Master of Business (Accounting) (BS16)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 059599K
Course duration (full-time): 3 semesters (1.5 years) (PR online delivery not available full-time)
Course duration (part-time): 6 semesters (3 years)
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $9,500 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $11,000 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July
Total credit points: 144
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Dr Amanda Gudmundsson
Discipline coordinator: Associate Professor Stuart Tooley
Campus: Gardens Point

Overview
This course provides advanced-level studies for students with an appropriate accountancy degree.

The Master of Business (Accounting) is designed for students who are working or aspire to work in public practice, government or the private sector and who already hold an appropriate accountancy degree. The course has a flexible structure which enables you to construct a program that extends your real-world accountancy knowledge and obtain the skill set that best suits your career aspirations. The discipline studies provide you with an unbeatable mix of the theory and practice required to successfully operate in the accounting profession.

Core concepts and knowledge, problem-solving skills and critical and analytical thinking are developed throughout the entire course.

Course Design
Students are required to complete 144 credit points of units. Students should contact the Graduate School of Business for course progression advice.

Students seeking to exit early from the Master of Business course and graduate with a Graduate Diploma should lodge an application during the teaching period in which they expect to complete their studies. Completion of eight, 12 credit point units, where a minimum of six units are within the same discipline area, and as approved by the Subject Area Coordinator, is required for completion of the Graduate Diploma course.

Students who have completed an undergraduate degree in a Business related or other cognate degree directly related to the discipline area within the last five years, may be eligible for exemptions up to a maximum of 48 credit points. For further information on exemptions, please refer to the Master of Business overview.

Some applicants may require unit substitution where they have studied the equivalent of some introductory units in their undergraduate qualification. Choice of unit substitution is subject to approval by the Subject Area Coordinator.

Abbreviation
MBus(Acc)

Other majors
See also separate entries for the following majors in this course: Accounting, Applied Finance, Human Resource Management, Integrated Marketing Communication, Marketing, Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, Professional Accounting, Public Relations and Strategic Advertising.

Professional recognition
Certain units may assist with preparation for the professional programs offered by CPA Australia; the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants; the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia; the National Institute of Accountants as part of their respective membership requirements; and for the Chartered Financial Analysts program.

Entry requirements (domestic and international students)
An undergraduate degree with an appropriate major in Accountancy with an overall minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 (on a 7 point scale).

English language requirements (international students)
In addition to the above academic entry requirements, standard English language requirements apply. See the details for ‘all degrees’ at: Student Services

Articulation
Students who have articulated from the Graduate Certificate in Business Accounting may receive exemptions for up to 48 credit points. Students may articulate to the Master of Business Accounting Advanced program and receive up to 144 credit point of exemptions.

Career outcomes
Accountancy is a great platform for a dynamic and exciting business career. Accountants work in a diversity of areas—in commerce, local, national and international firms, government organisations, law firms, banks, merchant banks, stockbrokers, charitable organisations, hospitals and churches, film, television and media or they run their own business. A career in accounting can lead to more strategic and leadership roles such as general manager, chief financial officer and chief executive officer.

UNIT SYNOPSIS

**AYN411 AUDIT AND ASSURANCE**
Topics in this unit include: the audit environment; legal liability of auditors; professional ethics; the study and evaluation of audit planning and programming, evidence, internal control theory and review techniques; audit program applications; audit in CIS environment and evaluation of CIS controls; computer-assisted audit techniques; computer fraud; audit sampling techniques; audit reporting.

**Prerequisites:** AYN416    Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 3 per week    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**AYN415 EXTERNAL REPORTING ISSUES**

**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418    Credit points: 12    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

**AYN417 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 2**
This unit covers the preparation of consolidated financial statements; an overview of the statutory requirements that dictate the format and content of published financial reports of companies; the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the major disclosure orientated accounting standards; accounting for income tax; accounting for the acquisition of assets (including business entities); accounting for investments in associates; the termination of a company’s life and the accounting procedures necessitated by winding up/liquidation.

**Prerequisites:** AYN416    Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 3 per week    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**AYN418 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 3**
This unit introduces students to the concepts and theories that underlie financial reporting and disclosure practices. The regulatory environment and factors influencing accounting policy choices provide a framework for examining the financial effects and behavioural implications of applying different accounting methods to specific accounting issues. Particular emphasis is placed on both the application of specific accounting techniques/rules and the conceptual/theoretical issues associated with alternative accounting methods.

**Prerequisites:** AYN416    Credit points: 12    Contact hours: 3 per week    Campus: Gardens Point    Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**BS16 Master of Business (Accounting) compulsory units:**
- AYN417 Financial Accounting 2
- AYN418 Financial Accounting 3
- AYN520 Integrated Issues in Professional Practice

**Elective units - select nine units from the following list:**
- AYN411 Audit and Assurance
- AYN415 External Reporting Issues
- AYN424 International Accounting
- AYN426 International Capital Markets Law and Regulation
- AYN433 Research Topics in Accounting
- AYN438 Taxation Law and Practice
- AYN442 Superannuation and Wealth Management
- AYN453 Financial Forensics and Business Intelligence
- AYN454 Forensic Accounting and Investigation
- AYN460 Accountancy Work Placement
- AYN461 Accountancy Work Integrated Learning
- AYN505 Financial Analysis and Business Valuation
- AYN506 Strategic Management Accounting
- AYN507 Governance Issues in Accounting
- BSN404 Project 1
- BSN405 Project 2
- BSN406 Project 3
- BSN412 Qualitative Research and Analytical Techniques
- BSN414 Quantitative Research Methods
- BSN502 Research Methodology

Note: Students wishing to enrol in a 48 credit point Dissertation must complete units AYN433, BSN502, and either BSN412 and/or BSN414 prior to enrolment in the Dissertation.

Note: Students who are considering future study towards a Research Masters or PhD should complete BSN502, AYN433 and at least one of BSN412 or BSN414. Please contact the School of Accountancy Research Students Coordinator for more information.
AYN424 INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING
This unit is designed to provide students with an insight into, and an appreciation of, many of the accounting problems and issues faced in an international business environment. The unit examines issues including: accounting systems in the global environment; international patterns of accounting development including cultural influences on accounting; comparative international accounting systems and practices; the pressures for international accounting harmonisation and disclosure; international disclosure trends and financial analysis; global accounting issues into the twenty-first century.

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2 and 2010 SUM

AYN426 INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS LAW AND REGULATION
This unit enables students to learn about the legal environment of business in Australia, including issues such as the global financial crisis and securitisation (including securitisation of water, energy and carbon emissions); Trusts for asset protection, superannuation, investment and tax; Capital, including instalment warrants, margin lending arrangements, stapled securities; Dividends; Company meetings; Disclosure and fundraising (equity and debt); Managed investments and financial services regulation; Insider Trading; Mergers and acquisitions; corporate restructuring (including schemes and private equity); Financial Distress - bankruptcy; creditors' schemes; receivers; administration, liquidations; Registration of business names; Partnerships, joint ventures and hybrids; Non-profit organisations; and Accountants as expert witnesses in Court.

Prerequisites: AYN410 or AYN456 or (GSN412 and GSN472)  Credit points: 12

AYN433 RESEARCH TOPICS IN ACCOUNTING
This unit introduces Honours, Higher Degree Research and other Postgraduate students to a broad range of accounting literature. It is designed to explore various theories and research methodologies that are applied in accounting research through assigned weekly readings and assigned research tasks. The assigned readings include contemporary research in financial accounting, management accounting, auditing and corporate governance.

Prerequisites: AYN417 and AYN418  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

AYN438 TAXATION LAW AND PRACTICE
This unit introduces students to the statutory framework of the Australian taxation system. Elements in the determination of taxable income and the levying of income tax are examined including general and specific categories of assessable income and allowable deductions, capital gains tax and administration aspects of the tax system. The taxation of fringe benefits is also examined. The unit concludes with a brief overview of the taxation of partnerships, trusts and companies and the goods and services tax. Emphasis is placed on developing students' skills in problem solving through research and analysis of taxation issues.

Prerequisites: AYN410 or AYN456  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

AYN442 SUPERANNUATION AND WEALTH MANAGEMENT
The complex regulatory environment in which retirement income policies operate, gives rise to a need for accountants and other business professionals to have comprehensive knowledge and understanding of wealth management issues. This unit introduces students to personal wealth management, in particular, the Australian strategies. The knowledge and skills developed in this unit are essential for accounting professionals working in any areas of practice associated with the administration or auditing of superannuation funds, advising employers about superannuation, or providing individuals with financial planning services.

Prerequisites: AYN416 and EFN406 and AYN438. AYN438 maybe studied in the same teaching period.  Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

AYN453 FINANCIAL FORENSICS AND BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
As result of having to make increasing numbers of urgent, strategic, high-risk decisions, management need more than just information to assist them. This unit focuses on providing skills in forensic and business intelligence through the use of SAS technologies to examine large data resources to assist managerial decision making. Applications for financial forensics and business intelligence are emphasised.

Prerequisites: AYN443  Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

AYN454 FORENSIC ACCOUNTING AND INVESTIGATION
This unit provides students with a knowledge of critical factors that contribute to fraud and corporate failure, and forensic examination. Students develop an understanding of the risks of fraud and corporate failure occurring and an appreciation for the subsequent forensic review and
litigation processes that may follow.  
**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### AYN460 ACCOUNTANCY WORK PLACEMENT

This unit fosters learning through work related experience. Students will be given the opportunity to experience the work that is performed by accountants which will enable them to more effectively learn and practice accounting discipline knowledge and graduate capabilities. Admission to this unit is by application and subsequent approval by the unit coordinator.

For additional **important information about this unit** please refer to the current unit outline.

**Other requisites:** An application, interview and subsequent approval by the Unit Coordinator is required to enrol in this unit. In addition to completion of the following units: AYN417 & AYN418.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

### AYN461 ACCOUNTANCY WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING

This unit fosters learning through work related experience. Students will be given the opportunity to experience the work that is performed by accountants which will enable them to more effectively learn and practice accounting discipline knowledge and graduate capabilities. Admission to this unit is by application and subsequent approval by the unit coordinator.

**Other requisites:** An application (via a website), a short resume, an interview and subsequent approval by the Unit Coordinator is required to enrol. In addition, completion of the following units: AYN417 & AYN418.  
**Credit points:** 24  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### AYN505 FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND BUSINESS VALUATION

This unit is about the analysis of financial information arising primarily from the financial reports of entities. Fundamental analysis techniques are examined in detail with particular emphasis on the application of these techniques in equity (share) valuation decisions. The unit comprises three related parts. Part one outlines the four basic steps in the fundamental analysis framework; business analysis, accounting analysis, financial analysis and prospective analysis. The next part combines these skills in addressing the question of valuation, while the final section of the unit applies the skills in different contexts, such as credit analysis, security analysis, mergers and acquisitions and financial policy decisions.  
**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418 and EFN406  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### AYN506 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING

Strategic Management Accounting develops a theory of organisations that provides an understanding of the information requirements of management to facilitate strategic planning, decision-making and control. This unit prepares students for a world of unstructured problem-solving and develops skills in managerial decision-making by the use of current research articles to ascertain how managers can design organisations to motivate individuals to make choices that increase firm value. Topics include: the management of control systems; performance evaluation and compensation incentives; transfer pricing. New management accounting practices, activity-based costing, the balanced scorecard, and economic value added, are evaluated using the latest research.  
**Prerequisites:** AYN414 and AYN417  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2

### AYN507 GOVERNANCE ISSUES IN ACCOUNTING

This unit adopts an accounting perspective to examine issues relating to sound corporate governance, accountability and transparency. Topics covered include the following: the role of the board of directors and board committees; internal control and risk management; audit committees, internal and external audit; duties of directors and management; codes of conduct and ethics; compensation issues; conflict of interest and insider trading.  
**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

### AYN520 INTEGRATED ISSUES IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The Accountancy profession has repeatedly stressed the need for accounting university graduates to be 'work ready' and able to deal with and solve unstructured, multi-disciplined problems. This unit is a deliberate attempt to address this concern for students who enter the accounting profession through the Master of Business (Professional Accounting) - Advanced course and enables students in the Master of Business (Accounting) courses to further develop their team work, research and problem-solving skills. The unit simulates issues faced by a professional advisor/consultant by presenting students with simulated real world problems. The 'real world' focus of the unit ties strategically into QUT's charter and provides our students with a potential advantage in seeking employment.  
**Prerequisites:** AYN417 and AYN418  
**Antirequisites:** AYB339  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2
BSN404 PROJECT 1
This unit is designed to permit the student to undertake a research project, subject to the approval of the Course Coordinator.
**Antirequisites:** MKN101, MKN102, MKN103  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1, 2010 SEM-2 and 2010 SUM

BSN405 PROJECT 2
This unit is designed to permit the student to undertake a research project, subject to the approval of the course coordinator.
**Antirequisites:** MKN101, MKN102, MKN104  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SUM

BSN406 PROJECT 3
This unit is designed to permit the student to undertake a 24 credit point research project, subject to approval of the course coordinator.
**Credit points:** 24  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SUM

BSN412 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES
This unit provides a detailed overview of qualitative research to support decision-making in business disciplines. The primary purpose of this unit is to develop a detailed understanding of the theoretical contexts in which field studies and qualitative research methods have developed and the techniques that define the approach. Students develop the ability to analyse, conduct, and evaluate qualitative research in discipline areas related to business. The unit provides a basic preparation for the development of a project, thesis or dissertation proposal based on the use of qualitative research.
**Antirequisites:** CON500  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

BSN502 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
The purpose of this study is to provide students with a range of ideas and methods that enable them to analyse, evaluate and conduct research in discipline areas related to business. It provides an essential and basic preparation for the development of a thesis or dissertation proposal. Areas of study include research paradigms, analysis and criticism, research design, data collection and data manipulation, interpretation and presentation.
**Antirequisites:** BSB400  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** Flexible Mode  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

BSN414 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
Quantitative Research Methods is a postgraduate unit designed to introduce students to a range of quantitative research methods and their application to different research questions and types of quantitative data. Throughout the unit, students will be exposed to a wide range of quantitative research issues including survey and index development, factor analysis, multiple regression, experimental data collection and analysis, ANOVA and MANOVA, structural models, secondary data collection and analysis, and longitudinal data analysis. Each lecture will be conducted in computer laboratories to allow students the opportunity to develop their quantitative research skills using SPSS and AMOS with data provided by lecturers.
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2