Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway

Scoil Ghnó agus Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes
J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics

Master of *Accounting*

THE Awards 2026 Shortlisted Business School of the Year

EQUIS ACCREDITED

AACSB ACCREDITED

ASSOCIATION OF MBAS ACCREDITED



Programme at a Glance

Award
Master of Accounting

Course code
MACC-AY

NFQ Level
Level 9

Duration
1 year full-time

Next Intake
September

Delivery Mode
On Campus

ECTS
90 ECTS

Tuition Fees (AY27/28)
- EU: €12,000
- Non-EU: €21,000
- Student Levy: €150

Who is this for?

The Master of Accounting is ideal for ambitious, recent graduates of Accounting who wish to fast track the professional qualification process and pursue a career in accounting.



Ready to apply?

Why *choose* this programme?

CAI CAP 2 Exemptions

Gain full Chartered Accountants Ireland CAP 2 exemptions, subject to meeting the required CAP 1 exemption position.

Industry-Led Learning

Learn from expert faculty and benefit from industry-led summer schools and real-world business challenges.

Career Progression

Many students are sponsored by employers or secure graduate roles before completing the programme.

Strong Employer Network

Recent graduates have progressed to firms including KPMG, EY, PwC, Deloitte and Mazers.

Professional Exam Success

Graduates of the programme have achieved strong results in professional examinations including CAI and Irish Tax Institute exams.

Ranked and Recognised

Study at a Top 2% global university, recognised for its leading edge research, sustainability and academic excellence.



Your **fast track to** becoming a *Chartered Accountant*



The Master of Accounting (MAcc) programme at the University of Galway, the syllabus of which has been designed in consultation with Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI), offers a fast-track to becoming a chartered accountant. **Graduates receive full exemptions from CAI's CAP2 examinations**, assuming they have exemptions from CAP1 exams before starting the MAcc. The programme has a strong track record of success, with alumni achieving top positions in professional exams.

A distinctive feature of the MAcc programme is its two specialised summer schools held in May/June, which cover contemporary topics delivered by industry leaders. Topics and participants can vary from year to year.

In 2025, KPMG led a summer school on "Analytics in Accounting and Auditing," exploring software and data-driven audit techniques. A second school led summer school “Disruptive Technologies” included robotic process automation, machine learning, AI, and cybersecurity using RPA software, available under the Academic alliance with software provider UIPath.

The MAcc programme not only imparts advanced accounting knowledge but **also enhances interdisciplinary and interpersonal skills critical for professional success**. With an emphasis on small class sizes, the programme offers personalised support and mentoring from lecturers, along with opportunities for developing collaborative skills valued by employers.

Master of Accounting



Triple Crown Accreditation

Top 1% of Business Schools Worldwide



Structure & Assessments

The programme is delivered over two semesters plus a summer period.

Programme Structure

Semester 1

Taught Modules
September - December

Semester 2

Taught Modules
January - April

Summer

Research project or industry-led summer schools
May - June

Assessment Methods

- Written examinations
- Individual and group assigments
- Case studies
- Presentations
- Research project / summer schools
- Your workload includes lectures, tutorials, workshops and independent study.

Students complete either two industry-led summer schools or a research disertation. Subject to programme structure and availability.

Typical Workload

Expect approximately 40-45 hours of study per week.



Modules

The programme comprises 90 ECTS credits.
Modules are subject to change.

Semester 1

Core Modules (45 Credits)

- AY5104: Investment and Financing Decisions - 5 Credits
- AY5103: Management Accounting - 5 Credits
- AY5116: Auditing I - 5 Credits
- AY5118: Advanced Financial Reporting I - 5 Credits
- AY5100: Taxation I - 5 Credits
- AY518: Research Project - 20 Credits

Semester 2

Core Modules (40 Credits)

- AY5140: Management Control for Sustainable Organizations - 5 Credits
- AY5117: Auditing II - 10 Credits
- AY5105: Corporate Finance - 5 Credits
- AY5101: Taxation II - 5 Credits
- AY5119: Advanced Financial Reporting II - 10 Credits
- AY537: Skills for Accounting Research and Practice - 5 Credits

Optional Modules (choose one)

- MG571: Strategic Management - 5 Credits
- MS5128: Decision Theory, AI and Analytics - 5 Credits

Module availability and delivery may change. Please refer to the programme webpage for the most up-to-date information.

Industry-led Summer Schools

Students complete two industry-led summer schools as part of the programme (or a research dissertation, subject to programme structure and availability).

Analytics in Accounting and Auditing Delivered by

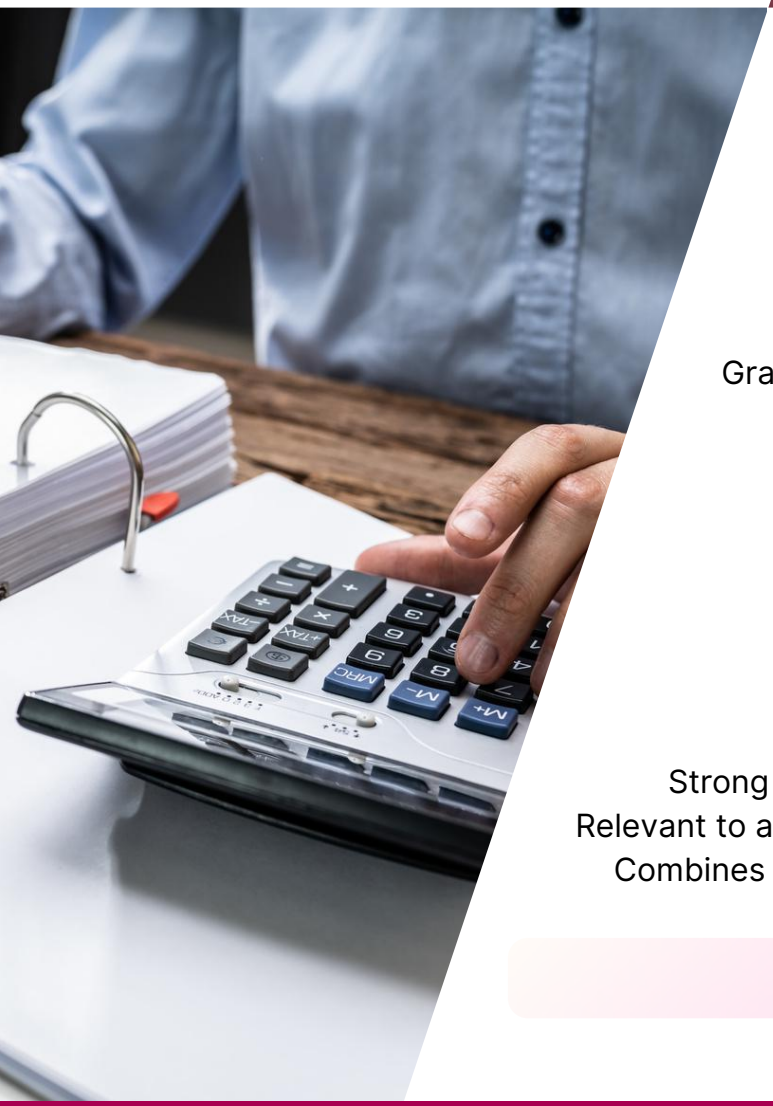
Explore how data analytics and digital tools are transforming accounting and audit practices through real-world projects.

Disruptive Technologies

Explore advanced analytics and AI tools that are redefining management and performance evaluation across industries using UIPath software, available through an Academic Alliance.

Topics and industry partners may change from year to year.





Professional recognition & exemptions

Full Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI) CAP 2 exemptions

Graduates are eligible for full CAI CAP 2 exemptions, subject to meeting the required CAP 1 exemption position before commencing the programme.

Other Benefits

Strong toundation tor protessional accountancy careers
Relevant to a range of accounting, audit, tax and finance roles
Combines academic excellence with professional relevance

Professional recognition and exemption criteria are subject to change by the relevant professional body.

Leading *the future*

We are now a 'Triple Crown' School

We are part of an elite group comprising only the top 1% of business schools globally

Join **a globally recognised institution ranked among the best** for sustainability, and study on a campus committed to creating a greener future. Earn a MSc degree that not only equips you with cutting-edge skills but also aligns with your values of environmental stewardship.

Our business programmes are designed to foster innovation and leadership, preparing you to excel in today's competitive job market. The University offers a unique blend of academic excellence, practical experience, and a sustainable campus environment, making it the ideal choice for future business leaders.

Envision your career flourishing as you benefit from our world-class faculty and strong industry connections.

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
2026
284th

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
Europe 2026
98th

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
Ireland 2026
4th

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
The Sunday Times 2026
351-400

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
The Impact Ranking 2026
- **1st in Ireland**
- **68th in the World**

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS
For Business and Economics 2026
301-400

Top 2%
of universities in the QS World rankings

Since 2024
University of Galway advanced to
SDG Ambassador

Career Development Centre (CDC)

The University of Galway Career Development Centre is a globally award-winning service, supporting more than 19,000 students through innovative and inclusive career development. Whether you're exploring career options, preparing for your first internship, or getting ready to launch your graduate career, we're here to help you every step of the way.

We provide one-to-one career guidance, work-based learning opportunities across more than 70 academic programmes, and specialist employability advice for international students. Through our partnerships with over 5,000 employers, you'll have access to placements, graduate jobs, networking opportunities, and valuable industry insights. You can also enhance your skills and stand out to employers by taking part in our Employability Award.

Wherever you are in your career journey, ***the Career Development Centre is here to support, guide, and inspire you - helping you take your next step with confidence while shaping a future that's right for you***.

CDC at a Glance

7K+
Supported Students
1:1 Coaching
Immigration Support Events
Language Cafes
CV Clinics

Understand the Irish job market and discover effective job search strategies
Navigating the Irish Labour Market

University Skills Passport (USP) Badge
Showcase your skills by completing the Career Development Skills Module

AGCAS AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE 2025 WINNER
EMPLOYABILITY TEAM OF THE YEAR
Global Award-Winning Service
AGCAS Careers & Employability Team for Ireland & UK (2025)

20%
International Students
With a dedicated Global Employability Team

32K+
Student Engagements
at career events for 24/25



Graduate Outcomes*

Our graduates progress into meaningful careers across accounting, finance and business.



84% in employment or further study

6 months after graduation*

Top Employment Sectors



Accounting & Audit



Financial Services



Public Sector



Insurance Services

Reported Graduate Roles

- Accountant
- Financial Analyst
- Audit Senior
- Auditor
- Compliance Senior
- Funds Accountant
- Graduate Trainee Auditor
- Tax Accountant
- Management Accountant
- Trainee Accountant
- General Accountant
- Audit Associate

Graduate Employers

Deloitte. KPMG EY forvis mazars

DUBLIN AIRPORT CENTRAL Diligent Hertz

CBRE alterDomus* DM CORPORATE FINANCE

Source: University of Galway Graduate Outcomes Survey AY24-25

Student, alumni & industry voice



"the module Skills for Accounting Research and Practice gives students the opportunity to review case studies which I am sure will be of an advantage to me when sitting my FAE'S. The course is taught by a number of brilliant lecturers who have vast amounts of experience in their fields."

Alisha Mullins

Audit Associate | Deloitte - Alumni AY23-24



"It gives you the abilities you need to succeed as an accountant when you enter the workforce and you are able to gain full CAP 2 exemptions as a result of taking this course."

Niamh Irvine

Master of Accounting | Scholar



"Since its inception, KPMG has sponsored students on the Master of Accounting programme...KPMG looks for rounded individuals with well-developed thinking and interpersonal skills. We really notice these skills in those who have completed the Master of Accounting at University of Galway."

Colm Gorman

Head of People

Admissions & how to apply

Entry Requirements

- A H2.1 degree (NFQ Level 8 or equivalent) in Business or Commerce, with a significant specialisation in Accounting.
- Students are required to have full (or nearly full) exemptions from the CAI's CAP1 examinations before embarking on the MAcc programme.

English Language Requirements

- IELTS 6.S overall, with no less than 6.S in Writing and no less than 6.0 in any other band or equivalent, where applicable.



How to apply?

Apply online at: https://nuigalway.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply/Account/Login



Scholarships

Merit based Scholarships and Business Merit Scholarships available.



Work in Ireland

Non-EU students are eligible for the 24-month StayBack Visa here. A great opportunity to accrue international experience.

Questions?

Programme Director:
Mr John Currie
john.currie@universityofgalway.ie

Programme Administrator:
Ms Sharon Gilmartin
Ms Tracy Coloe Cloonan
accountancy@universityofgalway.ie

find out more

Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway

Scoil Ghnó agus
Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes

J.E. Cairnes School of
Business and Economics



Where will it take *you*?

universityofgalway.ie/choose-postgrad

businesspostgrad@universityofgalway.ie

University *of* Galway.ie