

## ACCOUNTING CONCENTRATION

### Accounting

Do you like numbers, technology, and solving problems? Are you looking for a career that offers many possible paths and personal growth opportunities? If so, accounting could be the concentration for you.

Accounting is the language of business, and accountants are active, strategic business partners. Accounting identifies, records, and communicates timely, relevant information in financial statements and reports. There are countless consumers of accounting information. Managers use accounting information to make business decisions, compete in the global marketplace, and maximize profitability. Banks use accounting information to grant credit, and government agencies use it to determine taxes. Accounting information also helps organizations be good employers and improve efforts in sustainability and social responsibility.

Accountants once concentrated on preparing financial information, but technology now performs most repetitive accounting work. Accountants must understand how to prepare financial information, but increasingly they analyze, interpret, and safeguard information and systems. Students graduating with a degree in accounting at SJSU can become Certified Public Accountants, Certified Management Accountants, and Certified Internal Auditors.

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*I chose Accounting as my concentration because SJSU provides students in this field with opportunities that would normally seem unreachable. Some of those opportunities include a vast amount of internships with both regional firms and the Big 4, leadership roles in student organizations such as Beta Alpha Psi, access to experts and CPA professionals, and knowledgeable professors who mentor students. Overall, SJSU is a great place to study if you want to be successful. Go Spartans!*

-Jennifer Tapia,  
Senior and President of Beta Alpha Psi, SJSU Chapter

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### ACCOUNTING CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENT

#### Core Classes

- Accounting Information Systems
- Intermediate Accounting I
- Intermediate Accounting II
- Management Accounting and Control Systems
- Tax Factors of Business and Investment Decision

#### Elective Classes

- Advanced AIS and IS Risk Assessment
- Programming and Systems Development in AIS
- Taxation of Individuals and Pass Through Entities
- Forensic Accounting
- Special Financial Reporting Topics
- Advanced Accounting
- Honors Practicum in Corporate Financial Management
- Accounting for Nonprofit Organizations
- Financial Auditing
- Operational Auditing

# Career Opportunities in Accounting

Accounting majors can look forward to utilizing their accounting concentration skills in exciting diverse areas—and career paths can change throughout an accountant’s professional career. In public accounting, accountants provide professional services for a range of clients in the audit, tax or management consulting areas. Public accountants work for a range of firms from large international “Big Four” accounting firms to large national firms, medium regional firms, and smaller local firms and accounting practices, even one’s own business.

Accountants have careers in businesses ranging from small family businesses all the way to large Fortune 500 corporations. Careers may be in financial accounting and reporting, financial analysis, management accounting, taxation, and internal auditing. Accountants also provide specialized services in forensics, business valuation, and personal financial planning. Career opportunities exist in government at the local, state, and federal levels, including the IRS and FBI. Hundreds of SJSU accounting alumni currently work as partners of CPA firms, CFOs in Silicon Valley corporations, and leaders in California government.

Employers who hire SJSU graduates include:

## “Big Four” International Accounting Firms:

- EY
- KPMG
- Deloitte
- PwC

## Regional and Local Accounting Firms:

- Abbott Stringham & Lynch
- Burr Pilger Mayer
- BPM
- Moss Adams
- Petrinovich Pugh & Co

## National Accounting Firms:

- BDO
- Grant Thornton
- RSM Global

## Corporations:

- Apple
- Google
- Cisco
- Clorox
- LinkedIn
- Oracle
- SAP
- Tesla



## Beta Alpha Psi (BAP)

BAP is a national scholastic and professional accounting fraternity. Its primary objective is to encourage and recognize scholastic and professional excellence in the field of accounting. This includes promoting the study and practice of accounting; providing opportunities for self development and association among members and practicing accountants, and encouraging a sense of ethical, social, and public responsibility. For more information, see: [www.sjsubap.com](http://www.sjsubap.com)

## The Institute for Management Accountants (IMA)

IMA is a worldwide association of accounting professionals working and studying within the business industry. IMA's main goal is to promote and develop professional and personal skills of its members. IMA provides the opportunity for students to become leaders, to work together as a team toward a common goal, and to develop problem-solving skills. For more information see: [www.sjsuima.org](http://www.sjsuima.org)

# Contacts



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