

**ACCOUNTING Ph.D. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**  
**KRANNERT GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**  
(revised March 2019)

**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 52400 (Applied Multivariate Analysis) or ECON 67100 (Econometrics I)
- ECON 61500 (Math Analysis for Economists)
- ECON 60600 (The Theory of Microeconomics) or an equivalent course
- ECON 60700 (The Theory of Microeconomics) or an equivalent course

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 should 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 51400 (Design of Experiments); and either STAT 52000 (Time Series and Applications) or STAT 52200 (Sampling and Survey Techniques). With approval of the area academic advisor, students can substitute ECON 67400 (Microeconometrics) for STAT 52400 and ECON 67300 (Times Series Econometrics) for STAT 52000 if the student chooses to take a time series course instead of Sampling and Survey Techniques.

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.php](http://www.stat.purdue.edu/academic_programs/graduate/nondegree.php).

Students opting for the Analytical Track are required to take ECON 61000 (Game Theory) and either MATH 50400 (Real Analysis) or 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 for Accounting Doctoral Students**

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 Year 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 graduate faculty in Accounting) as quickly as possible, no later than the end of May of the student's first year. Before beginning work on the paper, 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 rare 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 will consist of two parts: (1) a replication of a published paper, and (2) description of two extensions to the paper that the student replicated. The student should identify a faculty advisor for this paper (a member of the graduate faculty in Accounting) as quickly as possible, no later than the end of May of the student's second year. Note that the student is not required to choose the same faculty advisor for both summer papers. The paper must be submitted to the student's faculty advisor and the Accounting Academic Advisor no later than the first day of classes in the following fall semester and must be presented in the Accounting Workshop (MGMT 69000) before October 1 of that semester. The graduate faculty in Accounting will evaluate the paper and the presentation.

In rare cases, with the approval of the faculty advisor, the student may deviate from the standard Second Year Summer paper and instead complete an original paper. That paper must also be submitted to the student's faculty advisor and the Accounting Academic Advisor no later than the first day of classes in the following fall semester and must be presented in the Accounting Workshop (MGMT 69000) before October 1 of that semester. The graduate faculty in Accounting will evaluate the paper and the 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 and defending their dissertation proposal within 12 months of passing the Preliminary Examination. The committee should consist of at least 4 graduate 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 funded Accounting doctoral students are required to provide teaching assistance for an accounting course or courses early in the doctoral program. The course or courses will be chosen based on the student's chosen field of study, expertise and experience in conjunction with the Accounting Academic Advisor's and Accounting Area Head's input. As they complete their doctoral studies, funded students are required to teach at least one section of introductory financial or managerial accounting per academic year on their own. Exceptions to the above may be made based on the student's expertise and the Accounting Area's needs.

### **Accounting Workshop Requirement**

All Accounting doctoral students, regardless of their year of study in the program, must register for MGMT 69000 (Accounting Research Workshop) every semester. This course is offered as Pass/No Pass (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.

### **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 fourth year, assuming they make satisfactory progress and unless otherwise noted in their initial funding letter.
- (b) The Accounting faculty may recommend fifth year funding if the student is continuing to make satisfactory progress on research and would benefit from an additional year in the program. If a student is awarded fifth year funding, he/she should expect to teach for at least part of that year.
- (c) No student will be funded beyond their fifth year in the program.

### **Effective Date**

This revised document becomes effective for all Accounting entering doctoral students as of fall semester 2019.

## APPENDIX

### 1. Summary for Course Requirements

<b>Common to both the Empirical and Analytical Tracks</b>	
<b>Complete the Applied Statistics Research Methods Topic.</b>	
<b>Complete an additional Research Methods Topic (with a minimum of 15 credit hours in total for the two Research Methods Topics).</b>	
<b>Economics</b>	ECON 60600 (Microeconomic Theory) or equivalent course ECON 60700 (Microeconomic Theory) or equivalent course ECON 61500 (Math Analysis for Economists)

	<b>Empirical Track</b>	<b>Analytical Track</b>
<b>Specialization Courses</b>	STAT 52400 (Applied Multivariate Analysis) or ECON 67100 (Econometrics I)  STAT 52000 (Time Series and Applications) or ECON 67300 (Times Series Econometrics) or STAT 52200 (Survey and Sampling Techniques)	ECON 61000 (Game Theory) MATH 50400 (Real Analysis) MATH 54400 (Real Analysis and Measure Theory)
	STAT 51400 (Design of Experiments)	
	STAT 50600 (Statistical Programming and Data Management)	

<b>Common to both the Empirical and Analytical Tracks</b>	
<b>Research Writing Requirement</b>	First- and Second-Year Summer Research Papers
<b>Accounting Courses</b>	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.
<b>Minor Area</b>	2 Courses (6 credit hours)
<b>Electives</b>	Appropriate for the student's plan of study
<b>Accounting Workshop</b>	MGMT 69000 (Accounting Research Workshop) every semester

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

**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:

	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	ECON 60600 or equivalent course ECON 60700 or equivalent course ECON 61500 STAT 50600 STAT 51100 or ECON 67000  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop  Research or Teaching Assistant (RA or TA) Assignment	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 69000 Accounting Research Workshop  RA or TA Assignment	First Year Summer Paper   RA or TA Assignment
<b>Year 2</b>	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 69000 Accounting Research Workshop RA or TA Assignment	MGMT 60800 (MGMT 60600) STAT 52200 or STAT 52000 (or ECON 67300) STAT 51400  One additional class to meet Minor Area, Elective or Graduate Certificate in Applied Statistics requirements  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop RA or TA Assignment	Second Year Summer Paper   RA or TA Assignment
<b>Year 3</b>	MGMT 60900 (MGMT 60700) Any remaining courses RA or TA Assignment	RA or TA Assignment	Teaching

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. Also note that funded students will serve as the sole instructor for independent sections of introductory (or advanced, depending on the student's skills and interests) accounting courses during their third and fourth summers in the doctoral program.



**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:

	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	ECON 60600 or equivalent course ECON 60700 or equivalent course ECON 61500 STAT 50600 STAT 51100 or ECON 67000  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop  Research or Teaching Assistant (RA or TA) Assignment	MGMT 60600 (MGMT 60800) MATH 50400 STAT 51200 or ECON 67100 and 67200  One additional class to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop  RA or TA Assignment	First Year Summer Paper     RA or TA Assignment
<b>Year 2</b>	MGMT 60700 (MGMT 60900) MATH 54400 STAT 52400 or ECON 67400  Two additional classes to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop RA or TA Assignment	MGMT 60800 (MGMT 60600) ECON 61000  Two additional classes to meet Minor Area or Elective requirements  MGMT 69000 Accounting Research Workshop RA or TA Assignment	Second Year Summer Paper    RA or TA Assignment
<b>Year 3</b>	MGMT 60900 (MGMT 60700) Any remaining courses RA or TA Assignment	RA or TA Assignment	Teaching

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. Also note that funded students will serve as the sole instructor for independent sections of introductory (or advanced, depending on the student's skills and interests) accounting courses during their third and fourth summers in the doctoral program.