Department Overview

The accountancy program at UWL is designed to provide students with a balanced approach of the practical and the theoretical, preparing students for not only their first job but their career. The success of the UWL accountancy program is evidenced by the accomplishments of our alumni, the number of internship placements and the performance of UWL students on the CPA exam. During the 2017-2018 academic year, over 70 accountancy majors participated in well-paid internships. Essentially all UWL accountancy graduates are placed in accountancy positions, with the lowest placement rate in the last nine years at 94 percent. Refer to the following website for up-to-date information: www.uwlax.edu/CareerServices.

Wisconsin and Minnesota, along with most other states, require 150 credits as part of the CPA certification. UWL offers a flexible approach to completing the 150 credits. A large number of UWL students combine the accounting degree with another undergraduate major, such as finance, or minor, such as information systems. The advantage of this approach is that students can complete their degree, the 150 hours, and an internship in 4 1/2 years, graduating in December.

Undergraduate Programs

Major:
- Accountancy

Minor:
- Accountancy

Sample Courses

- Intermediate Accounting I, II, & II
- Cost Accounting
- Accounting Information Systems
- Taxation I
- Business Law for Accountants
- Advanced Accounting
- Principles of Auditing
- Electives, such as:
  - Tax II or
  - Fraud

Professional Associations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants (WICPA)
- Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants (MNCPA)
- Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)
- Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)

View degree requirements: www.uwlax.edu/catalog
Department Features

MISSION
The mission of the Department of Accountancy is to develop accounting professionals. By emphasizing continuous engagement in research and service to the profession, Accountancy Department members create a teaching and advising environment that enables capable students to reach their full professional potential.

ACCREDITATION
Both the undergraduate and graduate business programs of the College of Business Administration are accredited by the AACSB-International, one of the important marks of an excellent business school. The accreditation of UWL's College of Business Administration program has proven to be a strong factor when potential employers recruit accounting graduates.

FACULTY
Members of the department teach both accounting and business law. Currently, there are thirteen full-time faculty, all with impressive credentials. Most of the accounting faculty have doctoral degrees and certifications as a CPA with relevant experience in public or private accounting, in addition to consulting. The business law faculty have JDs as well as substantial legal experience. The faculty in both the accounting and business law area are active researchers.

SCHOLARSHIPS
The Department of Accountancy has an extensive scholarship program for both entering freshmen and continuing students with over $100,000 typically available. Applications are completed online through the UWL Foundation website: www.uwlax.edu/scholarships/scholarships/foundation-scholarships/.

INTERNSHIPS
Most UWL accountancy majors gain experience prior to graduation. Many have multiple internships and the most common experience is a paid full-time internship in public accounting. In today’s job market, an internship often leads to a permanent job offer.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS
Completion of the accountancy program, including 150 credit hours, meets the education requirement for professional certification. Graduates are eligible to take the professional examinations that are prerequisites for designations of Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), or Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). Successfully passing the CPA, CMA, CIA, or CFE exam is a valuable credential to possess when seeking permanent employment.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES
The department offers a variety of accounting experiences including Beta Alpha Psi (the national honor society for financial information professionals), the Accounting Career Expo, and the Accounting Scholarship Banquet. Students are encouraged to be active in extracurricular activities to meet fellow students, recruiters, alumni, and faculty. Beta Alpha Psi sponsors presentations by professional accountants for students to learn more about the accountancy profession and to meet informally with professionals. In addition, members have the opportunity to travel to regional and national meetings.

Career Opportunities

ENTRY LEVEL
- Bank Trainee
- Private Industry Accountant
- Public or Staff Accountant
- Revenue Agent
- Internal Auditor
- Tax Accountant
- Technical Account Trainee

About 70% of UWL accountancy graduates start as a staff accountant in a public accounting firm.

FURTHER EDUCATION
- Graduate study in accounting, taxation, business administration
- Law School
- Chief Plant Accountant
- Controller
- Partner in CPA Firm
- Treasurer

LONG-TERM CAREER DEVELOPMENT
- Budget Director
- Chief Cost Accountant
- Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Plant Accountant
- Controller
- Partner in CPA Firm
- Treasurer

Occupational Outlook
Accountancy majors at UWL enjoy a wide variety of career opportunities upon graduation. Most elect to start their careers in public accounting. Others find employment in managerial, financial and tax, and governmental accounting; in internal auditing; and in other positions in financial institutions.

An accounting degree is a great springboard into a successful career. The degree provides an opportunity for advancement and starting salaries are excellent. See www.wicpa.org and click on Education to find out about accounting.

PLACEMENT
Placement of UWL accounting interns and graduates is excellent. Many students receive offers while working as an intern. See www.uwlax.edu/CareerServices for up-to-date information.