

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Curriculum Proposal Form #3

New Course

Effective Term: 2067 (Fall 2006)

Subject Area - Course Number: ACCOUNT 793
(See Note #1 below)

Cross-listing:

Course Title: (Limited to 65 characters) Practicum in Professional Accountacny

25-Character Abbreviation: Practicum in Accounting

Sponsor(s): Robert Gruber

Department(s): Accounting

College(s): Business and Economics

Consultation took place: NA Yes (list departments and attach consultation sheet)
Departments:

Programs Affected: Master of Professional Accountancy (MPA)

Is paperwork complete for those programs? (Use "Form 2" for Catalog & Academic Report updates)

NA Yes will be at future meeting

Prerequisites: Admission to the MPA Program and department consent

Grade Basis: Conventional Letter S/NC or Pass/Fail

Course will be offered: Part of Load Above Load
 On Campus Off Campus - Location

College: {Select from drop-down list} **Dept/Area(s):**

Instructor:

Note: If the course is dual-listed, instructor must be a member of Grad Faculty.

Check if the Course is to Meet Any of the Following:

Computer Requirement Writing Requirement
 Diversity General Education Option: Select one:

Credit/Contact Hours: (per semester)

Total lab hours:

Total lecture hours:

Number of credits:

Total contact hours:

Can course be taken more than once for credit? (Repeatability)

No Yes If "Yes", answer the following questions:

No of times in major:

No of credits in major:

No of times in degree:

No of credits in degree:

Proposal Information:

Course justification:

This course is needed to formalize the internship, and related experiences, at the graduate-level. Presently, graduate internships and other activities consistent with the mission of the MPA program are handled via ACCOUNT 789 (Readings & Research in Accounting and/or ACCOUNT 798 (Individual Studies).

Relationship to program assessment objectives:

As a *professional* graduate degree, the MPA program is keenly aware of the various demands placed on it by its external constituency groups (e.g., Accounting Advisory Board). In addition, the program must be sensitive to the assessment requirements of its accreditation bodies (i.e., AACSB) and UW-Whitewater's Audit & Review process. Assessment results will be critical as the Accounting Department moves toward the pursuit of separate AACSB accreditation for its accounting programs in the near future. Specifically, this proposal creates additional opportunities for our students to develop and practice their communication skills (i.e., oral and written), as well as continue to fine tune their critical thinking and problem-solving skills via in-depth and detailed research tasks.

But most important is serving the needs of our students as they prepare themselves for entry into the accounting profession. The change proposed in this document is in direct response to comments and suggestions received from our graduates (via exit surveys, interviews, and alumni surveys) and the department's Accounting Advisory Board. In essence, the proposed change encourages students to be efficient and effective in pursuing the MPA degree and develop appropriate professional goals and objectives.

Budgetary impact:

This course will be covered by the Accounting Department as a normal part of its load, similar to ACCOUNT 789 (Readings & Research in Accounting) and ACCOUNT 798 (Individual Studies).

Course description:

This course provides students, under the direction of a faculty advisor, the opportunity to apply their theoretical backgrounds in settings ranging from internships in accounting organizations to other approved activities related to the practice of professional accountancy. A learning contract will be developed by the faculty advisor, professional supervisor (if applicable), and student that clearly delineates the expectations and responsibilities of each party involved in the practicum.

Course requisites:

Admission to the MPA program *and* department consent.

Course objectives and tentative course syllabus:

The primary objective of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to apply their theoretical backgrounds in practical settings. Secondary objectives include additional opportunities to (a) communicate in a professional setting and (b) further develop appropriate critical thinking skills.

Since this a practicum course (i.e., independent-study with customized, individualized content), there cannot be a standardized syllabus for all students and all situations. However, all students will have to complete a comprehensive written report which must be orally presented to the faculty advisor and professional supervisor.

Bibliography:

Specific (and unique) bibliographies will be delineated as the learning contract is developed and negotiated by the faculty advisor, professional supervisor, and student.

Proposal Information:

Course justification:

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Relationship to program assessment objectives:

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