MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION (MTAX)
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
THE USD ADVANTAGE

At the University of San Diego, we are committed to academic excellence as well as an ethics-based curriculum. Our campus is located in San Diego; a city that is home to hundreds of biotech, communications, software, Internet and information technology companies, and has earned the distinction of having the most diversified high-tech economy in the United States. Students in the School of Business Administration Master of Science in Taxation program have the unique opportunity to develop in a dynamic business environment that shares a border with Mexico and serves as a gateway to the Pacific Rim. Entering the job market with the reputation of the University of San Diego and the knowledge base that students obtain from the School of Business Administration provides them with a competitive edge that is second to none.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION (MTAX)

The mission of the USD Accountancy programs is to develop accountants — through the use of personalized, innovative teaching methods developed by faculty who are active in the production and dissemination of knowledge — who have the skills to compete in a diverse and fast-changing global professional environment.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Master of Science in Taxation (MTAX) program offers a curriculum that focuses on interactively developing the skills needed by accountants who want to emphasize tax in their career. This program is a specialized tax degree designed to provide accountants the skills needed in mid- to upper-level taxation-related positions. Further, the program provides students with leadership, communication, interpersonal and ethical skills for supervisory-level positions. Students applying for this program should have completed an undergraduate degree in accountancy or its equivalent, including individual taxation and corporate taxation courses. Individuals without this background may still apply for the program, but will need to complete the extended program requirements described on our Web site.

NOTE: International applicants can only be admitted to the MACC/MTAX programs with the BACC equivalent; the only exception to this rule is for current USD undergraduate students pursuing the Bachelor of Accountancy degree. International applicants are advised to submit complete applications well in advance of the application deadline dates due to mailing delays in many countries. The $80 non-refundable application fee must be in U.S. dollars and payable to the University of San Diego.
GRADUATE QUALITIES

- Expanded taxation skills and knowledge
- Expanded knowledge to critically analyze financial information in new and unfamiliar circumstances using professional research, decision-modeling, or risk analysis techniques as the basis for appropriate decision-making
- Expanded knowledge of the ethical attitudes, values and professional responsibilities required by those in the accountancy profession
- Expanded business writing and oral communication skills
- Expanded leadership and interpersonal skills

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

- Small classes
- Interactive learning
- Personalized attention
- Lifelong relationships

FACULTY MENTORS

Upon admission to any of our accountancy programs, students will select a faculty mentor. Faculty mentors will:

- Guide students in their program
- Advise students when preparing program plans. Students will prepare a program plan prior to beginning coursework listing the courses to be taken and the timing of each course.
- Provide career counseling
- Assist the student in dealing with problems during the course of study

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MTAX DEGREE

The MTAX degree is a 30-unit program for those with an undergraduate accountancy degree, including a course in individual taxation and a course in corporate taxation. Courses are offered over a five-week format, two nights per week, four hours each night. Each course in the program is offered once each calendar year, therefore, the minimum time to complete the program is approximately one year. Class sessions are taught on an interactive basis and a laptop computer equipped for our wireless network is required for the program.

REQUIRED COURSES (24 UNITS)

The following required courses (3 units each) emphasize ethics, leadership, communications, and interpersonal skills as well as the tax information necessary to be successful in your tax career.

- MACC 501 Communications and Ethics for Financial Professionals
- MACC 502 Leadership in a Financial Team Environment
- MACC 503 Negotiations: Strategy, Practice, and Ethics
- MACC 523 Retirement Planning
- MACC 560 Tax Research
- MACC 561 Partnership Taxation
- MACC 562 Estate and Gift Taxation and Planning
- MACC 593 State and Local Taxation

ELECTIVES (6 UNITS)

The remaining two courses (3 units each) are electives and will be selected by the student in consultation with a faculty mentor from the following graduate classes:

- MACC 510 Applied Corporate Finance
- MACC 520 Fundamentals of Personal Financial Planning
- MACC 521 Insurance Planning
- MACC 522 Investment Planning and Risk Management
- MACC 530 International Financial Analysis and Reporting
- MACC 531 Applied Research for Financial Accountants and Auditors
- MACC 532 Fraud Examination and Forensic Accounting
- MACC 540 Controllership and Cost Management
- MACC 550 Database Applications for Financial Professionals
- MACC 551 Accountancy Software Selection and Implementation
- MACC 552 Security and Control in an ERP Environment
- MACC 598 Professional Accountancy Internship
- MACC 599 Independent Study

It is recommended that MACC 598, Professional Accountancy Internship, be taken in the program with a tax related internship. Further, it is possible to take MACC 599, Independent Study, to further investigate a specific tax topic so that both of the electives could also cover tax related topics.
RECOGNITION
AACSB INTERNATIONAL
Accountancy Accreditation
AACSB INTERNATIONAL
School of Business Administration Accreditation

FULL-TIME FACULTY
Barkacs, Craig, MBA, JD
Cook, Ellen, PhD
Dalton, Thomas, PhD, CPA
Hora, Judith, PhD, CPA
Judd, Mark, IMBA, CPA
Kelley, Timothy, PhD, CPA
Lougee, Barbara, PhD
Margheim, Loren, PhD, CPA
Morris, Janice, MBA, CPA
Pattison, Diane, PhD
Perols, Johan, PhD, CPA
Romney, Miles, MAFM, CPA, CFP
Smith, James, PhD, LLM, CPA
Rivetti, Daniel, DBA
Zocco, Dennis, PhD

ADJUNCT FACULTY
Basney, Dana, MBA, CPA, CFE
PARTNER, CBIZ NATION SMITH HERMES DIAMOND & MAYER,
HOFFMAN & MCCANN, E.C.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Lavin, JoAnne, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT