

# STADIO

## HIGHER EDUCATION

### SCHOOL OF COMMERCE

## BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN ACCOUNTING

NQF 7 | 390 CREDITS | SAQA ID: 121180 | 3 YEARS | MODE: CONTACT LEARNING

CAMPUSES: WATERFALL (MIDRAND)

#### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

• ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST

• SENIOR BOOKKEEPER

• COMPANY SECRETARY

• JUNIOR AUDITOR

• TAX ADVISOR

• ACTUARY

#### DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting is to introduce students to a coherent and systematic approach to the concepts, principles, theories and problem-solving techniques within the field of accounting. Students will be equipped with essential theoretical knowledge, as well as practical application skills of accounting, auditing, management accounting and taxation within the context of the accounting professions of South Africa and beyond. Furthermore, the qualification will enable students to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the role of the financial accountant in the private and public sector.

In the first-year students are first familiarised with more foundational business and legal concepts, for example business management, business mathematics and statistics, economics, as well as foundational IT skills. In addition to this, foundational as well as financial accounting principles are covered. In the second year, global citizenship and ethics as an important subject matter for accounting as a discipline is introduced to the students. This is then followed by taking the concepts of financial accounting further, and introducing management accounting principles. Moreover, students will cover an introduction to financial management. Lastly, taxation and auditing are introduced in the second year. In year 3, all these concepts are covered with a more advanced lens, Accounting, Auditing and Tax. Students are also offered selected additional electives, for example corporate law or technology and innovation management, to name just two.

## MODE OF DELIVERY - CONTACT LEARNING (BLENDED CONTACT)

The programme is offered in STADIO's **Blended Contact** mode of delivery. Contact learning is aimed at students who want to attend venue-based face-to-face classes at one of STADIO's campuses. The Blended Contact mode combines classroom and online learning and teaching in a manner that includes some flexibility, while optimising the time students spend on campus. Based on the nature of the module, each module utilises a unique combination of the following learning settings:

- **Classroom:** Classroom sessions involve learning by doing, debating, arguing, trying, experimenting, practising, analysing, and sharing — all the skills students will need when they enter the world of work. Students will have the opportunity to contribute to the learning process and at the same time they will learn from the contributions of their fellow students. Class attendance of venue-based sessions is compulsory.
- **Synchronous online:** These are live online teaching sessions facilitated by a range of lecturers from different campuses. STADIO believes in encouraging students to think and engage laterally and to consider different perspectives and this is what students will get from having different experts share their knowledge with them. Students will be advised of the date and time of the session at the start of the semester, and they may connect from the comfort of their home, or from any other venue. They may also come to campus to make use of the campus Wi-Fi to join these sessions. Some of the live online sessions may be recorded, while others will not. It depends on the nature of the session and the lecturer will advise students beforehand. The lecturer will also use these sessions for group work and for discussions. These sessions are also compulsory, as they are an integral part of the teaching programme.
- **Asynchronous online:** These are recorded lectures which students will watch in their own time, but within the timelines provided in the course environment. In these short sessions, the lecturers will explain the theoretical concepts and they will work through examples, etc. Students enjoy the benefit of watching these important sessions repeatedly during the semester, as they prepare for their assessments.

Students will find a detailed timetable indicating the combination of sessions on the learning management system (Canvas) at the start of the semester. This will enable them to plan their schedule ahead of time, and to optimise travelling arrangements to and from the campus.

Contact learning is suited to students who are able to attend and are interested in participating in face-to-face classes on a physical campus and who want to become part of a campus community with all the activities that go with being on the campus. It is important to realise that class attendance is compulsory and students must commit to regularly attend classes on campus if they want to be successful and derive the best benefits of contact learning.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The admission criteria for the Bachelor in Commerce are:

- **Senior Certificate (SC) with degree endorsement and a minimum symbol of E in Mathematics HG, or D in Mathematics SG;** or
- **a National Senior Certificate (NSC) with a minimum of 50% in four 20-credit subjects, and a minimum of 40% in English Home Language or First Additional Language, and a minimum of 40% in Mathematics or 60% in Mathematical Literacy;** or
- **a National Senior Certificate – Vocational Level 4 (NC(V)) with a minimum of 60% in three fundamental subjects including English and Mathematics; and minimum 70% in four vocational subjects;** or
- **a Higher Certificate (NQF 5), Advanced Certificate (NQF 6) or Diploma (NQF 6) in the field of: Commerce or Accounting**

Applicants who do not meet the admission requirements for Mathematics but who have degree endorsement, will be conditionally admitted and registered for the mathematics academic support module in their first semester.

## STUDENT SUPPORT FOR CONTACT LEARNING STUDENTS

### C4AS - CENTRE FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The Centre for Student Success supports students with academic, psychological and financial wellness.

### SSS - STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Student Support Services is the first port of call for all student queries and requests, they can channel your requests to the right individuals.

# ADDITIONAL OR SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## OTHER ACCESS PATHWAYS

STADIO is committed to achieving inclusion and to overcome barriers to access and success in higher education. Applicants who do not meet the stated admission criteria, but who have relevant work experience and/or prior learning may apply for admission under the policy on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). STADIO admits a maximum of 10% per cohort via RPL.

The implementation of RPL is context-specific, in terms of discipline, programme and level. Further information may be obtained from your Student Recruitment Advisor.

## MATURE AGE EXEMPTION

Candidates who do not meet the requirements for degree studies listed above, but who have reached the ages of 23 or 45 respectively, may apply for Mature Age Exemption via the USAF Matriculation Board under the following conditions:

- Candidates who have reached/will reach the age of 23 during the first year of registration and who have achieved a Senior Certificate with a pass in at least four subjects, including one of the official languages and including one subject on Higher Grade
- Candidates who have reached the age of 45 before or during the first year of registration.

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

### MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Reliable broadband Internet access (Wi-Fi available at all our campuses, but you may prefer access from home as well)**
- **Firefox/Internet Explorer/Chrome web browser**
- **Microsoft Word**
- **PDF Viewer**
- **Ability to scan and upload documents**
- **Email/cellphone for notification and communication**

### ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY:

STADIO provides students with materials, resources, formative assessments, discussion opportunities and a number of administrative services as part of the support environments. Course materials contain links to additional external resources in the form of links to downloadable documents, websites and videos. Having access to the above online facilities is essential for efficient communication, learning and success. Students will need continuous (daily) access to study, using the resources mentioned above, and to submit and receive your assignments.

## OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting, students will be able to:

1. Apply a range of appropriate methods and procedures in the field of Accounting, Auditing, Management Accounting and Taxation to solve relevant Accounting related problems, as well as to implement solutions in a competitive financial environment.
2. Function responsibly, legally and ethically in the field of Accounting within an organisation (public or private), with due consideration of the professional codes of conduct in the Accounting environment.
3. Demonstrate an adaptive mindset to stay abreast of developments in the business world and continuous challenges in the Accounting profession.
4. Demonstrate an awareness of cultural diversity, social reality and the need for transformation in South Africa.
5. Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the changing financial environment for public and private entities and harness technological advances and other innovations appropriately.

## LIBRARY ACCESS

The majority of reading and research resources are provided online in the form of Ebsco, Proquest, Scholartext and OERs. All contact campus libraries also store limited reserve copies of prescribed and recommended texts for all modules and programmes. Students will also receive access to WGSN (a world-wide trend website) for the duration of their studies. Resources provided are relevant to the subject discipline fields. In some cases, resources are also provided in additional disciplines and fields as we believe that students have the right to read beyond required sources.

## RULES OF PROGRESSION

First year students will not be allowed to progress to second-year if they have more than two modules outstanding from the first year. Second-year students will not be allowed to progress to third-year if they have any first-year modules outstanding. Pre-requisite and co-requisite modules are indicated in the section on the programme structure.

## ASSESSMENT

STADIO uses a range of assessment methods, including tests, projects, assignments, examinations, presentations and peer assessment. For each module an Assessment Guideline document is available that explains the unique combination of assessments utilised in that module.

## DURATION

The programme can be completed in a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 6 years.

## CERTIFICATION

On successful completion of the qualification students will receive a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting, NQF Level 7. This qualification is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE).

## ARTICULATION POSSIBILITIES

In terms of the HEQSF, vertical articulation from the Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting degree is possible to either a Bachelor Honours degree (NQF 8), or a Postgraduate Diploma (NQF 8) in a field related to accounting or commerce.

Articulation options are extensive - examples of appropriate **vertical** articulation options for the BCom in Accounting are:

- Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration – Milpark Education, SAQA 76924
- Postgraduate Diploma in Investment Management – Milpark Education, SAQA 94678
- Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (with bridging course) – Milpark Education, SAQA 108930

**Horizontal** articulation options include other bachelor's degrees, such as STADIO's Bachelor of Business Administration (117863) or STADIO's specialist Bachelor of Commerce (119071) degrees, or STADIO's Advanced Diploma in Management (117865).

# CURRICULUM OUTLINE

YEAR	1st YEAR	2nd YEAR	3rd YEAR
Compulsory (All)	Accounting 1 ACC152 (20 credits)	Auditing 1 * AUD262 (20 credits)	Financial Accounting 3A * FAA372 (20 credits)
	Business Law and Compliance LAW162 (20 credits)	Financial Accounting 2 * FAC262 (20 credits)	Financial Accounting 3B * FAB372 (20 credits)
	Business Mathematics BMA152 (10 credits)	Financial Management for Accountants * FMG (20 credits)	Management Accounting 2A * MAA372 (20 credits)
	Data and Decision-Making DDM162 (10 credits)	Global Citizenship GCI262 (20 credits)	Management Accounting 2B * MAB372 (20 credits)
	Economics 1 ECO162 (20 credits)	Management Accounting 1A MAA262 (10 credits)	Taxation 2 * TAX372 (20 credits)
	Financial Accounting 1 FAC162 (20 credits)	Management Accounting 1B * MAB262 (20 credits)	Auditing 2 * AUD372 (20 credits) OR Corporate Law CLA372 (20 credits) OR Financial Markets FMA372 (20 credits) OR Future Thinking and Scenario Planning FSP372 (20 credits) OR Technology and Innovation Management TIM372 (20 credits)
	Induction to Business Studies IBS152 (10 credits)	Taxation 1 * TAX262 (20 credits)	
	Introduction to Business Management MAN152 (20 credits)		
	Statistics * STA162 (10 credits)		
CREDITS PER YEAR	140	130	120

Modules with pre-requisites or co-requisites are indicated with an asterisk.

## PRE-REQUISITES:

As indicated above, the following modules have pre-requisite modules:

- Business Mathematics (5) for Statistics (6)
- Management Accounting 1A (6) for Management Accounting 1B (6)
- Financial Accounting 1 (6) for Financial Accounting 2 (6)
- Financial Accounting 1 (6) for Financial Management for Accountants (6)
- Financial Accounting 1 (6) for Taxation 1 (6)
- Business Law and Compliance (6) for Auditing 1 (6)
- Financial Accounting 2 (6) for Financial Accounting 3A (7)
- Financial Accounting 2 (6) and 3A (7) for Financial Accounting 3B (7)
- Management Accounting 1A and B (6) for Management Accounting 2A (7)
- Management Accounting 1A and B (6) and 2A (7) for Management Accounting 2B (7)
- Taxation 1 (6) for Taxation 2 (7)
- Auditing 1 (6) for Auditing 2 (7)

## CO-REQUISITES:

As indicated above, the following modules are co-requisite modules:

- Data and Decision Making (6) with Statistics (6)

# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

## ACCOUNTING 1

This module introduces students to the basic principles of accounting. The double-entry principle and accounting equation are addressed. In addition, students are introduced to different types of journal entries, ledger accounts and bank reconciliation statements. Different types of financial statements are also introduced.

## AUDITING 1

This module introduces students to the auditing process and relevant audit activities. The purpose of the module is to provide students with knowledge and skills in auditing theory and practice, which includes basic auditing concepts, statutory requirements, guidelines and auditing standards. Students will be able to apply their knowledge of the role, duties and responsibilities of the auditor, as well as apply the Standards on Auditing in the audit of an ordinary company trading in goods and services.

## AUDITING 2

This module builds on the previous Auditing topics. The purpose of the module is to equip students with specific competencies in Auditing through knowledge of and engagement in relevant auditing topics, an understanding of the theories, methods and techniques relevant to the field. Students will be required to apply such knowledge to scenarios grounded in the real world.

## BUSINESS LAW AND COMPLIANCE

This module introduces students to the basic principles of commercial law, addressing a broad spectrum of content which includes all modern aspects of the field. First, an overview of the South African Legal System is covered. Second, the basic principles of contracts are presented, and then applied to examples of specific business contracts. Students are familiarised with the concept of agency and different legal business entities. Lastly, the module outlines the concepts of business conduct and compliance.

## BUSINESS MATHEMATICS

This is a foundation-level module that aims to provide students with an understanding of and an ability to apply a range of mathematical techniques to real-world situations in a quantitative manner. The competencies gained in this module will be required in most other modules.

## CORPORATE LAW

The purpose of the module is also to provide students with a general understanding of specific areas of the law applied in commerce. This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of the specific areas of the law forming part of Business Law. Students will be equipped with the knowledge, skill and competencies to solve basic legal problems relating to specific contracts, insurance contract, basic aspects of intellectual property law, business enterprises, competition law, trusts and insolvency. Students are introduced to the sources of the different areas of the law forming part of Business Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

## DATA AND DECISION-MAKING

In this module students will learn the importance of data in the decision-making process. They will be exposed to the fundamentals of decision making and how to assess risk and uncertainty while supporting this with well formulated and appropriate data. Students will further learn how to apply this knowledge as part of a larger project team for highly complex and more specialised decision-making environments where they act as facilitators rather than the actual analysts or decision makers.

## ECONOMICS 1

This first economics module introduces students to the meaning of economics for society as well as an institutional framework to set context. It also familiarizes students with relevant microeconomic tools relating to supply and demand, the production of goods and services, as well as different market forms. Finally, students learn about non-traditional economic models, like for example the platform economy, and how businesses operate in this “new” economy.

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 1

In this module students will acquire knowledge about the fundamental concepts and principles of financial reporting. The purpose is to equip students with the ability to interpret the financial accounting/reporting value chain from the source documents; aggregation of financial data; key principles underlying the accrual concept; reporting based on locally and internationally applied financial reporting frameworks. Students will be expected to exhibit a working understanding of and the ability to prepare the various elements of financial statements – the statement of profit or loss; the statement of financial position; the statement of cash flows; and the statement of changes in equity or accumulated funds. Students will also gain knowledge of the process of bank reconciliations and accounting for year-end adjustments and journal entries.

# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 2

This module builds on the foundation created in Financial Accounting 1 as students will learn how to prepare general-purpose financial statements within the guidelines of the International Financial Reporting Standards. It also aims to promote the use of International Financial Reporting Standards as the reference point for learning (using the IFRS standards rather than textbooks). Students are also expected to identify transactions that fall within the scope of accounting standards and those that are excluded from the scope. Students will also be expected to apply the primary presentation framework for financial reporting – IFRS 18 Presentation of Financial Statements in relation to integrated case studies.

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 3A

This module builds on the foundation created in Financial Accounting 2. Students will learn how to prepare general-purpose financial statements within the guidelines of the International Financial Reporting Standards. It also aims to promote the use of International Financial Reporting Standards as the reference point for learning (through the use of the IFRS standards rather than textbooks). Students are also expected to identify transactions that fall within the scope of accounting standards and those that are excluded from the scope. In addition, will have to apply the primary presentation framework for financial reporting – IFRS 18 Presentation of Financial Statements in relation to integrated case studies.

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING 3B

This module builds on the foundation created in Financial Accounting 2 and Financial Accounting 3A in order expose students to the preparation of prepare general-purpose financial statements within the guidelines of the International Financial Reporting Standards. It also aims to promote the use of International Financial Reporting Standards as the reference point for learning (using the IFRS standards rather than textbooks). Students are expected to identify transactions that fall within the scope of accounting standards and those that are excluded from the scope. In addition, will be expected to apply the primary presentation framework for financial reporting – IFRS 18 Presentation of Financial Statements in relation to integrated case studies.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR ACCOUNTANTS

This module introduces the basic principles of financial management and seeks to equip students with the ability to account for key financial concepts that are used in practice for the valuation of various business transactions. It also focuses on introducing financial decision-making and the various issues that need to be considered in making decisions regarding a business's finances.

## FINANCIAL MARKETS

This module shall introduce students on the Financial Management Major to financial markets and instruments, in order to cover Finance from a different angle (not from a corporate finance angle). Students are first familiarised with an introduction to Financial markets, and will then cover various financial instruments like, for example, equities, bonds and various derivatives. Last but not least, students will immerse themselves into how different (institutional) investors participate in the financial markets.

## FUTURE THINKING AND SCENARIO PLANNING

This module introduces students to scenario planning as a strategic tool to enable businesses to weigh up future possible events as part of their long-term planning processes. Students will be exposed to the social, technical, environmental, economic, and political (STEEP) trends in thinking through these future plans. In looking at the future, students will be exposed to the need to attempt to reach a balance between overprediction and underprediction of future events.

## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

This module introduces students to contemporary global challenges that countries, companies and individuals need to find solutions for. Students will be able to place themselves in relation to the concept of citizenship, with the relevant rights and obligations. In both the local and global contexts, diversity provides students with opportunities to appreciate the value of different ways of thinking, seeing the world and the resulting richness of enhanced solutions to business challenges, many of whom are linked to ethical dilemmas. As connected actors, students are able to appreciate the importance of sustainable development in dealing with the challenges of an overstretched planet. In addition to this, students get to appreciate the impacts of corporations' actions through corporate social responsibility programmes.

## INDUCTION TO BUSINESS STUDIES

In this induction module, students are provided with the skills and knowledge required to be successful in entry-level business degree studies. The Academic reading and writing component exposes students to good reading techniques, guides them through the writing process, and helps them to write effective academic essays. The Study skills component is aimed at providing students with basic information and techniques on how to improve their study skills from preparation to the exams. The module concludes with the Numeracy component that focuses on essential business numeracy skills required for business studies.

# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

## INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

This module Introduction to Business Management introduces the student to the fundamental principles of management and the essential skills and competencies for effective management. The student will be exposed to the primary management tasks: planning, organising, leading and controlling. Supporting management tasks, such as communication, motivation and delegation, are also covered. The student is introduced to how these management competencies and tasks are applied across management functions; notably, operations, financial, marketing and human resources management.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING 1A

This module lays the foundation for students to engage in Management and Cost Accounting as a practice alongside management in decision making. Students will learn that achieving this goal involves as a first step the recording, classification and analysis of costs, and implementing suitable cost systems for a business. It also covers the collection, analysis and monitoring of data to prepare first level decisions.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING 1B

This module builds upon the concepts covered in Management Accounting 1A as it covers budgets, and spending; and predicting future requirements for the business. With this knowledge students will be able to manage risk and uncertainty. In addition, internal reporting for decision making as well as the role of Artificial Intelligence in Management and Cost Accounting are introduced.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING 2A

This module builds on the prior management accounting modules and seeks to equip students with the ability to engage in operational decision-making in different business contexts. It focuses on the principles of cost-volume-profit analysis as well as pricing. It also gives a glimpse into current trends in management accounting.

## MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING 2B

This module expands on the previous Management Accounting modules and seeks to equip students with the ability to understand how decision-making is undertaken in different business contexts. It focuses on the principles of planning and analysis in the context of benchmarking, performance management and investment appraisals.

## STATISTICS

In this module, students will gain a good theoretical and practical understanding of statistical techniques and experimental design as applied to commercial problems. The topics covered in this module address the full breadth of the components of statistics, consisting of descriptive statistics, inferential statistics and statistical modelling.

## TAXATION 1

This module aims to introduce the fundamentals of taxation in the South African context. It will equip candidates with knowledge of the legal framework for local taxation; the application of legal tax rules on accounting information; and the system of tax administration in South Africa.

## TAXATION 2

This module builds on the fundamentals of taxation in the South African context that students were exposed to in Taxation 1. It will introduce additional forms of taxation. Students should be able to prepare more complex tax returns with the aim of integrating several taxation elements into one scenario.

## TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION MANAGEMENT

This module aims to enable students to understand how technology and innovation impacts business with reference to success or failure. The module commences with introducing students to the differences between creativity and innovation. Thereafter, students are provided with opportunities to understand the innovation process, paying particular attention to how a business needs to be organised for innovation. Disruptive Innovation allows students to appreciate the importance of acting speedily and intelligently in bringing new technology to market. Social Innovation, on the other hand, provides students with a different view to how products and or services can benefit society.



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FEES & PAYMENT  
OPTIONS



PRESCRIBED  
TEXTBOOKS



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