



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Revision of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, College of Business

SPONSOR: Jon S. Davis, Department Head; (217) 300-0489; jondavis@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: Dean Larry DeBrock, (217) 333-2747; dean@business.uiuc.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The Department of Accountancy proposes changes only to the Accountancy Major portion of the BSA degree. If approved, all other components (i.e. general education, business core, semester hours, residency, and GPA) will remain the same.

For the Accountancy Major portion, the Department proposes the following:

- Reduce the credit hours for each of the current major classes (ACCY 301, 302, 303, 304, and 405) from four credit hours to three credit hours.
- Add ACCY 312, Principles of Taxation, as a degree requirement. This class is currently offered for four credit hours but would also be reduced to three hours.
- Add an additional accountancy elective as a degree requirement. Students would choose between ACCY 410 (Advanced Financial Reporting) and ACCY 451 (Advanced Income Tax Problems). These classes would be offered for either three undergraduate hours or four graduate hours; however, students taking one of these for the BSA would take the course for three undergraduate hours.

This would change the accountancy major requirement from 20 hours total to 21 hours total (see **Appendix A**).

JUSTIFICATION:

This proposal will benefit students because it will increase their accountancy knowledge and further develop their accountancy skills. Currently, ACCY 312 is not required. By requiring ACCY 312, the Department can ensure that all accountancy undergraduates have exposure to taxation. Moreover, the additional accountancy undergraduate elective will give students an option to further develop either their taxation or financial reporting knowledge/skills, depending on their future career goals. Finally, accountancy instructors will adopt blended learning (in class and online) approaches to allow more efficient and effective use of class time.

The Department also anticipates that the changes will yield the following benefits:

Better Integration

By changing to three credit hours, Accountancy undergraduate courses will be consistent with the format used by other departments in the College of Business. This consistency will enable classes to be scheduled more easily and will lead to better utilization of University building space, particularly in the Business Instructional Facility. The Accountancy undergraduate program will integrate better with both the College of Business and elsewhere on campus.

Competitiveness / Recruiting

An acute, nationwide shortage of Accountancy faculty has led to an extremely competitive recruiting environment. In order to recruit and retain faculty, it is important for the Department to manage faculty teaching loads. The universities that we compete against offer standard nine hour annual teaching loads (three classes at three credit hours each). With the current four hour format, Accountancy faculty at Illinois teach twelve hour loads (three classes at four credit hours each). Matching the nine credit hour load offered by competitors will give our faculty more time to produce world-class research and allow us to compete effectively in the market for faculty.

Parity

Other departments in the College of Business utilize a standard nine hour teaching load for research active faculty – the proposed credit hour revision will achieve parity for Accountancy faculty.

Flexibility for Students

By more finely partitioning Accountancy courses, we can offer students more flexibility, allowing them to better achieve their educational and specialization goals.

Better match with Students' Attention Spans and Less In-Class Fatigue

We believe that three credit hour classes (80 minute class sessions) are better matched to students' attention spans than are four credit hour classes (110 minute class sessions). The shorter duration will also reduce student fatigue in the classroom.

Strengthen Curriculum

Since instructors will adopt blended learning (in class and online) approaches (to allow more efficient and effective use of class time), we expect that the class sessions will lead to better learning outcomes. Three credit hour classes will also provide students with the opportunity to enroll in Accountancy electives that they would not have been able to pursue otherwise (up to two additional courses). We anticipate that these changes will strengthen the Accountancy curriculum. These changes will better enable the Accountancy department to prepare its students for continual changes to the Accountancy profession, and for recent changes to the CPA exam prerequisites.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

a. Additional staff and dollars needed: The Department estimates that it will need two additional tenure track faculty members and one additional lecturer, at an additional annual cost of approximately \$650,000.

b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.): The Department does not expect any change in class size or student-faculty ratios. Annual teaching loads will change as follows: a) Research-active tenure-track faculty loads will decrease from 12 credit hours (three classes at four credit hours each) to nine credit hours (three classes at three credit hours each). b) Lecturer loads will remain roughly the same – the loads will change from a range of 16 to 20 credit hours (four or five classes at four credit hours each) to 18 credit hours (six classes at three credit hours each).

c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments: Three of the required major classes, ACCY 301, 302, and 303, are also required classes for the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE) – Agri-Accounting Concentration. Since these classes will go from 4 hours to 3 hours, this will reduce the accountancy hours in the ACE degree from 12 hours to 9 hours. This change is acceptable to ACE (**see Appendix B**).

d. Impact on the University Library

There is no new impact on the University Library (**see Appendix C**).

e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.

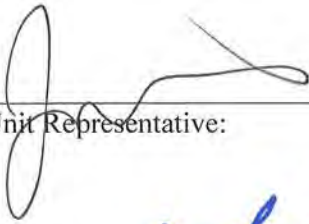
There is no new impact on computer use, laboratory use, and equipment.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2013

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: (**see Appendix D**).

CLEARANCES:

Signatures:



Unit Representative:

11-5-12
Date:



College Representative:

12/10/12
Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

Appendix A

Comparison of Current and Proposed Curriculum Revisions

Current Requirements:	Current Hours	Revised Requirements:	Revised Hours
<i>Major Requirements</i>		<i>Major Requirements</i>	
ACCY 301 - Accounting Measurement and Disclosure	4 Hours	ACCY 301 - Accounting Measurement and Disclosure	3 Hours
ACCY 302 - Decision Making for Accountancy	4 Hours	ACCY 302 - Decision Making for Accountancy	3 Hours
ACCY 303 – Accounting Institutions and Regulation	4 Hours	ACCY 303 - Accounting Institutions and Regulation	3 Hours
ACCY 304 - Accounting Control Systems	4 Hours	ACCY 304 - Accounting Control Systems	3 Hours
ACCY 405 - Assurance and Attestation	4 Hours	ACCY 405 - Assurance and Attestation	3 Hours
		ACCY 312 - Principles of Taxation	3 Hours
		Major elective. Choose one of the following:	3 Hours
		ACCY 410 – Advanced Financial Reporting	
		ACCY 451 – Advanced Income Tax Problems	
Total Required Major Hours	20 Hours	Total Required Major Hours	21 Hours

Appendix B Letter from the Department of ACE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics
College of Agricultural, Consumer and
Environmental Sciences

326 Mumford Hall, MC-710
1301 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801-3605



August 28, 2012

Jon S. Davis, Ph.D., CPA
Robert C. Evans Endowed Chair in Business
Head, Department of Accountancy
360 Wohlers Hall
1206 South Sixth Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Dear Dr. Davis:

It is my understanding that the Department of Accountancy is proposing to change 300 level ACCY courses from 4 hours to 3 hours. Students in the Agricultural Accounting concentration are required to take ACCY 301, ACCY 302 and ACCY 303. The proposed change in hours for these courses is acceptable to ACE.

The Department's longer term plan will be to request ACCY 304 be added to the required courses in the Agricultural Accounting curriculum. This request will occur in a separate proposal.

Please let me know if you have any concerns.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul N. Ellinger".

Dr. Paul N. Ellinger
Professor and Head

Appendix C: Statement from the University Library

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University Library
Office of Dean of Libraries
and University Librarian
230 Main Library, MC-522
1408 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



November 13, 2012

Jon S. Davis
Professor of Accountancy and Department Head
and R.C. Evans Endowed Chair in Business
360D Wohlers Hall
MC-706

Dear Dr. Davis:

Thank you for giving the University Library the opportunity to review the Department of Accountancy's proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to revise the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. Based upon a review of the draft proposal that we received from Sue Thomas in the department, it is our belief that there will be no significant impact on our operations or collections.

If additional services or materials are required as the program develops—particularly in response the research needs of the faculty being brought in as part of this program, we will be happy to discuss those needs as they emerge.

Sincerely,

Paula Kaufman
Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

c: Thomas Teper
Carissa Phillips
Rebecca Smith

telephone 217-333-0790 • fax 217-244-4358

Appendix D: Statement for the Programs of Study

Accountancy

[Accountancy](#)

Head of Department: Jon S. Davis

Department Office: 360 Wohlers Hall, 1206 South Sixth, Champaign, (217) 333-0857

[Curriculum in Accountancy](#)

www.business.illinois.edu/accountancy

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy: Organizations are a nexus of contracts, implicit and explicit, among resource owners who contract with each other to the benefit of all. In most complex organizations, these contracts specify who has the knowledge, and thus the rights, to make decisions about the use and control of the contracted resources. The effectiveness and efficiency of decisions regarding initiation, execution, and monitoring of organizations' contracts depend on the quantity and quality of information available. The accountant assists in the development, accumulation, evaluation, and dissemination of the information necessary for contracting parties to make effective and efficient contracting decisions. Organizations, in turn, contract with various segments of society such as labor unions, capital markets, regulatory agencies, and governments. The accountant assists in the development, accumulation, evaluation, and dissemination of the information necessary for ensuring that organizations comply with the terms of their social contracts.

Study in accountancy is designed to prepare individuals for entry into the accountancy professions independent of subsequent specialization. This preparation includes knowledge of the activities of organizations, businesses, and accounting practices; intellectual, interpersonal, and communication skills; and personal capabilities and professional attitudes. Specializations in accountancy include such fields as financial accounting, management accounting, accounting information systems, taxation, and auditing. Specialization in an accounting field requires additional graduate education and practical experience.

In addition to the accountancy major requirements, students in accountancy must meet the University General Education requirements and the College of Business core requirements (for more detail, see the [College of Business undergraduate section](#)). Minimum requirements in the major for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Accountancy are:

Hours	Course
3	ACCY 301 - Accounting Measurement & Disclosure
3	ACCY 302 - Decision Making for Accountancy
3	ACCY 303 - Accounting Institutions & Regulation
3	ACCY 304 - Accounting Control Systems
3	ACCY 405 - Assurance & Attestation
3	ACCY 312 - Principles of Taxation
3	Major elective. Choose one of the following: ACCY 410 - Advanced Financial Reporting ACCY 451 - Advanced Income Tax Problems
21	TOTAL

(cont. on next page)

Accountancy courses (both required and elective) to be applied toward the 124-hour requirement for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Accountancy may not be taken on a credit/no-credit basis. In addition, a limit of 33 hours of accountancy courses (including ACCY 201 and ACCY 202) may be counted toward the 124 total hour requirement.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTANCY REQUEST FOR COURSE REVISIONS AND DEGREE REVISION

OVERVIEW

Current Program

The Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BSA) prepares students for entry into a variety of fields in accountancy, including corporate accounting, accounting information systems, and governmental accounting, as well as entry into graduate programs such as law. Currently, Accountancy students must meet the following requirements to earn the BSA:

- University/College of Business General Education Requirements
- College of Business Core Classes
- Accountancy Major Classes
 - ACCY 301 – 4 hours (Accounting Measurement and Disclosure)
 - ACCY 302 – 4 hours (Decision Making for Accounting)
 - ACCY 303 – 4 hours (Accounting Institutions and Regulation)
 - ACCY 304 – 4 hours (Accounting Control Systems)
 - ACCY 405 – 4 hours (Assurance and Attestation)
- 124 Credit Hours
- A limit of 33 undergraduate accountancy hours
- College of Business Residency Requirement
- 2.0 Cumulative, Major, and UIUC GPA

Proposed Changes

The Department of Accountancy proposes changes to the Accountancy Major portion only. If approved, all other components (i.e. general education, business core, semester hours, residency, and GPA) will remain the same.

For the Accountancy Major portion, the Department proposes the following:

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This would change the accountancy major requirement from 20 hours total to 21 hours total.

Rationale for offering ACCY 410 and 451 for Graduate Credit

Since many students in the BSA participate in the Department's joint Bachelor/Master program in Accountancy (BS/MAS), it is ideal for ACCY 410 and ACCY 451 to have a graduate credit option to allow students flexibility with scheduling. The BS/MAS program allows students in its "First Stage" to take up to eight hours of graduate credit during senior year. By having ACCY 410 and ACCY 451 available for both undergraduate and graduate credit, a student could take one of these courses for three hours to count towards the BSA degree, but take the other course for four graduate hours to count towards the MAS. A student that is not planning to earn the MAS, but who would like to take both classes, would take them each for three undergraduate hours.

Transition Plan

The Department's goal is to have the credit hours changes in effect for Fall 2013, along with the degree revision for Fall 2013, to apply to the Fall 2013 freshman class. Students with a Catalog Year of Spring 2013 and earlier are still subject to the major requirements of their Catalog Year. This means that they are only required to take ACCY 301, 302, 303, 304, and 405, even though the classes would be reduced to three hours. Since 124 semester hours are required for the BSA, these students would take elective hours to make up any hours lost from the accountancy courses' credit hour reduction. The Department believes that a high percentage of accountancy students will self-select into ACCY 312, ACCY 410, and/or ACCY 451. Please note though that the Department does not anticipate offering ACCY 410 and 451 consistently until Fall 2014. The Department contacted both Kristi Kuntz, Assistant Provost and Phyllis Little, Director of Records for the College of Business to see if there were any barriers to students with Catalog Years of Spring 2013 and earlier earning a BSA degree with only ACCY 301, 302, 303, 304, and 405 (i.e., 15 total accountancy majors hours). No barriers were reported.

Justification

This proposal will benefit students because it will increase their accountancy knowledge and further develop their accountancy skills. Currently, ACCY 312 is not required. By requiring ACCY 312, the Department can ensure that all accountancy undergraduates have exposure to taxation. Moreover, the additional accountancy undergraduate elective will give students an option to further develop either their taxation or financial reporting knowledge/skills, depending on their future career goals. Finally, accountancy instructors will adopt blended learning (in class and online) approaches to allow more efficient and effective use of class time.

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Other Impacted Programs

The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE) has an Agri-Accounting concentration which requires ACCY 301, 302, and 303. The Department of ACE has deemed these course revisions acceptable and provided a formal letter of approval.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.13.22

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



January 11, 2013

Gay Miller, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Business to revise the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. Please note the budgetary implications listed on page five have been addressed by the college.

This proposal has been approved by the College of Business' Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kristi A. Kuntz'.

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: J. Davis
L. DeBrock
A. Edwards



Senate Educational Policy Committee Proposal Check Sheet

PROPOSAL TITLE (Same as on proposal): Revision of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, College of Business.

PROPOSAL TYPE (Please select all that apply below):

A. **Program and degree proposals**

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes No

2. **Degree** proposal (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.)

New degree — please name the new degree: _____

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised:
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy

3. **Major** proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: _____

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised: _____

4. **Concentration** proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: _____

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be revised: _____

5. **Minor** proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: _____

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: _____

6. Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor
- degree major concentration minor
- Please provide the current name: _____
- Please provide the proposed new name: _____
7. Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor
- Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: _____
8. Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution
- Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: _____
- Please name the partnering institution: _____
- B. **Proposal for renaming existing academic units** (college, school, department, or program)
- Please provide the unit's current name: _____
- Please provide the unit's proposed new name: _____
- C. **Proposal for reorganizing existing units** (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)
- Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: _____
- Transfer an existing unit
- Please provide the current unit's name and home: _____
- Please provide the new home for the unit: _____
- Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)
- Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: _____
- Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: _____
- Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: _____
- D. **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)
- Please indicate the nature of the proposal: _____