Educational Requirements for California CPA Licensure

Impact on for Menlo Accounting Majors Pursuing CPA

#1 - 24 units of Accounting Subjects, which includes:

- Accounting
- Auditing
- Taxation
- Financial Reporting
- Financial Statement Analysis
- External & Internal Reporting

Menlo courses that fit into this category are:

1) ACC 201 – Principles of Financial Accounting*
2) ACC 202 – Principles of Managerial Accounting*
3) ACC 300 – Accounting Ethics**
4) ACC 301 – Intermediate Financial Accounting I*
5) ACC 302 – Intermediate Financial Accounting II*
6) ACC 311 – Systems and Software for Accounting*
7) ACC 321 – Tax Accounting: Individual*
8) ACC 322 – Tax Accounting: Business*
9) ACC 410 – Advanced Accounting*
10) ACC 412 – Cost Accounting*
11) ACC 420 – Auditing*
12) ACC 499 – Accounting Internship***

*Required for Menlo Accounting Degree total of 30 units required
**Required for CPA licensure, if desired to pursue it
*** Either ACC 499 or INT-A 499 internship is required

Summary of “Accounting Subject” Requirements as it Applies to Menlo Accounting Students

If you take all of the required courses for Menlo’s accounting program, you earn 30 units and meet the 24 unit requirement for accounting subjects in California (but see Accounting Study and Ethics requirements below as you will need the extra credits to meet those requirements). (Course highlighted in yellow are suggested as those to be used to meet the Accounting Subject requirement.)
#2 - 24 units of Business-Related Subjects, which includes:

- Business Admin.  
- Economics  
- Marketing  
- Computer Science  
  & Info Systems 

- Business Mgt.  
- Finance  
- Statistics  
- Business-related law courses at a law school 

- Business Communications  
- Business Law  
- Mathematics  
- Any accounting subjects in excess of 24 units needed to fulfill above accounting requirement 

Menlo courses required for a business degree that fit into this category are (total of 39 units)

- MGT 101 – Discovering Business 
- ECO 200 – Macroeconomics & the Global Economy 
- ECO 201 – Microeconomics 
- MTH 251 – Statistics 
- IMG 300 – International Management 
- MGT 317 – Organizational Behavior* 
- MKT 316 – Principles of Marketing 
- MCM 333 – Business Communication 
- MGT 313 – Operations Management 
- MGT 206 – The Legal Environment of Business* 
- FIN 320 – Financial Management 1** 
- MGT 327 – Business Ethics* 
- MGT 400/401 – Senior Capstone: Global Strategies or Launching the Venture** 

* Need to be used to meet Ethics requirements (see below)  
** Use for Section #3 requirement to fulfill additional Business-related courses 

Summary of “Business-Related Subjects” Requirements as it Applies to Menlo Accounting Students

If you take all the required courses for your Accounting degree, you more than meet this requirement. However, Organizational Behavior, The Legal Environment of Business and Business Ethics can (and will need to) be used to meet the Ethics requirements below, leaving 30 units to meet the 24 unit requirement in this category. For a Menlo student, courses highlighted in yellow can be used to meet the Business-Related Subject requirement.
#3 – 20 Units of Accounting Study, which includes:

- Minimum of 6 units in Accounting Subjects (see above)...not including those to meet the 24 unit Accounting Subject requirement itself.
- Maximum of 14 units in Business-Related subjects (see above)
- Maximum of 4 units in Internships
- Maximum of 9 units in other academic work relevant to business and accounting (maximum 3 units from any one area)
  - Skills-based courses (English, Communications, Journalism, and Physical, Life, Natural & Social Sciences)
  - Foreign languages/Cultural & Ethnic Studies (Foreign language courses and courses with the terms “culture”, “cultural” or “ethnic” in the titles)
  - Industry-based courses (Courses with the words “industry” or “administration” in the title or courses completed in the following disciplines: Engineering, Architecture, and Real Estate

(Completion of a Masters in Accounting, Taxation, or Laws in Taxation is equivalent to 20 semester units of accounting study)

Summary of “Accounting Study” Requirements as it Applies to Menlo Accounting Students

For a Menlo Student, the accounting major requirement totals to 30 units which means a Menlo Student has fulfilled the 24 units for #1 and 6 additional units. This 6 additional units plus 4 units of an Accounting Internship (ACC 499) should be used towards this requirement of “minimum of 6 units in Accounting Subjects” stated above.

The remaining 10 units for Section #3 can come from 6 units in Section #2 (FIN 320 and MGT 400/401) and 4 units from any of the following Menlo-required courses:

3 - ENG 101 or ENG 102 (not both)
3 - Foreign language course
3 – Natural Science course
3 – Social Science course
Capstone (MGT 400/401)
Financial Management 1 (FIN 320)

All of the above 6 courses are required by Menlo. Some other Menlo courses fit this category, but the above Menlo-required courses are enough to meet the CPA requirement.
#4 – 10 units of Ethics Study, which includes: After January 1, 2017, 3 units of Accounting Ethics (ACC 300) plus 7 units of additional ethics courses are required to fulfill Section #4.

- Until January 1, 2017, courses containing any of the following terms in the course title can be used to meet the 10 unit requirement (SEE NOTE IN CAPS BELOW….after January 1, 2017 only 7 units can come from the below category):
  - Auditing
  - Business Leadership
  - Corporate Governance
  - Ethics
  - Human Resources Management
  - Management of Organizations
  - Organizational Behavior

- Business, Government and Society
- Business Law
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Fraud
- Legal Environment of Business
- Morals
- Professional Responsibilities

- Maximum 3 units in courses from the following disciplines:
  - Philosophy
  - Religion
  - Theology

Course title must contain one of the following words or terms, or the sole name in the course title is the name of the discipline:

- Introduction
- General
- Fundamental of
- Survey of

- Introductory
- Principles of
- Foundations of

- Maximum of one semester unit in a course devoted solely to financial statement auditing

**Summary of “Ethics” Requirements as it Applies to Menlo Accounting Students**

*Accounting Ethics (ACC 300), Organizational Behavior (MGT 317), The Legal Environment of Business (MGT 206) and Business Ethics (MGT 327) can be used to meet the 10 credits of this requirement. Since the Menlo Student will have 12 units the extra units can be used to complete the necessary 150 units.*

**Overall Summary – What Does the CPA Requirements Mean for a Menlo Student who wants to pursue it?**

Meeting the normal curriculum requirements for a Menlo Accounting Major will also meet the above four categories required by the California State Board. To meet the 150-unit requirement, additional credits (which can be outside of the above four categories) will need to be taken to reach the 150-units vs. the normal 124-hour requirement to graduate from Menlo College.

Note that Accounting Ethics (ACC 300) is required for the CPA Track only and must earn 144 units to graduate. The Accounting Track requires 124 units to graduate.