Graduate Certificate in Business (Forensic Accounting) (BS39)

Year offered: 2013
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 031769E
Course duration (full-time): 6 months
Course duration (part-time): 1 year
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2013: $10,200 (indicative) per 48 credit points

Student Services and Amenities Fee
You’ll need to pay the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) as part of your course costs. More information on the SSAF - http://www.student.qut.edu.au/fees-and-finances/study-costs/fee-schedule/table-i-student-services-and-amenities-fee

Start month: February, July
Deferment allowed: No
Total credit points: 48
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24

Course coordinator: Enquiries to Business Student Services on 3138 2050 or email bus@qut.edu.au
Discipline coordinator: Associate Professor Stuart Tooley
Campus: Gardens Point
Attendance: Part-time, Full-time

Additional Requirements:
Applicants for the Forensic Accounting Major must have an appropriate degree in accountancy with an overall minimum grade point average of 4.0 (on a 7-point scale).

Course highlights
- Provides advanced theoretical, technical and practical knowledge and skills to investigate fraud and accounting related situations
- Enhance your accounting career through a formal additional qualification in a growing professional area
- The only postgraduate forensic accounting degree offered by a Queensland university
- On completion of the Graduate Certificate in Business (Forensic Accounting) students may be eligible for credit towards a Master of Business (Accounting)

Details:
If you are interested in working in a growing area of professional accountancy and enhancing your career prospects with a specialised qualification, then forensic accounting is the right course for you. The Graduate Certificate in Business (Forensic Accounting) provides students with specialised forensic accounting knowledge, investigative abilities and technical expertise, skills which are anticipated to be in strong demand across a broad range of industries including government departments, law firms, accountancy firms and a range of industries within the banking and finance sectors. Forensic accounting will equip you to uncover individual fraud or financial corruption within organisations as well as the ability to mine, analyse and visualise large data sets and present business intelligence reports.

Specifically, the Graduate Certificate in Business (Forensic Accounting) focuses on forensic accounting evidence gathering, expert witness reporting, analytics, data mining, business intelligence, technological skills (including SAS Enterprise Guide 4.3, advanced MS Access and Excel) and oral and written communication – areas that have been identified as key areas of importance by forensic accounting professionals.

The course is suitable for recent accounting graduates and accounting professionals working in industry who seek to enhance their career prospects with a specialised qualification in forensic accounting.

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

Course structure

AYN443 Electronic Commerce Cycles
AYN453 Financial Forensics and Business Intelligence
AYN454 Forensic Accounting and Investigation
Choose one unit from the following list of options:
AYN411 Audit and Assurance
AYN415 External Reporting Issues
AYN417 Financial Accounting 2
AYN418 Financial Accounting 3
AYN424 International Accounting
AYN426 International Capital Markets Law and Regulation
AYN442 Superannuation and Wealth Management
AYN460 Accountancy Work Placement
AYN505 Financial Analysis and Business Valuation
AYN506 Strategic Management Accounting
AYN507 Governance Issues in Accounting

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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 SEM-2

AYN415 EXTERNAL REPORTING ISSUES
Prerequisites: AYN417 and AYN418 Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12 Campus: Gardens Point Teaching period: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 SEM-2

AYN426 INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MARKETS LAW AND REGULATION
This Unit provides understanding of the regulation of global financial markets including the history, philosophy and economics of capital markets and the regulatory models used by governments. The 2008 Global Financial Crisis is reviewed including the effects of margin lending. The Australian Prudential System is compared to systems in other economies. An overview of the Corporations Act, including anti-cartel and executive remuneration provisions, provides a foundation in corporate law and regulation. Corporate misfeasance; fundamentals of the Principal-Agent problem; basic Trust law and anti-monopoly regulations; an introduction to derivative actions and Board independence; and the regulation of financial instruments, are also included. 
Prerequisites: AYN410 or AYN456 or (GSN412 and GSN472) Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12 Campus: Gardens Point Teaching period: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 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.

Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point

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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 SEM-2

AYN453 FINANCIAL FORENSICS AND BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

As a 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 MS Access, MS Excel and SAS Enterprise Guide 4.3 to mine and analyse data sets to assist managerial decision making and aid in fraud detection. Applications for financial forensics and business intelligence are emphasised.

Prerequisites: AYN443  Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 SEM-2

AYN454 FORENSIC ACCOUNTING AND INVESTIGATION

The unit is designed to provide students with an understanding of the risks of fraud or corporate failure occurring and an appreciation for the subsequent forensic review processes. An understanding of control environments and their adequacies and inadequacies should also be derived.

Prerequisites: AYN417 and AYN418  Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 SEM-2

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: 2013 SEM-1 and 2013 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  Other requisites: In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2013 SEM-2

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  Other requisites:
In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. **Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2013 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  
**Other requisites:** In addition to the prerequisite subjects, subject area coordinator approval is required. **Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Gardens Point  
**Teaching period:** 2013 SEM-1