

Texas State University-San Marcos
Department of Accounting
Exit Survey – MAcy and MSAIT Students
Fall 2009

1. Which of the following best describes your status when beginning the MAcy program? (N=22)

Status	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Received baccalaureate at another university in Accounting	1	5%
Received baccalaureate at another university in a field other than Accounting	7	32%
Received baccalaureate at Texas State in a field other than Accounting	-	-
Received baccalaureate at Texas State in Accounting	6	27%
Enrolled in the integrated Texas State 150 hour program	8	36%

2. How many masters' level courses have you completed in the MAcy program? (N=21)

Number of master's courses completed in MAcy	Frequency	Percentage of Response
9	1	5%
10	13	61%
11	4	19%
12	2	10%
13	1	5%

Have you been a part-time or full-time student? (N=21)

Areas	Frequency	Percentage of Response*
Part-time	2	10%
Full-time	19	90%

3. In what area of Accounting do you intend to practice? (N=21)

Areas	Frequency	Percentage of Response*
Public Accounting	18	85%
Industry	1	5%
Governmental/NFP	2	10%
Other:	-	-

What influenced your choice? (N=21)

Areas	Frequency	Percentage of Response*
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Salary	2	10%
Family	-	-
Internship	5	23%
Job Availability	7	33%
Previous Work Experience	2	10%
Professor/Class	1	5%
Other: Personal Choice Prestige All of the Above Future Earning Potential	4	19 %

4. Which professional exams do you anticipate taking?(N=21)

Professional Exams	Frequency	Percentage of Response*
CPA	21	100%
CMA	3	14%
CIA	2	10%
Other: CFE CFA Actuarial	4	19%
None	-	-

(In this question, the percentage is greater than 100 because a person may respond to more than one choice)

5. Are you registered with Career Services? (N=21)

Registered with Career Services?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	18	86%
No	3	14%

6. Did you do an accounting internship? (N=21)

Internship?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	17	81%
No	4	19%

7. With how many companies have you interviewed? (N=21)

Number of companies interviewed with	Frequency	Percentage of Response
1	6	28%
2	4	19%
3	1	5%
4	3	14%
5	1	5%
6	5	24%
8	-	-
9	-	-

10	-	-
Did Not Answer	1	5%

a. If yes, did you feel confident about your academic background (your classroom preparation)? (N=21)

	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	18	86%
No	2	10%
Did Not Answer	1	4%

b. In what academic or personal areas did you not feel confident? (N=21)

Academic or Personal areas not confident?
Financial Accounting
Cost Accounting
Work Experience
Auditing

c. If you have not interviewed yet, why not? (N=21)

Reasons for Not Interviewing	Number of Respondent
Have not received an offer to interview	1

8. How many job offers have been extended to you? (N=21)

Number of job offers extended	Frequency	Percentage of Response
0	3	14%
1	11	52%
2	2	10%
3	4	19%
Did Not Answer	1	5%

Were the job offers from registering with career services? (N=21)

	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	5	24%
Some	2	10%
No	10	48%
Did Not Answer	4	19%

What were the job titles offered? (N=17)

Job Titles Offered	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Staff Auditor	8	47%
Staff Accountant	4	24%
Staff Tax Accountant	6	35%

Senior Accountant	-	-
Other: Analyst, Associate, Consultant	3	18%

(In this question, the percentage is greater than 100 because a person may respond to more than one choice)

What were the salaries offered? (N=17)

Salaries Offered	Frequency	Percentage of Response
<\$35,000	-	-
\$35,000 – \$39,999	1	6%
\$40,000 – \$44,999	4	24%
\$45,000 – \$49,999	4	24%
\$50,000 - \$54,999	8	47%
\$55,000 +	2	12%
No Answer	1	6%

(In this question, the percentage is greater than 100 because a person may respond to more than one choice)

9. Have you accepted a job offer? (N=17)

Accepted Job Offer?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	16	94%
No	1	6%

If yes, what is the job title? (N=16)

Job Title Accepted	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Staff Auditor	5	31%
Staff Accountant	4	25%
Staff Tax Accountant	5	31%
Senior Accountant	-	-
Other: Associate, Consultant	2	13%

With whom? (N=16)

Company	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Deloitte	3	19%
KPMG	2	13%
Melton and Melton	1	6%
Reznick Group	1	6%
Briggs & Veselka	1	6%
Novogradac	3	19%
Ryan Inc.	2	13%
Erickson Demel & Company	1	6%
Government	1	6%
Preferred not to answer	1	6%

In what city? (N=16)

City	Frequency	Percentage of Response
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Austin	8	50%
Dallas	-	-
Houston	8	50%
San Antonio	-	-
Out of State	-	-
Other:	-	-

What is the starting salary? (N=16)

Salaries Offered	Frequency	Percentage of Response
<\$35,000	-	-
\$35,000 – \$39,999	1	6%
\$40,000 – \$44,999	4	25%
\$45,000 – \$49,999	3	19%
\$50,000 - \$54,999	6	38%
\$55,000 +	1	6%
No Answer	1	6%

Will you be paid for overtime? (N=16)

Overtime?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	8	50%
No	8	50%
Don't Know	-	-

Is the CPA license a requirement for the job? (N=16)

Requirement?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	8	50%
No	8	50%
Don't Know	-	-

Will your employer pay for CPA review courses? (N=16)

Pay?	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Yes	9	56%
No	6	38%
Do not know	1	6%

What type of reward will you receive for passing the CPA exam? (N=16)

Reward	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Raise	4	25%
Bonus	4	25%
Bonus if CPA passed w/in time	5	31%
Don't Know	2	13%
None	-	-

Other : Bonus and raise at annual review	1	6%
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10. Which course or courses in the MAcy Program have been especially valuable to your professional or personal growth? (N=21)

Where 1: Not Valuable; 2: Least Valuable; 3: Somewhat Valuable; 4: Moderately Valuable; 5: Quite Valuable; 6: Most Valuable

Most Valuable Courses	Average Rating (0-6)	Did Not Take
Financial/Managerial Accounting	5.27	1
Intermediate Accounting I	5.08	-
Intermediate Accounting II	4.91	-
Advanced Accounting	5	3
Topics in Financial Accounting (5360 or 5315)	5	1
Auditing	4.75	-
Cost and Management Accounting	4.42	-
Advanced Tax Concepts	5.27	1
Seminar in Audit	5	7
Fraud	5.28	5
Tax Research	5	4
Professional Accounting Research	4.5	4
Accounting Information Systems	4	1
Financial Statement Analysis	5	11
Partnership Tax	5.33	9
Business Information Consulting	5	11
Corporate Governance & Ethics	4.41	-
MBA Elective	4.13	4

Why?

Directly related to the type of job I am seeking.
Professor's
I had to take a management MBA elective that did not pertain to any concepts that will be tested on the CPA exam. In research, I was primarily taught the FASB standards and they are switching to codification. Ethics was not related to material that we will be tested on.
I ranked these courses on my feeling that I learned something that I will use later in my life or was useful in my internship. I understand why the ethics course is required, but I feel it did nothing to enhance my professional or personal growth. I think part of my reason for ranking these courses the way I did was influenced by the quality of the professor teaching the course. The main reason for not learning anything from the course was typically based on very poor teaching style or the lack of a quality professor.
My MBA elective was chosen for me by Nancy Warren and I was not happy with the choice of Database Mgmt. I would have chosen a business writing or communication class or even an advance law class.
Most of accounting classes are pretty valuable, providing me a solid foundation of accounting principles.

11. Which course or courses should be added to the MAcy curriculum in order to enhance the professional growth of students in the future? (N=21)

Class	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Additional Tax Courses	11	52%
IT Auditing	5	24%
None	3	14%
Other: Statistics how to use excel proficiently Simulation class taken last semester Government accounting Finance	7	33%

(In this question, the percentage is greater than 100 because a person may respond to more than one choice)

Why?

More advanced IT classes and Actuarial science classes. It increases the marketability of the degree.
Only two things in life are certain, death and taxes.
Did not feel prepared on excel when I started internship.
There is a pressure from recruiters at an early stage (prior to exposure to audit/tax courses) to make a decision between audit and tax. You are really guessing at what you will like or where you belong. Also, public accounting has made it pretty obvious that they don't recruit tax students from our school. Possibly that is due to the lack of a quality tax professor/tax classes.
Not sure. Having limited experience, I would say Intermediate and Audit are critical.
tax is a complicated concept. additional tax course will definitely benefit us.
Many different areas of tax. Giving broad overviews is ok but it is almost too much to cram into a single semester.
Government accounting is part of the CPA exam but is not in any MAcy courses. It is offered at the undergraduate level but not the graduate level.
Although my field is auditing and not tax, additional tax courses might improve the job prospects of those who are interested in making a career in the tax field. Some of the Big 4 do not hire students from Texas State for tax positions and one reason may be the lack of adequate tax courses.
With finance classes a student could become more familiar with the transactions made by many clients in public accounting
I felt completely unprepared for my tax internship. I feel that a better course in corporate tax should be offered.
Because not everyone wants to be an auditor even though that is what the big four want from Texas State

12. Which course or courses should be deleted from the MAcy curriculum? (N=21)

Courses	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Seminar in Audit	1	5%
Financial Statement Analysis	4	19%
Partnership Tax	16	76%

Why?

I think more should be added.
cannot make recommendation because of time lapse
Classes shouldn't be deleted just restructured to benefit students needs
That class was a joke and not really relevant to audit or tax.
Audit is difficult to be taught.
Didn't really feel AIS taught much to be worth it.

13. What are the strengths of the MAcy Program? (N=21)

Strengths	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Professors	18	86%
CPA Preparation	8	38%
Accounting Administration	3	14%
Class Size	11	52%
Advising	3	14%
Other	2	10%

(In this question, the percentage is greater than 100 because a person may respond to more than one choice)

Why?

Internship and networking
Very helpful Professors and Chair

14. What could the Accounting Department do to improve the MAcy Program? (N=21)

Improvements	Frequency	Percentage of Response
More electives	8	38%
More CPA review	13	62%
More day classes	2	10%
More night classes	1	5%
Other	5	24%

Other:

It's all about the CPA
more class selections each semester
Better professors and more tax classes
more tax classes
smaller class sizes

N=21	Satisfaction Level in MAcy						
	Mean	Very Satisfied =5	Satisfied =4	Neutral =3	Unsatisfied =2	Very Unsatisfied =1	No Opinion
16. Written Communications	5.8	7	11	2	1	-	-
17. Oral Communications	5.8	7	11	2	1	-	-
18. Information Technology	5.5	5	10	6	-	-	-
19. Analytical Skills	5.9	8	11	1	1	-	-
20. Legal/Regulatory Issues	5.7	7	10	3	1	-	-
21. Global Issues	5.4	4	12	4	1	-	-
22. Teamwork	5.6	6	11	3	1	-	-
23. Leadership	5.4	4	13	2	2	-	-
24. Reflective Thinking	5.8	6	12	3	-	-	-
25. Cultural Understanding/Diversity	5.4	4	11	5	1	-	-
26. Ethical Understanding	5.9	7	12	2	-	-	-
27. Accounting Knowledge	6.1	10	10	-	1	-	-
28. Critical Thinking	6	8	11	2	-	-	-
29. Research Skills	6	8	12	1	-	-	-

N=21	Importance in Future Career						
	Mean	Very Important =5	Important =4	Neutral =3	Unimportant =2	Very Unimportant =1	No Opinion
16. Written Communications	6.6	16	5	-	-	-	-
17. Oral Communications	6.7	17	4	-	-	-	-
18. Information Technology	6.0	9	10	2	-	-	-
19. Analytical Skills	6.7	17	4	-	-	-	-
20. Legal/Regulatory Issues	6.4	13	7	1	-	-	-

21. Global Issues	5.6	10	5	3	3	-	-
22. Teamwork	6.6	17	2	2	-	-	-
23. Leadership	6.8	18	3	-	-	-	-
24. Reflective Thinking	6.4	15	3	3	-	-	-
25. Cultural Understanding/ Diversity	5.8	11	5	3	2	-	-
26. Ethical Understanding	6.5	14	7	-	-	-	-
27. Accounting Knowledge	6.6	16	4	1	-	-	-
28. Critical Thinking	6.8	18	3	-	-	-	-
29. Research Skills	6.6	15	6	-	-	-	-

Finally, we need to know how you feel about the following. If you Disagree or Strongly Disagree, please tell us why in the Comments section.

30. My academic work in the Texas State McCoy College of Business Administration prepared me for employment in my field. (N=21)

	Frequency	Percentage of Response
Strongly Agree	6	29%
Agree	11	52%
Neutral	3	14%
Disagree	1	5%
Strongly Disagree	-	-
No Opinion	-	-

Why?

Should have been more prepared on Office skills. There could have been a one hour class required for all students doing internships that sets expectations on dress code, recording time, key terms/jargon, basic office ettiquette, etc.
I feel like there are some holes in my education. I really needed a class that worked on putting it all together.
For starters, it was the MAcy program that helped me get my internship and my job. The Accounting dept does an excellent job in providing career opportunities for its students. The Dept Chair and professors are very helpful in this matter too. The accounting and auditing knowledge that I gained has definitely prepared me for my job in auditing.

Other comments or thoughts you would like to share with us:

More governmental accounting classes would be helpful since they are adding more accounting jobs than the private sector.
Good experience overall. I did not receive adequate advising, even when I made appointments. I felt it was up to me to make the decisions or seek the advice of professors because the <u>graduate advisor was not helpful</u>
Value your students. Create an environment that encourages students to do their best. Employ

professors that want to be actively involved. It is detrimental to a student to take a course that is taught by someone who doesn't want to be there. We want to be there, we are not paid to attend classes. We want to be inspired by professors who take pride in their work and who want to make a difference in our professional and personal lives.

Nancy Warren needs to be removed as advisor to the Macy program! After 2 semesters of 4.0 and a full summer of 3.0 I was told that I better watch my grades that my A's didn't count towards my GPA.

I think that the MAcy program is one of the best programs in the University and possibly the state.

I wish the accounting department could hire more professors with working experience, especially in audit area.