

ACIS JUNIOR MEETING

ACIS Department website: https://acis.pamplin.vt.edu

To find out more about our undergraduate and graduate programs, including information about courses, undergraduate Checksheets and MACIS Plans of Study, please visit our website, click MENU in the upper right-hand corner and then click <u>Academics</u> in the dropdown (Checksheets and Plans of Study are also available in the ACIS Office, PAM 3007). Additional information regarding advisors, financial assistance, force add, and more can be found by clicking <u>Student Resources</u> in the MENU dropdown on our website.

Welcome

We are pleased you are obtaining your degree in ACIS. Our program is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills to pursue various career paths within the accounting profession. You will soon be joining a large group of alumni who have been and continue to be very successful. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to consider the 152-Hour (see further information below) and MACIS Programs. Research shows MACIS graduates perform better on the CPA exam than those without a Master's degree, and are also more successful in obtaining future promotions at a variety of firms and companies. Importantly, there are many potential jobs in your future that could require (or give preference to those with) a Master's degree.

Additional Information

Students are highly encouraged to submit courses via Course Request when it opens in October for the Spring semester (and again in March 2020 if you are continuing for Fall 2020). Submitting courses via Course Request helps maximize your chances of getting the classes you desire.

Force add requests must be submitted online at <u>https://acis.pamplin.vt.edu/force-adds.html</u>. Please fill out one form per class that needs to be force added. Filling out a Force add form does not guarantee that you will be added to the course. You should not submit duplicate force add requests. ACIS will work to get you added to the courses you need to graduate, but there will be <u>NO Section Changes</u>.

Please read your emails from the ACIS Department. Email is our primary form of communication regarding notices etc. We communicate various important items during the year via email. These emails will be sent to your vt.edu address only. If you have a different primary email account, we recommend that you set up an automatic pointer within your vt.edu email account.

We highly encourage you to take advantage of the events Pamplin's Career Services has planned for the Fall semester, including the Business Horizons Career Fair on September 5th from 10:00am – 4:00pm in Squires Student Center. Over 150 firms and companies will be on campus for Business Horizons to recruit our many talented students, including you! There are also Company Days and workshops scheduled throughout the Fall semester. Please see the Pamplin Career Services Events schedule.

We are proud of you as our students, and we hope you will have a very enjoyable and successful junior year at Virginia Tech.

Graduation Timeline

Junior Year (1st Semester)

- 1. Apply for Degree on <u>Hokie SPA</u>
- 2. Review Diploma Name on Application for Degree
- 3. Request DARS Report on Hokie SPA
- 4. Review DARS Report with your advisor

For more information, please visit <u>https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/index.html</u>.

Junior Year (last semester)

Begin planning for out of town guests to attend graduation, i.e., hotel accommodations.

Information on the 152-Hour Program

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to consider the 152-Hour Program. This Program allows undergraduates to begin taking graduate level courses while earning a Bachelor's degree and, as a result, will enable him/her to earn both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Accounting and Information Systems in five years or less. Our 152-Hour Program is a practical and cost-effective method of meeting the education requirements for CPA licensure in Virginia. Furthermore, there are many advantages of earning a Master's degree, including more job opportunities available to you as well as higher compensation over time.

Requirements for the 152-Hour Program

The 152-Program (Program) is recommended for undergraduate students who meet the specified academic criteria detailed below in the second semester of their Junior year. University requirements are for students to successfully complete 125 hours of credit for the bachelor's degree and 30 hours for the Master's degree, for a total of 155 credit hours. To facilitate a 152-Hour Program, one graduate level course counts toward both the undergraduate degree and the graduate degree. To be eligible for admission into the Program, an ACIS student must be a rising Senior with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 and a GMAT score of at least 520. Please note that we are currently waiving the GMAT requirement for those students with a GPA of 3.2 or higher.

Students in the 152-Hour Program may also take two additional 5000 level courses while still an undergraduate, which would count towards the graduate degree <u>only</u>.

All transfer courses must have a grade of B or better. The classes taken as a senior are considered transfer courses for the graduate program.

Students should apply online at the Graduate School website, <u>www.graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/how-to-apply.html</u>. The application fee is \$75 and is non-refundable. The application deadline is the end of your Junior year. However, we encourage students to apply early (by January 15th) to maximize the likelihood of meeting the requirements to earn one of the many ACIS scholarships available to our students, including those awarded to rising Seniors that have been accepted into the 152-Hour Program.

You must also include a MACIS 152 Credit Hour Status and Course Designation Form wherein you will indicate the graduate class(es) you plan to take during your Senior Year. This Form can be obtained from Arnita, Graduate Coordinator (PAM 3007).

152-Hour Program and MACIS Program

Upon graduating with a bachelor's degree in ACIS, students in our 152-Hour Program automatically become graduate students in our MACIS Program. In other words, there is not an additional application process.

For more information regarding our 152-Hour and MACIS Programs, please contact Nadia Rogers, Director of our MACIS Program, to schedule an appointment at <u>narogers@vt.edu</u> (PAM 3074).