



TAXATION TRACK

OVERVIEW



The Tax Track is a unique combination of specialized tax training and in-depth accounting knowledge. Tax courses emphasize the role of taxation in planning and structuring business transactions, while accounting courses provide a wide breadth of knowledge. The combination translates into dynamic careers and leading certifications. McCombs' distinct tax-accounting blend provides an excellent foundation for career mobility within and outside of the tax field. Tax track students have superb job prospects in all sectors of the economy.



IF YOU SEEK A CAREER IN

Public Accounting/Professional Services

Sophisticated tax services are a cornerstone of public accounting. Tax professionals often rise to top leadership positions. Tax and accounting knowledge is also a mainstay of business consulting and other global business services. Leading public accounting/professional services firms aggressively seek our highly trained MPA tax graduates.

Industry/Financial Services

From corporate global giants to small start-ups, industries of all types are hungry for well-trained tax talent. Whether you wish to forge a prosperous career in tax or gravitate toward other executive level positions, such as CFO, rigorous tax-accounting training provides an unbeatable foundation.

Public Service

Tax professionals are essential at the local, state and federal levels of government. The U.S. Treasury Department is just one high-profile example among numerous governmental entities that demand the tax and financial skills instilled by the McCombs Tax Track. In addition, non-governmental organizations that provide every public service imaginable have significant need for the tax-accounting skills the track promotes.

ACADEMIC SNAPSHOT

The tax curriculum gives students a valuable understanding of the tax system and its role in business and personal decisions. Tax courses in research, corporations, partnerships, planning, and international and state transactions are the bedrock of this training. Students also develop superior skills in accounting and general business through core and elective coursework. In addition to core offerings in financial accounting, managerial accounting and auditing, electives in advanced accounting, financial statement analysis, management information systems, finance and strategy are among numerous options that build a formidable professional skill set. Our highly valued tax-accounting graduates are professionals with a special edge that makes them central to significant business decisions.

REQUIRED SKILLS

Analytical reasoning, logic and problem solving are important aptitudes needed for all of the MPA tracks. Because tax practitioners have significant contact with other business professionals, strong communication and interpersonal skills are as important in tax as in the other tracks. Skills particular to a career in tax include a high technical proficiency in tax law and research integral to finding creative business solutions and making effective business decisions. Such innovative thinking requires a sound understanding of accounting in particular and business in general.

CAREER SPOTLIGHT

Tax Planning

What is tax planning?

How important is taxation when two companies merge? Extremely. How big are tax considerations in operating abroad? Huge. Does tax play a key role when a business forms? acquires and disposes of assets? accesses funds? pays executives? creates financial statements? and sells a division? Yes to all. In fact, tax can be a critical factor in virtually any transaction—business or personal. Tax planning, whether for outside clients or within a business, entails working with others as an important contributor to the decision-making process.

TOP PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

CPA, Certified Public Accountant
CFP, Certified Financial Planner
CFA, Chartered Financial Analyst

For more information, please contact the Master in Professional Accounting Programs Office at 512-471-6559.