Science in Accounting degree for students who have already earned a bachelor’s degree and wish to pursue careers in public accounting. The graduate curriculum in the stand-alone M.S.A. program is exactly the same as that in the 150-hour program; the two programs differ only in that the 150-hour program integrates graduate coursework into the undergraduate curriculum. As an alternative to the 150-hour accounting program, students also have the option to solely pursue a bachelor’s degree in Accounting, which is a 120-hour program. Graduates earning a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting are prepared to pursue accounting careers in a variety of industries, but are not prepared for CPA licensure.

SAMPLE COURSES

Undergraduate

- Intermediate Accounting I & II
- Cost & Managerial Accounting
- Accounting Systems
- Income Tax Accounting
- Principles of Auditing
- Petroleum Accounting

Graduate

- Accounting Theory
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Advanced Accounting
- Advanced Auditing
- International Taxation
- Accounting Research and Communication

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) in Accounting
- 150-hour Program (integrated B.B.A./M.S. program in Accounting)
- Master of Science in Accounting (stand-alone M.S. program for students already holding a B.B.A. degree)
- Master of Business Administration (MBA) for Working Professionals
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Business Administration (concentration in Accounting)

Note: Both the 150-hour Program and the stand-alone M.S.A. program offer specialized tracks in either Taxation or Auditing/Financial Reporting.

ACCOUNTING STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Accounting Leadership Council | alc.ba.ttu.edu

For a complete list of student organizations, visit undergrad.ba.ttu.edu/studentorgs.

POINTS OF PRIDE

- First separately-accredited School of Accounting in Texas
- Influential alumni, including partners in public accounting firms, corporate executives and leading professors in the academy
- Specialized tracks in taxation and auditing/financial reporting
- Unique faculty-led study abroad experience available for graduate and undergraduate students
- Established internship program allowing students the opportunity to gain professional experience before graduating
- Exceptional pass rates on the CPA exam for first-time test takers
- 100% job placement rate for Master of Science in Accounting graduates with over 85% of students receiving job offers at least 18 months before graduation

MEET THE FIRMS

Each Spring, the School of Accounting and the Rawls Career Management Center host “Meet the Firms,” an on-site recruiting event attended by the top public accounting firms in the country. Students in the third year of the accounting program have the opportunity to interview for internship positions for the Spring or Summer semesters in the following (senior) year.