Accounting (ACCT)

Major Information
The B.S. Accounting Program and Accounting Certificate Programs, both part of the Bittner School of Business, have been designed to prepare students for entry into a variety of fields including public accounting, corporate accounting and finance, financial consulting, and governmental and other not-for-profit organizations. The Accounting Certificate Program is designed for individuals who already hold a baccalaureate degree in a major other than Accounting.

After August 1, 2009 students planning to take the CPA exam will need 150 hours of credit. Please consult with your advisor on the appropriate courses to fulfill this requirement.

Planning Notes
Sequencing
- A grade of “C” or better is required in ACCT 102, 201 & 202
- ACCT 201 or 202 are prerequisites for the 300-level Accounting courses.
- MATH 119C may be substituted for MATH 111C.
- MATH 120C may be substituted for MATH 112C.
- Take the Career Planning course (ACCT 310) early in your junior year.
- The following Accounting courses must be taken at St. John Fisher College: ACCT 202, ACCT 304, ACCT 311, ACCT 401, the two required accounting electives

Tax Challenge
- Students wishing to participate in the Deloitte Tax Challenge should take Intro to Federal Taxation (ACCT 311) in their junior year, ideally in the fall.

Liberal Arts
- No more than 9 hours ECON and 6 hours statistics may count toward the 60 liberal arts hours required for the B.S. degree.

Skills/Competencies for Success in the Major
- 18-21 hours of required math-related accounting, probability, mathematical modeling and statistics coursework.
- Strong knowledge of Excel and Access is desirable.

Related Programs & Suggested Minors
- Students are encouraged to choose a minor course of study (e.g. Economics, International Studies) or a second major from among the many available at Fisher.
- Students are encouraged to consider a semester abroad program. The timing of the semester abroad program is important so as not to conflict with internship opportunities. Consult with your advisor.
- Students interested in public accounting and graduating after August 1, 2009 should consider the Masters of Business Administration (MBA) with a Concentration in Accounting program.

Experiential Opportunities (Internships, Clubs & Organizations, etc.)
The Accounting Faculty encourages students to participate in an internship opportunity, both during the school year and in the summer. You do not need to take internships for credit, but they qualify for 3 hours of credit (ACCT 491).

Students are also encouraged to participate in the many activities sponsored by the Accounting Club, various professional organizations and public accounting firms. Among the events are the Annual golf tournament, PricewaterhouseCoopers xTax competition, Awards Banquet and monthly accounting club meetings. For information on these events visit the Accounting club website at http://home.sjfc.edu/Accountingclub.

Career Opportunities & Related Fields
Approximately 70% of Fisher graduates start their careers in public accounting, and most seniors find employment within three months of graduation. For a list of the public accounting firms that interview at Fisher and links to their website visit the Accounting club website at http://home.sjfc.edu/Accountingclub/.

Visit http://www.sjfc.edu/academics/bittner/departments/accounting/ for details about the program, faculty, and internships.