Graduate Certificate in Business (Accounting) (BS39)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 031769E

Course duration (full-time): 1 semester (6 months) (Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies is not available full-time)
Course duration (part-time): 2 semesters (1 year)

Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $9,500 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: Full fee tuition $11,500 (indicative) per semester

Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July

Total credit points: 48
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
The Graduate Certificate in Business is effectively one-third of the Master of Business program. Graduate Certificate in Business (Accounting) students will undertake 48 specified credit points (4 units) in your chosen discipline.

Course design
Students are required to complete 48 credit points (4 units). The course can be undertaken either full-time (1 semester) or part-time (2 semesters).

Abbreviation
GradCertBus(Study Area A)

Other majors

Entry requirements (domestic and international students)
For all specialisations except Applied Finance the entry requirements are an undergraduate degree in any field or equivalent with an overall minimum GPA of 4 (on a 7-point scale). However, students entering the Accounting specialisation with an undergraduate degree in Accountancy must be referred to the Graduate School of Business for enrolment advice.

Special entry
Special entry without an undergraduate degree is not available for students undertaking the Accounting major.

Articulation
With approval of the relevant Discipline Coordinator in conjunction with approval from the Course Coordinator, students may articulate from the Graduate Certificate in Business to a related Master of Business course, depending on the major undertaken. Students must meet the entry requirements and/or prerequisites for further study. Students completing the Graduate Certificate in Business (Accounting) may articulate to the:
- BS16 Master of Business (Accounting)

Course Structure

Accounting
Accountancy students are required to complete 4 units (48 credit points) from the following list, in consultation with the Discipline Coordinator.

AYN456 Business and Corporations Law
AYN411 Audit and Assurance
AYN412 Company Law
AYN414 Cost and Management Accounting
AYN415 External Reporting Issues
AYN416 Financial Accounting 1
AYN417 Financial Accounting 2
AYN418 Financial Accounting 3
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
AYN443 Electronic Commerce Cycles
AYN453 Financial Forensics and Business Intelligence
AYN454 Forensic Accounting and Investigation
AYN505 Financial Analysis and Business Valuation
AYN506 Strategic Management Accounting
AYN507 Governance Issues in Accounting
AYN520 Integrated Issues in Professional Practice

IMPORTANT NOTE: To ensure that the program builds on your prior academic and work experience and is consistent with your planned professional development, each Accountancy student should have a program plan. To obtain or renegotiate your plan, please consult with the Discipline Coordinator.

Potential Careers:
Accountant, Actuary.

UNIT SYNOPSES

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

AYN412 COMPANY LAW
The unit introduces the law relating to the establishment, operation and dissolution of business association; the forms of business associations, partnerships, trusts, companies and voluntary associations. It also focuses on companies: incorporation requirements, classification, corporate governance, share capital and management issues.
Prerequisites: AYN410 Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

AYN414 COST AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING
This unit introduces students to techniques that provide management at all levels with information for use in inventory valuation, planning, controlling and decision-making. The unit's major focus is on product costing systems for manufacturing firms.

AYN415 EXTERNAL REPORTING ISSUES
Prerequisites: AYN417 and AYN418 Credit points: 12 Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

AYN416 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 1
This unit provides an introduction to financial accounting within the context of the accounting profession's conceptual framework, relevant accounting standards and the requirements of the Corporations Law. Topics include: the accounting cycle for both service and merchandising entities; the preparation of general purpose financial reports: cash management and control; non-current assets; the formation, operation, and financial reporting requirements for companies; and statement of cash flows.
Credit points: 12 Contact hours: 3 per week Campus: Gardens Point Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 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
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, engery 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

AYN443 ELECTRONIC COMMERCE CYCLES
This unit examines the concepts, processes and issues relevant to computerised accounting systems including: accounting information systems; internal controls; design and development of computerised accounting systems including general ledger and reporting cycle, revenue cycle, expenditure cycle and payroll cycle; computer fraud, security and crime; accessing accounting information; and accounting in an electronic environment. Practical application of these concepts is enhanced by the use of accounting software such as MYOB, spreadsheet software such as Excel, database software such as Access, and interactive multimedia software such as Accounting Information Systems Cycles.

Prerequisites: AYN416  Antirequisites: AYB221, AYN402  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 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

**AYN456 BUSINESS AND CORPORATIONS LAW**

This unit will introduce students to the Australian legal environment and develop students’ knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of business law and the Australian corporations legislation. Students will be encouraged to develop their research and analytical skills relevant to contemporary business and corporate practice.

**Antirequisites:** AYN410 and AYN412  Credit points: 12  **Campus:** Gardens Point  **Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**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 several 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