Why Study Accounting?

- You want to be a CPA, audit tax or advisory services. But for many, public accounting is “ultimate internship”
- You want to be an important, objective member of management team in a business
- You want to be an entrepreneur
- You thought you wanted finance and took Intermediate Accounting – only a finance fool wouldn’t
- You want the most rigorous preparation for business
Why Accounting at UWM?

Big Draws

- Huge alumni support with 60 years of graduates
- Award winning professors (12 – 15) dedicated to teaching, technology, research. Write the texts!
- Incredible TA’s - mentors
- CPA in Residence for career planning Only one in WI)
- Placement 3+ times and huge employer base
- Integrated 4/5 year Masters program (4 in WI)
- 80% pass rae on CPA Exam
- Necessary experience is right here! HS advantage
- Active student organization (BAP)
The Interests You Should Have:

- Practical math (not calculus), numerical analysis, Excel
- Quantitative problem solver, objective
- Interested in financial matters – **this is the road to a career in finance!**
- Willing to study harder than others! (15 hour Intermediate)
- Quest for complete understanding over memorization
- Prefer to work with others in teams
- Enjoy explaining technical information
- Don’t want to be bookkeeper, want to support and make decisions
Career Options

- Demand is strong for CPA’s
- Major source for “Big 4” – Importance
  - *CPA firms run 80% on internships*
- There are opportunities (and interest) in industry and finance – but, they like to hire from CPA firms
- Pay is +/- $52,000 +signing/exam bonuses + “Exam done” bonus (Intern gets $20-$22/hour)
- CPA 120/150 rule
What do Employers Look For?

- 3.25 GPA for the best opportunities
- Relevant Job Experience (for an internship)
- Extra-curricular involvement (start now)
- Personality and presentational ability
  - Take more speech/writing than required
- Understanding of Finance & IT
  - Put your electives here
- References – do you want someone to talk to your boss? Professors for sure!
Action Points

**Sophomore** – Intro accounting (B)/ Intermediate Accounting (B) (3.00 overall GPA)
- Business foundations (300 level)
- start on accounting work experience
  *(We have career course attached to Intermediate)*

**Junior** – Start on 2 acct courses per semester – you will receive detailed plan. 3 semester plan *(with internship)* requires summer school, winterim or study abroad
- Join Beta Alpha Psi
- Get Tax done early (jobs and career choice)
- Interview (a year in advance) for Internship in spring of senior year, or summer following senior year (only for 5 year students)
Senior Year

Fall
- Interview for full time if leaving after 4 years
- Some wrap up interviewing for interns

Or
- Apply to graduate school
- Take GMAT (Study first!) Automatic for 3 point
- Apply for scholarships, EY study abroad, TA positions
Routes to CPA License

In Wisconsin, anyone with 120 credits can sit for Exam. Accounting BBA with added advanced law course and some grad special classes is minimum preparation

MS-PA is preferred route:
- Need 150 credits for license
- Includes CPA focused courses + specialty routes in attestation or tax
- Four parts of CPA exam are scheduled into curriculau. When you graduate, you have completed exam
- Opportunity to become a TA
- Includes EY Study Abroad opportunity first summer
- One year full time only