

## **Master of Science (MSc) Program in Accounting**

### **Academic Director:**

Tony SHIEH, Associate Professor of Business Education of Accounting

The Master of Science (MSc) program in Accounting provides students with an interest in accounting a prime opportunity to further their study with a premier accounting curriculum at postgraduate level. The program is both practical and academically rigorous. It is based on a foundation of carefully designed courses and components, and intends to cultivate “thinking” professional accountants, nurturing them to become successful business professionals across different business functions within diverse organizations.

The program caters for accounting and non-accounting majors from business disciplines who are thinking of developing, or further enhancing, their careers in accounting and other related fields. Through this program, graduates will derive knowledge in accounting and business related areas at postgraduate level and be accredited by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (HKICPA) Qualification Program (QP).

The program provides students access to professionalism and the opportunity to master future success.

### ***Program Learning Outcomes***

On successful completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

- Think critically and creatively solve business problems and make effective decisions with respect to the conceptual and practical aspects of mainstream accounting disciplines;
- Communicate clearly, and strategically, after considering relevant circumstances as well as work and manage themselves effectively within a team environment to accomplish established goals;
- Understand and practice responsible citizenship and professional standards;
- Explain and analyze accounting issues raised by various professional accounting organizations and caused by evolving global business environment; and
- Apply ethical principles and the code of ethics issued by accounting professional bodies in accounting practices.

### ***Admission Requirements***

Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree with good standing in business disciplines from a recognized university or an approved institution. Applicants who graduated from a non-business discipline should fulfill at least one of the following conditions:

- a) Studied courses in Accounting, Economics, and Statistics during their undergraduate studies with satisfactory performance; or

- b) Passed the module/paper on Financial Reporting or Financial Accounting from a recognized Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination; or
- c) Having a minimum of 2 years' full-time post-qualification work experience in an accounting related field.

Work experience is not required but will add weight to the consideration. GMAT/GRE score will also be considered if it is available.

### ***Program Duration***

The normative duration of this full-time program is one year.

### ***Program Fee***

The program fee for the 2016-17 intake is HK\$230,000. The program fee covers tuition, textbooks and course materials for some of the core courses, and some enrichment activities. Students will be charged an extra fee of \$10,000 per course for taking undergraduate basic courses for fulfilling the entrance requirement of HKICPA QP.

### ***Curriculum***

Students are required to complete a minimum of 15 courses (30 credits), including 9 core courses (18 credits) and 6 elective courses (12 credits).

#### a) Core courses (18 credits)

ACCT	5160	Corporate Financial Reporting I
ACCT	5170	Corporate Financial Reporting II
ACCT	5180	Advanced Corporate Financial Reporting
ACCT	5210	Managerial Accounting Foundations
ACCT	5410	Taxation
ACCT	5510	Auditing
ACCT	5630	Business Law
ACCT	5640	Company Law
FINA	5120	Corporate Finance

#### b) Elective courses (12 credits)

A list of program specific electives offered in a particular year will be announced at the beginning of each intake. The elective courses are a selection of courses in various business disciplines which are chosen from the portfolio of the School of Business and Management.

#### c) HKICPA Qualification Program (Optional)

The HKICPA Qualification Program (QP) stipulates the following six basic subjects as entry requirements. Students interested in QP but lack those subjects in college will need to make up with the equivalent HKUST courses designated. The program will not admit students who missed more than two courses in their

undergraduate studies.

- 1) Accounting (ACCT 2010)
- 2) Economics (ECON 2103)
- 3) Information System (ISOM 2010)
- 4) Management (MGMT 1110)
- 5) Marketing (MARK 2120)
- 6) Statistics (ISOM 2500)

Credits earned from the above undergraduate courses cannot be counted toward the credit requirements of the program.

### ***Course Substitution***

Students who have taken equivalent courses during their undergraduate studies may apply for exemption of up to three courses (6 credits). They need to substitute with courses that are offered in the School's MBA or other MSc programs, subject to the prior approval from the Academic Director. The course exemption of students who plan to enter HKICPA QP requires the approval of the Institute.

### ***Graduation Requirements***

Students must complete the program with a graduation grade average (GGA) of 2.850 or above as required of all postgraduate students at the University.