

## **Certificate Program in Accounting Requirements Prior to Fall 2006**

The certificate program in accounting provides an opportunity for non-matriculated students to earn the academic credit necessary to sit for and pass the Uniform CPA examination for Virginia. The requirement for enrollment to the certificate program is a bachelor's or higher degree from an accredited college or university.

Candidates are required to complete a minimum of 24 credits to receive the certificate. At least 15 of the credits must be completed by courses offered at George Mason. Additional credits (up to a maximum of 27 credits) that are required to meet minimum academic requirements to sit for the Uniform CPA examination in Virginia may be completed at either George Mason or by acceptable transfer credit from another institution. Successful completion of the certificate program requires a "C" or better in accounting courses and a grade point average of at least a 2.0 in all courses.

The required courses are:

- ACCT 203 - Survey of Accounting
- ACCT 301 - Financial Accounting and Decision Making
- ACCT 311 - Managerial and Cost Accounting
- ACCT 321 - Financial Reporting and Analysis
- ACCT 351 - Taxation and Managerial Decision Making
- ACCT 361 - Accounting Information Systems
- ACCT 421 - Advanced Financial Accounting
- ACCT 461 - Assurance and Audit Services

If you have not already taken the following courses or their equivalents, the following courses are recommended (not required for certificate attainment):

BULE 302 Legal Environment of Business  
BULE 402 Commercial Law  
DESC 210 Statistical Analysis for Management  
FNAN 301 Financial Management  
FNAN 302 Financial Analysis and Forecasting  
MIS 301 Introduction to Business Information Systems

The above courses are consistent with the content specification outline for the VA CPA exam.

The process for applying to the certificate program is as follows:

- Visit the Admissions website – <http://admissions.gmu.edu>
- Complete the online application.
- At application type select "UG Transfer".
- At course of study drop down menu select "Accounting Certificate".
- At essay selection do not write essay but instead type "I am pursuing the Accounting Certificate".
- Submit official transcripts.
- Admissions will notify you of the admission decision.
- We recommend attending orientation, but not the academic advising session at orientation.
- In the place of the academic advising session, you should complete the online Accounting Certificate pre-orientation workshop that will be sent to accepted certificate students.
- For more information about the Virginia CPA Exam – <http://www.boa.state.va.us>