

# Forensic Accounting

The term “forensic” means “used in legal proceedings.” The two components of forensic accounting are litigation support and investigative accounting. The forensic accountant is the bloodhound of the accounting profession sniffing out complex fraud shenanigans that other types of accountants often fail to detect. The preparation of students at Guilford College is designed to broaden one’s critical thinking skills through exposure to a solid liberal arts education as well as technical training. Graduates of this program can seek a career in public accounting, internal auditing, corporate accounting, the FBI, the IRS or many other types of businesses that have established forensic accounting departments.

A forensic accounting major will provide students with the skills necessary to determine techniques to prevent and detect fraud, apply analytical techniques and computer digital techniques to detect fraud, provide expert interviewing skills of possible fraud perpetrators and know the legal environment so one will be able to gather evidence legally and be capable of testifying as an expert witness in the prosecution of a fraud case. A forensic accountant must develop a wide array of skills. One must be capable of analyzing potential fraud indicators, sniffing out evidence to support a fraud hypothesis, understand human behavior that might lead to fraud and developing excellent oral and written communication skills Guilford College provides a liberal arts education that will develop all of these skills for a forensic accountant graduate.

## Why Guilford College?

Consistently rated nationally by *The Princeton Review* as well as being one of the 40 colleges in *Colleges that Change Lives* by Loren Pope, Guilford College inspires each student to achieve excellence through an engaging community, rooted in Quaker values, which nurtures creativity and social responsibility.

## What can a Guilford education offer you?

- An urban setting near other colleges & universities with an area student population of over 27,000 students
- A consortium agreement with University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro College, Bennett College, North Carolina A&T State University, Elon University and High Point University provides students with access to courses free of charge
- A college mission statement & core values based on, and consistent with, Quaker testimonies. Guilford’s core values are: Community, Diversity, Equality, Excellence, Integrity, Justice & Stewardship
- A challenging academic program which emphasizes not only academic tracks and the learning process, but also the interconnection between curricular and co-curricular pursuits
- A diverse student population providing a stimulating peer environment
- Excellent study abroad programs in China, England, France, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Scotland, Spain, and Wales

## The academic program in Forensic Accounting

The Bachelor of Science degree is offered in Forensic Accounting.  
A minor is offered in Accounting.

## Required courses for the Forensic Accounting major

The entire major consists of 13 courses (52 credit hours): eight accounting courses and five Common Body of Knowledge courses. These courses will not only prepare a graduate for entry into the marketplace but will also prepare the graduate to take the Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE) exam which is a recognized certification for this field of study.

The eight accounting courses are ACCT201,301,302,310,320,330,411 and 412.

The five common body of knowledge courses are BUS215,BUS241,IDS402,JPS/PSY270 and one of the following courses JPS200, PSY232, SOAN101 or SOAN103.

**CPA Examination.** Guilford College accounting graduates may sit for the CPA Examination in North Carolina in the semester in which they graduate.

**Approach to the 150-Hour Requirement.** Most states now require 150 semester hours of coursework to complete the educational requirement for a CPA license. Since Guilford students normally graduate with 128 semester hours of credit, the Accounting Department offers a series of five two-semester-hour credit modules of accounting related topics so that our students may graduate with 138 semester hours of credit. This program permits a full-time traditional student to register for an extra two hours of college credit (for free) in each of the last five semesters at the college. These modules are taught on DVD and on an independent study basis. The major advantage of the 138-hour program is that it allows the student to attend summer school for one summer, complete the 150-hour requirement and save the cost of a fifth year of college. Under this program, a Guilford accounting major may graduate with a degree in accounting, sit for the CPA Exam and complete the 150-hour requirement within four years and a summer of study.

## **Where do graduates go?**

- Public Accounting
- Internal Auditing
- Corporate Accounting
- FBI
- IRS
- Businesses that have established forensic accounting departments.

## **Faculty**

William A. Grubbs, Sulon Bibb Stedman Professor of Accounting, Chair; [bgrubbs@guilford.edu](mailto:bgrubbs@guilford.edu)

Raymond E. Johnson, Associate Professor, Coordinator of Accounting Minor; [rjohnson@guilford.edu](mailto:rjohnson@guilford.edu)

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Beth Parks, Visiting Assistant Professor

**For additional information about Forensic Accounting at Guilford College visit [www.guilford.edu/academics](http://www.guilford.edu/academics)**

