GAIN REAL-WORLD SKILLS TO
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER IN PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY

The Rady School’s MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY (MPAc) has been built from the ground-up, around world-class faculty and the evolving educational needs of the accounting industry.

You will study in San Diego, the 8th largest city and one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. Known as a biotech, military and tourism town, is now recognized for its software, technology, life sciences, clean technology, and telecommunications segments driven by global giants such as Intuit (TurboTax), Viasat, and Qualcomm, all headquartered here.

The MPAc Curriculum was designed to address the issue and needs faced by innovation-driven, high-technology companies. Leveraging off of the considerable strengths from UC San Diego around the studies of computer science, statistical modeling, predictive analytics, econometric forecasting and management sciences, the Rady School’s Master of Professional Accountancy is aligned and embeds these sciences into the traditional studies of accounting. Our students will be prepared to create immediate value in organizations by improving marketing, financial, management and operational decisions of businesses.

The MPAc is a 50-unit degree program. The curriculum consists of seven 4-unit core courses, two 1-unit professional seminars, and 20 units from a set of elective courses. Available classes under the program are as follows:

**Core class requirements that get you into your career**

- Internal Control over Financial Reporting
- Advanced Auditing and Forensic Accounting
- Professional Research and Communication for Accountants
- Business Law
- Professional Seminar - CPA Readiness
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Ethics in Accounting and Business
- Capstone
- Professional Seminar – Current Topics and Accounting and Tax

**Electives that accelerate and advance your career***

- Current Issues in the Practice and Regulation of Auditing*
- CEO, the Board of Directors and Corporate Governance*
- Topics in Organizational Behavior*
- Topics in Corporate Governance*
- Global Taxation and Business Strategy
- Topics in Accounting: Big Data in Auditing
- Topics in Taxation: Accounting for Income Taxes
- Systems, Processes, Technology and Data for Accounting
- Corporate Valuation and Forecasting

**Electives that embrace innovation, technology and change**

- Technology Strategy
- Power & Politics
- Energy Finance
- Negotiations
- Legal & Ethical Issues in Big Data
- Creativity & Innovation
- Project Management
- Behavioral Finance

* Elective offerings vary each quarter. Students must take at least one of the four electives highlighted as part of their elective enrollment. Also note that your ultimate choices might be limited to classes that will fulfill your eligibility requirements for the CPA examination and licensure, which varies state by state.
In the Rady School MPAc program you will:

- Prepare for success in accounting careers.
- Fulfill the CPA accounting education requirements for students (who majored in accounting in undergraduate programs and most students who minored in accounting).
- Receive a dual emphasis on U.S. GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- Become part of the UC San Diego and Rady School networks.
- Access personal career coaches via Rady’s Career Management Center.
- Work in a diverse team as you learn key business functions such as marketing, finance and operations.

MPAc Capstone Project

Accountants build trust and confidence in capital markets all over world. You will be asked to support decision-makers as they navigate complex business demands of a growing number of stakeholders.

Your Capstone Project will have charter to work with an industry or professional firm sponsor to analyze and address a complex issue facing them. You and your team will work on combining the knowledge gained through your studies with real world application, integrate your experience across functional areas of a business, and deliver findings to your business sponsors upon completion of the project. The Capstone Project is a direct, hands-on experience applying concepts, methodologies and tools learned in the classroom to an actual financial accounting, tax or consulting project.

Capstone projects are real world problems and challenges of the sponsoring organization. You and your small team of MPAc peers will be supervised by a member of the faculty. Together, you and your colleagues will work side-by-side with leaders of small start-ups, government agencies, corporations, or professional services organizations.

The projects will fall under one of four strategic areas of focus that most boards have high on their agenda. An illustrated sample of projects that will be developed is shown below:

1. **REPORTING**
   - IPO readiness
   - Global tax accounting and reporting
   - Analysis of acquisition, merger or divestiture

2. **DATA**
   - Data privacy controls review
   - Analysis and modeling for fraud
   - Contract compliance reviews

3. **INNOVATION**
   - Cyber risk assessment
   - Robotic process automation
   - Business model risk assessment
   - Funding new product design and R&D incentives

4. **GLOBAL**
   - Global economic incentives review (enterprise, trade, and opportunity zones)
   - Global IP alignment planning
   - Impact of Global Trade Tensions
   - Planning for new market entry

We believe you will find that the Rady Capstone will be a culminating experience of earning your MPAc. You will be ready for the profession, having learned and gained an appreciation of the skill to sift through complex and sometimes, contradicting, information; to think, weigh, and evaluate your recommendations for acceptance in a team effort; and to provide the appropriate information to business leaders for their consideration and feedback.

QUESTIONS ABOUT MPAc?

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ADMISSIONS QUALIFICATIONS AND APPLICATION PROCESS VISIT RADY.UCSD.EDU/MPAC OR PLEASE CONTACT THE RADY SCHOOL OF ADMISSIONS AT 858.534.0864 OR RadyGradAdmissions@ucsd.edu