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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Julio Frenk  
University President

**From:** Tomás A. Salerno  
Chair, Faculty Senate

**Date:** April 5, 2018

**Subject:** Faculty Senate Legislation #2017-30 (B) – Business School Curriculum Change for Master of Accounting (MAcc)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Faculty Senate, at its March 21, 2018 meeting, had *no objections* to the proposal from the Business School to change the curriculum for the Master of Accounting program to reduce the number of required courses and broaden the curriculum to make it more relevant in response to input from key constituencies. This change will provide students with greater flexibility to tailor the program to their career goals while increasing their marketability for other areas such as consulting and IT services.

The Faculty Senate does not approve budget concepts; there were none noted in this proposal.

This legislation is sent to you for your action.

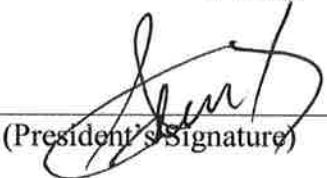
TAS/rh

Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey Duerk, Executive Vice President and Provost  
John Quelch, Dean, Business School  
Patricia Abril, Vice Dean, Graduate Business Programs, Business School

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2017-30 (B) – Business School Curriculum Change for Master of Accounting (MAcc)

**PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE**

APPROVED:  DATE: 04/17/18  
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Dean John Quelch

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY (Pending any additional required Board of Trustees approval)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): \_\_\_\_\_



Proposal Submission Checklist

Proposals are to be submitted to the Office of Assessment and Accreditation (OAA), if applicable, the Graduate Council (for graduate programs excluding Law and Medical), if applicable, and the Faculty Senate. Refer to the Procedures for Program Changes document for information on the approvals and notifications needed for program changes and the Proposal Submissions Specifications document for an explanation of the process and a list of the materials required.

(Please note that change approvals can take 2 semesters to complete.)

Include this checklist at the beginning of each proposal.

(Complete the information below, save the form as a pdf, and insert it with the background materials that are specified, in the order listed, and send the package electronically as noted above.)

KEY CONTACT PERSONNEL INFORMATION

First Name

Patricia

Last Name

Abril

Proponent's Title

Vice Dean

Department, if applicable

Graduate Business Programs

School/College

Miami Business School

E-mail

pabril@miami.edu

Phone

305-284-6999

Title of Proposal

University of Miami Business | Curriculum Change - Master of Accounting
Contact: Patricia Sanchez Abril, Vice Dean, Graduate Business Programs
pabril@miami.edu 305-284-6999

(-continue to next page-)

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## MANDATORY MEMORANDA AND FORMAT

*Please check that each item listed below is included in the proposal package of materials, in the ORDER as listed. The applicable title (i.e. Letter of Explanation, Memo from the Dean, etc. ) is to precede each section in the materials.*

Only proposals conforming to this format will be accepted.

**1. This completed checklist.**

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**2. Letter of explanation. (2-3 pages only, double spaced, 12 pt font)**

Yes     No

If no, explain why.

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**3. A memo from the dean(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant School(s) / Colleges(s).**

Yes     No

If no, explain why.

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**4. A memo that all affected or relevant School / College Council(s) have approved.**

Yes     No

If no, explain why.

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**5. A memo from the department chair(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant department(s).**

Yes     No

If no, explain why.

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**6. A memo from the Office of Accreditation and Assessment (OAA) if the proposal involves academic programs (degrees, certificates, majors, minors, concentrations, specializations, tracks, etc.) such as new programs, closing programs, or program changes (such as changes in requirements, program length, modality, name, location).**

*(To be submitted by OAA to the Graduate Council or the Faculty Senate, as appropriate.)*

Applicable     Not applicable.

If not, explain why.

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**7. A memo from the Graduate School Dean signifying approval of the Graduate Council (for graduate programs only).**

*(To be submitted to the Faculty Senate by the Graduate Council.)*

Applicable     Not applicable.

If not, explain why.

Memo forthcoming. Approved by the Graduate Council on February 20th.

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**8. Academic Deans Policy Council (ADPC) approval, for interdisciplinary issues and as appropriate. Please consult with the Dean of the Graduate School or the Secretary of the Faculty Senate to check if this is needed.**

Yes     No

If no, explain why.

This proposal does not involve interdisciplinary issues.

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**9. Additional required documents as listed on the "[Proposal Submissions Specifications](#)," i.e. market analysis, budget information, assessment of library collections, etc. as specified.**

List additional documents included.

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End form.



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**MASTER OF ACCOUNTING  
CURRICULUM CHANGE**

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**Contact: Patricia Sánchez Abril, Vice Dean  
Graduate Business Programs  
pabril@bus.miami.edu  
305-284-6999**

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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
**SCHOOL of BUSINESS  
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**Patricia Sánchez Abril**  
Vice Dean  
Graduate Business Programs & Executive Education  
Professor, Business Law

February 26, 2018

Faculty Senate  
325 Ashe Administration Building  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Dear Faculty Senate members:

The Miami Business School has undertaken a comprehensive curriculum review in an effort to improve, update, and optimize its program offerings.

The following proposal is a result of a four-month long process that began with focus groups in each of our graduate programs. Focus groups included input from faculty and staff, students, recruiters, employers, corporate partners, and our Board of Overseers.

Respectfully,

Patricia Sánchez Abril  
Vice Dean, Graduate Business Programs  
Miami Business School



MEMORANDUM

TO: General Welfare Committee  
Faculty Senate

FROM: John Quelch, Dean, Miami Business School 

Subject: Support for Miami Business School Proposals

Date: February 2, 2018

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This memo is to document my support for the proposed changes listed below.

- Curriculum Change: Master of Accounting
- Curriculum Change: Master of Science in Taxation

Thank you.



MEMORANDUM

TO: General Welfare Committee  
Faculty Senate

FROM: W. Brian Barrett, Speaker of the Council, School Council  
*W. Brian Barrett*

Subject: Approval of Proposed Changes

Date: January 15, 2018

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The School Council, at its January 12, 2018 meeting, had no objection to the proposals listed below.

- Curriculum Change: Master of Accounting
- Curriculum Change: Master of Science in Taxation


Thank you.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
GRADUATE SCHOOL



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**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: February 26, 2018  
TO: Tomas Salerno  
Chair, Faculty Senate  
FROM: Guillermo ("Willy") Prado   
Dean, The Graduate School  
SUBJECT: Curriculum Change – Master of Accounting

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The Miami Business School submitted a proposal with intent to change the existing curriculum of the Master of Accounting (MAcc). The proposal was discussed at the meeting of the Graduate Council on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, and no concerns were expressed by the Council members.

cc: John Quelch, Dean, Miami Business School  
Patricia Abril, Vice Dean, Miami Business School  
Office of Assessment and Accreditation

# UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI




Assessment and Accreditation  
Gables One Tower 1320 S. Dixie Hwy  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Phone: 305-284-5120  
Fax: 305-284-4929  
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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** February 12, 2018

**TO:** Patricia Sanchez Abril, Vice Dean  
School of Business

**FROM:** Patty Murphy, Executive Director  
Office of Assessment and Accreditation 

**RE:** MAcc Program Curriculum Change

On February 8, 2018, the School of Business notified my office of its intent to revise the curriculum for its Master of Accounting (MAcc) program (academic plan code: ACCT\_MACC) to reduce the number of required courses and broaden the curriculum to make it more relevant. This change is being made in response to input from key constituencies including alumni, current students, and employers. The proposed change will provide students with greater flexibility to tailor the program to their career interests.

The MAcc program requires successful completion of 30 credit hours and offers tracks in Assurance and Corporate Accounting. Both tracks will be changed as a result of this proposal. This proposal does not "represent a significant departure, either in content or method of delivery" from what we are currently approved by SACSCOC to offer due to the following:

- The proposed change does not affect the program length and the program length meets the SACSCOC requirement of a minimum of 30 credit hours for a graduate program.
- No new courses will be created as a result of the proposed change.
- No new faculty will be hired as a result of the proposed change.
- No change is proposed in the modality of the program.
- The program will be offered on the Coral Gables campus.
- The graduate program still covers the literature in the field through its required coursework.
- The graduate program still ensures appropriate professional practice and training experiences through applied coursework in each track.

SACSCOC only requires notification of program changes that represent a significant departure from our current programs. Therefore, no notification or approval is required for this change.

Please contact me if you have any questions at [pattymurphy@miami.edu](mailto:pattymurphy@miami.edu) or (305) 284-3276.

**CC:** Faculty Senate  
Guillermo Prado, Dean of the Graduate School  
John Quelch, Dean of the School of Business  
Alexander Mas, Assistant Director, School of Business  
Michael Werner, MAcc Program Director  
Karen Beckett, University Registrar  
Ray Nault, Executive Director of Student Financial Assistance and Employment



MEMORANDUM

TO: General Welfare Committee  
Faculty Senate

FROM: Patricia Sanchez Abril, Vice Dean, Graduate Business Programs

Subject: Curriculum Change: Master of Accounting

Date: February 6, 2018

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Proposal: To restructure the curriculum for the Master of Accounting. (See attached proposal and course sequence by Dr. Michael Werner, Program Director.)

Background: The Master of Accounting seeks to update its curriculum. Currently the program has 65 students.

Reasoning:

- See attached proposal for details on specific reasoning.

Resource Implications: None.

Procedural History:

- Ad Hoc Task Force on Graduate Business Programs – Discussed and approved 12/5/2017
- Graduate Business Programs Committee – Discussed and approved 12/5/2017
- School Council of the Miami Business School – Discussed and approved 1/12/2018

## Proposed Changes and Justification

### Background

The accounting graduate program is unique in that under Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensing requirements in most states, candidates must have a minimum of 150 college credits to be eligible for licensing. This forces accounting undergraduates to obtain a Master's degree to satisfy the CPA licensing requirements. Accounting majors obtain most of the fundamental knowledge that they need to be successful professionals in the undergraduate phase of their education, which allows for greater flexibility in the breadth and depth of courses that can be offered in the graduate program. The current graduate curriculum mostly contains courses that focus on accounting, auditing and taxation issues at an advanced level. The proposed changes seek to broaden the curriculum content by introducing courses that are of contemporaneous relevance.

The new curriculum will satisfy two related objectives. First, it addresses the changed professional environment in accounting and auditing that requires skills and knowledge in the use of computer technology and data analytics. Second, the new curriculum broadens the knowledge base of our graduates which serves to attract more qualified applicants and also increases the placement potential of our graduate students. The current leadership in the Business School has an ambitious plan to significantly expand the number of accounting graduate students. While we traditionally have had an adequate pool of qualified applicants to expand enrollment in the program, we will be able to attract more high-quality applicants with broader course offerings. Expanding the breadth of expertise will also help place the additional students. Accounting firms currently recruit our students mostly for assurance and tax services; the new curriculum will make our students more attractive for other areas such as consulting and IT services.

### Reasons for Proposed Changes

Over the past year, we have received feedback from recruiters and members of our Advisory Board that the accounting workplace requires professionals that are conversant with the use of data analytic tools. Accounting departments across the country have already begun restructuring their graduate and undergraduate programs to include Data Analytics as part of their curriculum. In the past few months the Department began working closely with the Curriculum Committee of the Accounting Advisory Board to redesign the curriculum to include course(s) in data analytics that will better equip our students to face this increasing need in the accounting workplace. Although we added a new course last year (ACC 628: Introduction to Accounting Analytics), we currently only have two experts in this field in the Department of Accounting – Professors Khrystyna Bochkay and Roman Chychyla. We need to tap into the expertise of the MAS department that currently offers courses in the area to provide a broad foundation in statistical analysis and data analytics. Professors Chychyla and Ramnath from the accounting department discussed this issue with Professors Guan, McGibney and Lehman from the MAS department. Based on these discussions, three MAS courses – MAS 637, MAS 639 and MAS 648 – were deemed to be the most relevant for accounting graduates.

To create room for the data analytics courses, we have reassessed the currently "required" courses in each of the three graduate tracks in accounting (MACC – Assurance, MACC – Corporate, and MST). Based on a careful reassessment of the current curriculum, the graduate curriculum committee in the Department of Accounting has recommended changes in required courses along with modifications to the list of elective courses (which we will now refer to as "selectives") to provide more flexibility. Selectives are courses selected by the program director to customize a student's schedule considering

the student's career objectives as well as constraints (such as availability of particular course offerings that year). The three MAS courses will be added to the list of selectives. Each degree program will continue to require a total of 30 credit hours and no new courses will be created.

#### **Master of Accounting- Assurance Track (MACC – Assurance)**

Out of the 30 credits required for the MACC – Assurance track, nine courses (18 course credits) are currently "required." We propose to reduce the number of "required" courses to 14 credits to allow more flexibility for the students to include courses that better tailor the program to suit their professional needs. We also propose to eliminate a second (restricted) category of electives that is currently in force, and recommend having a single list of "selectives" from which the Program Director will predetermine the acceptable set of courses that will fulfill the remaining course-credit requirement. We are reducing the total number of courses listed in the Bulletin from 46 to 32.

#### **Master of Accounting- Corporate Track (MACC – Corporate)**

Out of the 30 credits required for the MACC – Corporate track, eight courses (15 course credits) are currently "required." We propose to reduce the number of "required" courses to 13 credits and again propose to eliminate a second (restricted) category of electives that is currently in force. Instead, we recommend having a single list of "selectives" from which the Program Director will predetermine the acceptable set of courses that will fulfill the remaining course-credit requirement. We are reducing the total number of courses listed in the Bulletin from 45 to 34.

#### **Master of Science in Taxation (MST)**

Out of the 30 credits required for the MST, nine courses (17 course credits) are currently "required." We propose to reduce the number of "required" courses to 15 credits and again propose to eliminate a second (restricted) category of electives that is currently in force. Instead, we recommend having a single list of "selectives" from which the Program Director will predetermine the acceptable set of courses that will fulfill the remaining course-credit requirement. We are reducing the total number of courses listed in the Bulletin from 46 to 30.

#### **Accounting Accelerated Program**

The current Academic Bulletin lists the courses that accelerated accounting students will take in their senior year. To maintain flexibility in course offerings, we propose to eliminate the detailed list of courses and recommend adding the following: "Students in their senior year will take 12 semester hours of course work that will count towards their MAcc or MST degrees. These courses will be predetermined by the Program Director and students will be provided additional information prior to starting their senior year.

#### **Changes and Additions**

In the following tables, the course numbers are highlighted for courses moved between required and (s)elective categories. The course number and title are highlight for new courses that are added.



## Proposed Curriculum Requirements for Accounting Masters Programs

### Master of Accounting—Assurance Track (MAcc-Assurance)

The program requires 30 semester hours provided the student has an undergraduate degree in accounting, or its equivalent, from an accredited institution. The program consists of seven required courses; the balance of elective courses will be approved by the Program Director, who will provide a pre-approved course list to the student at the beginning of the program. Unless otherwise noted, courses in the program are two semester hours (two credits).

#### Required Courses (14 credits)

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| ACC 610        | Financial Reporting Research                            |
| ACC 622/522    | Advanced Issues in Auditing (3 credits)                 |
| <b>ACC 628</b> | Introduction to Accounting Analytics                    |
| ACC 630/530    | International Financial Reporting Standards (1 credit)  |
| ACC 648        | Financial Reporting Implications of Income Taxes.       |
| ACC 672/572    | Advanced Financial Analysis                             |
| <b>BUS 610</b> | <b>Critical Thinking and Communication for Business</b> |

Additional Courses (16 credits) **The remaining courses will be selected from the following or other courses approved by the program director and a pre-approved list will be provided:**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>ACC 603</b> | Studies in Financial Reporting Issues                               |
| ACC 604        | Seminar in Cost Accounting  |
| <b>ACC 606</b> | Internal Auditing   |
| <b>ACC 611</b> | Auditing Seminar  |
| ACC 620        | Accounting Controls and Information Systems                         |
| ACC 623        | International Accounting and Taxation                               |
| ACC 624        | Accounting for Governmental and Not-for-Profit Entities             |
| ACC 626        | Introduction to Forensic Accounting and Litigation Support Services |
| ACC 627        | Accounting Regulations & Compliance                                 |
| ACC 640        | Corporate Taxation 1  |
| ACC 641        | Corporate Taxation II   |
| ACC 642        | Seminar in Taxation   |
| ACC 662        | Taxation of Multinational Corporations                              |
| ACC 664        | Global Mergers and Acquisitions: Accounting and Related Issues      |
| <b>ACC 677</b> | Forensic Accounting   |
| ACC 699        | Directed Readings (Internal Auditing Internship)                    |
| BSL 675        | Advanced Business Law   |
| BSL 691        | The Public Corporation: Legal Perspectives                          |
| FIN 650        | Financial Investment  |
| FIN 670        | Corporate Finance   |
| <b>MAS 637</b> | <b>Applied Regression Analysis and Forecasting</b>                  |
| <b>MAS 639</b> | <b>Data Acquisition, Preparation and Visualization</b>              |
| <b>MAS 648</b> | <b>Data Mining</b>  |

**Total Credit Hours: 30**

### Master of Accounting—Corporate Accounting Track (MAcc-Corporate)

The program requires 30 semester hours provided the student has an undergraduate degree in accounting, or its equivalent, from an accredited institution. The program consists of seven required courses; the balance of elective courses will be approved by the Program Director, who will provide a pre-approved course list to the student at the beginning of the program. Unless otherwise noted, courses in the program are two semester hours (two credits).

#### Required Courses (13 credits)

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| ACC 606        | Internal Auditing                                       |
| ACC 610        | Financial Reporting Research                            |
| <b>ACC 628</b> | Introduction to Accounting Analytics                    |
| ACC 630/530    | International Financial Reporting Standards (1 credit)  |
| ACC 648        | Financial Reporting Implications of Income Taxes.       |
| ACC 672/572    | Advanced Financial Analysis                             |
| <b>BUS 610</b> | <b>Critical Thinking and Communication for Business</b> |

Additional Courses (17 credits) **The remaining courses will be selected from the following or other courses approved by the program director and a pre-approved list will be provided:**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>ACC 603</b> | Studies in Financial Reporting Issues                               |
| <b>ACC 604</b> | Seminar in Cost Accounting  |
| <b>ACC 611</b> | Auditing Seminar  |
| ACC 620        | Accounting Controls in Information Technology                       |
| ACC 622/522    | Advanced Issues in Auditing (3 credits)                             |
| ACC 623        | International Accounting and Taxation                               |
| ACC 624/524    | Accounting for Governmental and Not-for-Profit Entities             |
| ACC 626        | Introduction to Forensic Accounting and Litigation Support Services |
| ACC 627        | Accounting Regulations & Compliance                                 |
| ACC 640        | Corporate Taxation I  |
| ACC 641        | Corporate Taxation II   |
| ACC 642        | Seminar in Taxation   |
| ACC 662        | Taxation of Multinational Corporations                              |
| ACC 664        | Global Mergers and Acquisitions: Accounting and Related Issues      |
| ACC 677        | Forensic Accounting   |
| ACC 699        | Directed Readings (Internal Auditing Internship)                    |
| BSL 675        | Advanced Business Law   |
| BSL 691        | The Public Corporation: Legal Perspectives                          |
| FIN 650        | Financial Investment  |
| FIN 651        | Advanced Topics in Investments                                      |
| FIN 660        | International Finance   |
| <b>FIN 670</b> | Corporate Finance   |
| FIN 671        | Advanced Topics in Corporate Finance                                |
| FIN 674        | Financial Analysis of Mergers and Acquisitions                      |
| <b>MAS 637</b> | <b>Applied Regression Analysis and Forecasting</b>                  |
| <b>MAS 639</b> | <b>Data Acquisition, Preparation and Visualization</b>              |
| <b>MAS 648</b> | <b>Data Mining</b>  |

**Total Credit Hours: 30**

## Master of Science in Taxation (MST)

The MST program affords the accounting major or equivalent the opportunity to specialize in the area of taxation. The program requires 30 semester hours provided the student has an undergraduate degree in accounting, or its equivalent, from an accredited institution and has completed ACC 403 (Fundamentals of Taxation) and ACC 404 (Advanced Taxation), or their equivalents. Students who have taken only one tax course must take an advanced taxation course before enrolling in other graduate tax courses. The program consists of eight required courses; the balance of elective courses will be approved by the Program Director, who will provide a pre-approved course list to the student at the beginning of the program. Unless otherwise noted, courses in the program are two semester hours (two credits).

### Required Courses (15 credits)

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|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| ACC 610     | Financial Reporting Research                           |
| ACC 628     | Introduction to Accounting Analytics                   |
| ACC 630/530 | International Financial Reporting Standards (1 credit) |
| ACC 640     | Corporate Taxation 1                                   |
| ACC 643     | Tax Research   |
| ACC 645     | Partnership Taxation                                   |
| ACC 648     | Financial Reporting Implications of Income Taxes       |
| BUS 610     | Critical Thinking and Communication for Business       |

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Additional Courses (15 credits) **The remaining courses will be selected from the following or other courses approved by the program director and a pre-approved list will be provided:**

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|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| ACC 603     | Studies in Financial Reporting Issues                               |
| ACC 604     | Seminar in Cost Accounting  |
| ACC 606     | Internal Auditing   |
| ACC 611     | Auditing Seminar  |
| ACC 620     | Accounting Controls in Information Technology                       |
| ACC 622/522 | Advanced Issues in Auditing (3 credits)                             |
| ACC 623     | International Accounting and Taxation                               |
| ACC 624     | Accounting for Governmental and Not-for-Profit Entities             |
| ACC 626     | Introduction to Forensic Accounting and Litigation Support Services |
| ACC 627     | Accounting Regulations & Compliance                                 |
| ACC 641     | Corporate Taxation II   |
| ACC 642     | Seminar in Taxation   |
| ACC 662     | Taxation of Multinational Corporations                              |
| ACC 664     | Global Mergers and Acquisitions: Accounting and Related Issues      |
| ACC 672/572 | Advanced Financial Analysis   |
| ACC 677     | Forensic Accounting   |
| ACC 699     | Directed Readings (Internal Auditing Internship)                    |
| BSL 675     | Advanced Business Law   |
| BSL 691     | The Public Corporation: Legal Perspectives                          |
| FIN 650     | Financial Investment  |
| FIN 670     | Corporate Finance   |
| MAS 637     | Applied Regression Analysis and Forecasting                         |
| MAS 639     | Data Acquisition, Preparation and Visualization                     |
| MAS 648     | Data Mining   |

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**Total Credit Hours: 30**

**UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**  
**SCHOOL of BUSINESS**  
**ADMINISTRATION**

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MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Graduate Business Education Committee

**FROM:** Sundaresh Ramnath  
Chair, Department of Accounting

**SUBJECT:** Curriculum Change: Master of Accounting – Assurance Track  
Master of Accounting – Corporate Track  
Master of Science in Taxation

**DATE:** November 28, 2017

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The graduate curriculum committee of the Department of Accounting, with the support of the department, recommends the accompanying changes to the curriculum of the Master of Accounting (MACC) and Master of Science in Taxation (MST) programs. We have also obtained the suggestions and advice of the Curriculum Committee of the Accounting Advisory Board in redesigning the curricula.

Please let us know if you have questions. Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sundaresh Ramnath  
Chair, Department of Accounting