

ACCOUNTING Ph.D. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
KRANNERT GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
(revised August 2009)

Introduction

The doctoral program in Accounting at the Krannert Graduate School of Management is designed to provide students with the skills needed to become successful empirical or analytic researchers in Accounting and to provide them with the skills necessary to succeed in the classroom. This document summarizes the specific requirements and procedures that must be satisfied by all Accounting doctoral students. These requirements and procedures are based on the Krannert Graduate School's *Management Ph. D. Program Requirements* document (available from the School's Ph. D. Program Office or from their website). The school document provides general requirements for all doctoral programs at Krannert and this document contains requirements specific to the Accounting Doctoral Program. Students must satisfy both the School's and the Accounting Area's requirements. *Students are strongly advised to read and understand the content of both documents.*

General Managerial Skills Requirement

Any student who enters the Accounting Doctoral Program without a formal professional master's education is required to fulfill the general managerial skills requirement outlined in the School's *Management Ph. D. Program Requirements, Section I General Managerial Skills Requirement.*

Research Methods Requirement

Any student who enters the Accounting Doctoral Program is required to fulfill the Research Methods Requirements outlined in the School's *Management Ph. D. Program Requirements, Section II Research Methods Requirement.* These requirements include completing a minimum of two Research Methods Topics (and a minimum of 15 credit hours of Research Methods courses) as well as a Research Writing Requirement.

Accounting doctoral students are required to complete the **Applied Statistics Research Methods Topic** and the specific courses below. Depending on the student's choice of the second Research Methods Topic, some of these courses may also be used to fulfill the School's Research Methods Topics requirement.

- One of STAT 52000 (Time Series and Applications), STAT 52400 (Applied Multivariate Analysis), ECON 67300 (Time Series Methods) or ECON 67400(Microeconometrics)
- ECON 61500 (Math for Economists)
- ECON 60600 (Micro I)
- ECON 60700 (Micro II)

The School's Research Writing Requirement can be fulfilled by completing the first- and second-year summer papers described below. Note that the Research Writing Requirement is separate from the test of a student's language proficiency for teaching courses.

Accounting (Major) Courses Requirement

All Accounting doctoral students are required to take the following courses:

MGMT 60600 Seminar in External Reporting I
MGMT 60700 Seminar in Internal Reporting
MGMT 60800 Selected Research Topics in Accounting
MGMT 60900 Seminar in External Reporting II

Because the content of these courses is directly related to the Accounting Qualifying and Preliminary examinations (see later), they must be taken before each exam as required. Given the importance of these courses, course waivers or substitutions will be considered only in extremely unusual circumstances.

Minimum Course Work Requirement

Students should take at least the required courses described above plus the courses required for their minor area. Note that this is a minimum course requirement so students may be required to take additional courses, depending on the Research Track they choose.

Specialization Within Accounting (Research Track)

All Accounting doctoral students are advised to choose one of the following as their Research Track:

- Empirical Track
- Analytical Track

Students opting for the Empirical Track are required to take STAT 52400 (Applied Multivariate Analysis), STAT 52000 (Time Series and Applications) and MGMT 67700 (Research Methods). With approval of the area academic advisor, students can substitute ECON 67300 (Times Series Methods) for STAT 520 and ECON 67400 (Microeconometrics) for STAT 52400.

The Accounting Area also strongly recommends that students satisfy the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics offered by the Department of Statistics in the College of Science. This four-course program provides and documents formal expertise in statistics at the graduate level beyond introductory regression courses. More information is available at http://www.stat.purdue.edu/academic_programs/graduate/nondegree.html

Students opting for the Analytical Track are required to take ECON 61000 (Game Theory) and either MATH 50400 (Real Analysis) and MATH 54400 (Real Analysis and Measure Theory).

It is important for students to choose a Research Track as early as possible so that necessary courses can be taken in sequence. To choose a Research Track and determine courses to be taken, students are strongly advised to consult the Accounting Area Doctoral Academic Advisor or a faculty member. The Research Track courses above should be taken before the Accounting *Preliminary Examination*.

Accounting As A Minor

Students having Accounting as a minor area should take any two of the major Accounting courses indicated before. No written examination is required.

Minor Area Requirement

All Accounting doctoral students should choose a minor area and fulfill the Minor Area requirement as required by that area and as described in the School's *Management Ph. D. Program Requirements, Section IV Related (Minor) Area Requirement*. This School document requires a student to complete a minimum of 6 credit hours of doctoral-level courses in the minor area. No course taken to fulfill the Research Methods Requirement or the Major Area Requirement can be counted in fulfilling the Minor Area Requirement.

Plan of Study

Students are required to have a formal plan of study for approval by the Director of the Krannert School Doctoral Programs in Management prior to taking their Preliminary Examination. For details, see the School's *Management Ph. D. Program Requirements, Section V Plan of Study Requirement*. The study plan, which is to be eventually filed with Office of the Graduate School of Purdue University, should be approved by the Accounting Area Doctoral Academic Advisor before it is forwarded to the Director of the Management Doctoral Program.

Annual Performance Review

The performance of each student will be evaluated each year by the Accounting faculty. Students who are not making satisfactory progress may be asked to withdraw from the program. Students will be evaluated on all dimensions of the accounting Ph. D. Program requirements, including performance as research and teaching assistants.

Written Examinations

All Accounting doctoral students must take and successfully pass two written examinations in accounting:

- (1) Qualifying Exam (January of Year 2, after taking two accounting seminars)
- (2) Preliminary Exam (January of Year 3, after taking the remaining two accounting seminars)

As required in the School's *Management Ph. D. Requirements, Section VI Preliminary Exam Requirement*, the Preliminary Exam cannot be taken unless the student has met the GPA requirement and completed:

- all research method courses
- all Accounting seminar courses
- all minor area courses
- first- and second-year Summer Research Paper Requirements.

If a student fails an exam, Qualifying or Preliminary, he/she must retake it the following May. If he/she fails it again, the student should expect to be dropped from the program.

Summer Research Papers

All Accounting doctoral students are required to write two summer research papers, one during the summer following their first year of course work and the second during the summer following their second year of course work.

First Year Summer Paper:

The First Year Summer Paper should consist of a *thorough* literature review of a broad research topic of interest to the doctoral student. The student should identify a faculty advisor for this paper (a member of the Accounting faculty) as quickly as possible, no later than the end of May. Before undertaking the literature review, the student must obtain his/her faculty advisor's approval for the chosen research topic. The First Year Summer Paper must be submitted to the student's faculty advisor for grading no later than the first day of classes in the following Fall Semester. In some cases, with the approval of the faculty advisor, the student may deviate from doing a literature review and, for example, complete empirical analysis for a research proposal developed for a doctoral seminar.

Second Year Summer Paper:

The Second Year Summer Paper is a completed research paper (usually based on the literature review undertaken for the First Year Summer Paper). The student should identify a faculty advisor for this paper (a member of the Accounting Faculty) as quickly as possible, again no later than by the end of May. Note that the student is not required to choose the same faculty advisor for both summer papers. The research paper is due no later than the first day of classes in the following Fall and must be presented in the Accounting Workshop (MGMT 690R) during that Fall semester. The graduate faculty in Accounting will evaluate the paper and the workshop presentation.

Students must complete the First Year Summer Paper Requirement *before* taking the Qualifying Examination and must complete the Second Year Summer Paper Requirement *before* taking the Preliminary Examination. Failure to complete the First Year Summer Paper Requirement on time results in the student receiving a failing grade on the Qualifying Examination. Failure to complete the Second Year Summer Paper Requirement (both the paper and the presentation) on time results in the student receiving a failing grade on the Preliminary Examination.

The Summer Research Papers can be substituted for the Research Writing Requirement mentioned above.

Dissertation Committee, Proposal and Defense

Each student is responsible for forming a dissertation committee within 12 months of passing the Preliminary Examination. The committee should consist of at least 4 faculty members (at least three on the Krannert faculty), with the chairperson or at least one of the co-chairs from the Accounting Area. It is the student's right to choose and alter the composition of the dissertation committee but it is the right of the faculty to decline an invitation to either chair or serve on the student's committee. Once a student's dissertation proposal is accepted by his or her dissertation committee, it is to be considered a "contract" which will guide the student through the final preparation for his or her dissertation. If the dissertation proposal is not accepted by the dissertation committee, the student may be given the opportunity to make a second attempt.

However, a significant delay in achieving an acceptable proposal may be cause for withdrawal from the program.

Detailed guidelines on the formation of the committee, presentation of dissertation proposal, and defense of the completed dissertation are provided in the *School's Management Ph. D. Program Requirements, Section VII Doctoral Dissertation Proposal/Dissertation Committee Requirement* and *Section VIII Defense of the Dissertation Requirement*.

Teaching Experience Requirement

Our Teaching Experience Requirement is designed so that our students receive the guidance and experience necessary to succeed in the classroom once they leave Krannert. To this end, all Accounting doctoral students are required to provide teaching assistance in our undergraduate introductory financial accounting course (MGMT 20000). As they complete their doctoral studies, they are required to teach at least one section of introductory financial or managerial accounting on their own during a summer session (usually in the summer after their fourth year in the program).

Accounting Workshop Requirement

All Accounting doctoral students, regardless of their year of study in the program, must register for MGMT 690R (Accounting Research Workshop) every semester. This course is offered as P/NP unless otherwise arranged by the Accounting faculty. The faculty member in charge of the workshop is the coordinator of the course and monitors students' attendance and other matters, and issues a grade for each student. The workshops provide important opportunities for students to learn about current research, improve their ability to critically evaluate research, and develop research topics. Students are expected to actively participate in the discussion during the workshop. Students are also required to meet with outside workshop speakers as arranged by the workshop coordinator.

Estimated Time Required

Course work, Qualifying and Preliminary Examinations, First- and Second-Year Summer Research Papers and Teaching	2.5 years
Dissertation and Teaching	<u>1.5 years</u>
Total Time in Program	4.0 years

Funding Doctoral Students

The funding policy for Accounting doctoral students is based on the School's Ph. D. funding policy. Consistent with this, the funding policy in Accounting is as follows:

- (a) All students granted admission with funding will be funded through their 4th year, assuming they make satisfactory progress and unless otherwise noted in their initial funding letter.
- (b) The Accounting faculty may recommend *at most one student* for 5th year funding if that student's performance is deemed to be exceptional by the Accounting faculty. If a student is awarded 5th year funding, he/she should expect to teach in that year.
- (c) No student will be funded beyond their 5th year in the program.

Effective Date

This revised document becomes effective for all Accounting entering doctoral students as of Fall 2009. This document was subsequently revised effective June 2009.

APPENDIX

1. Summary for Course Requirements

Common to both the Empirical and Analytical Tracks	
Complete the Applied Statistics Research Methods Topic.	
Complete an additional Research Methods Topic (with a minimum of 15 credit hours in total for the two Research Methods Topics).	
Economics	ECON 60600 (Micro I) ECON 60700 (Micro II) ECON 61500 (Math for Economists)

	Empirical Track	Analytical Track
Specialization Courses	STAT 524 (Applied Multivariate Analysis) and STAT 520 (Time Series and Applications) or ECON 67300 (Times Series Methods) and ECON 67400 (Microeconometrics)	ECON 61000 (Game Theory) MATH 50400 (Real Analysis) MATH 54400 (Real Analysis and Measure Theory)
	MGMT 67700 (Research Methods)	
	STAT 50600 (Statistical Programming and Data Management)	

Common to both the Empirical and Analytical Tracks	
Research Writing Requirement	First- and Second-Year Summer Research Papers
Accounting Courses	MGMT 60600 Seminar in External Reporting I MGMT 60700 Seminar in Internal Reporting MGMT 60800 Selected Research Topics in Accounting MGMT 60900 Seminar in External Reporting II.
Minor Area	2 Courses (6 credit hours)
Electives	Appropriate for the student's plan of study
Accounting Workshop	MGMT 690R (every semester)

Note: All foreign students must pass the English proficiency test or complete the required English class before they can teach.

2. Empirical Track:

To complete this track, students should expect to take 4 classes per semester in each of their first two years in the program and identify their minor area as early as possible.

Suggested Plan of Study:

	Fall	Spring	Summer
Year 1	ECON 60600 ECON 60700 ECON 61500 STAT 50600 STAT 51100 or ECON 67000 MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000 or RA	MGMT 60600 (MGMT 60800) STAT 51200 or ECON 67100 and 67200 Two additional classes to meet Minor Area, Elective or Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000 or RA	First Year Summer Paper
Year 2	MGMT 60700 (MGMT 60900) STAT 52400 or ECON 67400 Two additional classes to meet Minor Area, Elective or Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000	MGMT 60800 (MGMT 60600) STAT 52000 or ECON 67300 MGMT 67700 One additional class to meet Minor Area, Elective or Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000	Second Year Summer Paper
Year 3	MGMT 60900 (MGMT 60700) Any remaining courses		

Note that the empirical Accounting seminars (MGMT 60600 and MGMT 60800) are taught in alternating years as are the analytical Accounting seminars (MGMT 60700 and 60900). Thus, depending on the year you enter the program, you will either take them in the following sequence (MGMT 60600, MGMT 60700, MGMT 60800, MGMT 60900) or in the sequence (MGMT 60800, MGMT 60900, MGMT 60600, MGMT 60700). The courses are designed so that either sequence meets your educational needs.

The Accounting Area strongly recommends that students following the empirical track take the additional coursework required to obtain the Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics offered by the Department of Statistics in the College of Science (http://www.stat.purdue.edu/academic_programs/graduate/nondegree.html).

3. Analytical Track:

To complete this track, students should expect to take 4 classes per semester in each of their first two years in the program and identify their minor area as early as possible.

Suggested Plan of Study:

	Fall	Spring	Summer
Year 1	ECON 60600 ECON 60700 ECON 61500 STAT 50600 STAT 51100 or ECON 67000 MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000 or RA	MGMT 60600 (MGMT 60800) MATH 50400 STAT 51200 or ECON 67100 and 67200 One additional class to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000 or RA	First Year Summer Paper
Year 2	MGMT 60700 (MGMT 60900) MATH 54400 STAT 52400 or ECON 67400 Two additional classes to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000	MGMT 60800 (MGMT 60600) ECON 61000 Two additional classes to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements MGMT 690R Assist MGMT 20000	Second Year Summer Paper
Year 3	MGMT 60900 (MGMT 60700) Any remaining courses		

Note that the empirical Accounting seminars (MGMT 60600 and MGMT 60800) are taught in alternating years as are the analytical Accounting seminars (MGMT 60700 and 60900). Thus, depending on the year you enter the program, you will either take them in the following sequence (MGMT 60600, MGMT 60700, MGMT 60800, MGMT 60900) or in the sequence (MGMT 60800, MGMT 60900, MGMT 60600, MGMT 60700). The courses are designed so that either sequence meets your educational needs.