



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Scoil Ghnó agus
Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes
J.E. Cairnes School of
Business and Economics

Master of *Accounting*

THE

Awards
2025

Shortlisted

Business School of the Year

University
of Galway.ie



Your Fast Track to Becoming a *Chartered Accountant*

The Master of Accounting (MAcc) programme at the University of Galway, the syllabus of which has been designed in consultation with Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI), offers a fast-track to becoming a chartered accountant.

Graduates receive full exemptions from CAI's CAP2 examinations, assuming they have exemptions from CAP1 exams before starting the MAcc. The programme has a strong track record of success, with alumni achieving top positions in professional exams.

A distinctive feature of the MAcc programme is its two specialised summer schools held in May/June, which cover contemporary topics delivered by industry leaders. Topics and participants can vary from year to year.

In 2025, KPMG led a summer school on "Analytics in Accounting and Auditing," exploring software and data-driven audit techniques. A second school led summer school "Disruptive Technologies" included robotic process automation, machine learning, AI, and cybersecurity using RPA software, available under the Academic alliance with software provider UiPath.

The MAcc programme not only imparts advanced accounting knowledge but **also enhances interdisciplinary and interpersonal skills critical for professional success**. With an emphasis on small class sizes, the programme offers personalised support and mentoring from lecturers, along with opportunities for developing collaborative skills valued by employers.





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Discover *your potential*



Why *choose* this course?

- **Reputation and Location:** Study at a top-ranked university in the vibrant city of Galway, known for its lively cultural scene and strong community spirit.
- **CAI Exemptions:** Fast-track your path to becoming a chartered accountant with full CAP2 exemptions from Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI) exams.
- **Proven Graduate Success:** Join a programme where graduates consistently achieve top positions in professional exams, demonstrating the high quality of education.
- **Specialised Summer Schools:** Participate in cutting-edge summer schools, such as Disruptive Technologies or KPMG Led Analytics in Accounting and Auditing.
- **Supportive Environment:** Benefit from a small class size for personalised support and mentoring, with strong industry connections leading to diverse career opportunities.
- **Employer Sponsorship:** Many students receive sponsorship and subsequent employment from leading firms such as KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Deloitte, and EY.



Summer Schools

Learning delivered by *Industry Leaders*

Summer school #1:

Analytics in Accounting and Auditing, delivered by KPMG (2025)

This summer school aimed to give participants a rich understanding of the use of software and cognitive technologies to analyse audit and accounting data. The summer school demonstrated KPMG tools which were developed to harness the power of technology and bring greater vigour, precision and meaningful insights to the increasing age of data. Students were provided with an opportunity to see how data and analytics are used in a practical setting, bringing meaning, life and understanding into accounting information.

Summer school #2:

Disruptive Technologies (2025)

This immersive summer school module provided students with an in-depth exploration of the technological forces transforming how modern organisations operate and perform.

Students got to explore machine learning, generative AI, advanced analytics, and hands-on robotic process automation (RPA) - tools that are redefining management and performance evaluation across industries - using UiPath software, available through an Academic Alliance.

Note: Summer School Topics may change from year to year



Leading *the future*

Join a globally recognised institution ranked among the best for sustainability, and study on a campus committed to creating a greener future. Imagine earning a MSc degree that not only equips you with cutting-edge skills but also aligns with your values of environmental stewardship.

Our business programmes are designed to foster innovation and leadership, preparing you to excel in today's competitive market. The University offers a unique blend of academic excellence, practical experience, and a sustainable campus environment, making it the ideal choice for future business leaders.

Envision your career flourishing as you benefit from our world-class faculty and strong industry connections.



Top 2%



University of Galway Sustainability Rankings and Accolades

University of Galway has been named the **#1 university in Ireland** for sustainable development for a third year in a row, we are ranked **3rd in Europe and ranked 64th in the world** by *Times Higher Education THE Impact Rankings 2025*. The accolade has been awarded in recognition of the University's progress in responding to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We are the first University to make the list as a Sustainable Development Goal Ambassador for 2024-25, chosen from across society as leaders in driving forward Ireland's progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



University of Galway has been ranked **1st in Ireland** for Sustainable Development for a third year in a row by the Times Higher Education The Impact Rankings 2025



University of Galway has been ranked **3rd in Europe and 64th in the world** for Sustainable development by the Times Higher Education The Impact Rankings 2025



University of Galway is ranked **64th in the world** in the 6th edition of the Times Higher Education (THE) World IMPACT Rankings 2025



University of Galway is ranked **38th in the world for SDG 3** in the 2025 Times Higher Education Societal Impact Rankings

Exploring the Master of Accounting

Testimonials

“ The Master of Accounting degree at University of Galway has been incredibly valuable to my career. The course gave me the opportunity to develop various skills such as research and writing skills from attempting various assignments. As well as this the module “Skills for Accounting Research and Practice” gives students the opportunity to review case studies which I am sure will be of an advantage to me when sitting my FAE’S. The course is taught by a number of brilliant lecturers who have vast amounts of experience in their fields. Each lecturer puts so much time and effort into the preparation and delivery of each module. They provide you with some brilliant real-life examples, drawing on their own experience, making it very easy to understand and apply the content.”

Alisha Mullins

Audit Associate
Deloitte



“ This programme offers insightful information on what a professional accountant does. It gives you the abilities you need to succeed as an accountant when you enter the workforce and you are able to gain full CAP 2 exemptions as a result of taking this course. The modules are both challenging and engaging. The J.E. Cairnes Building has excellent facilities, and the resources offered are excellent. The lecturers and teaching staff go above and beyond to assist students with any problems or concerns that may occur. They are always eager and willing to do so. Being awarded the J.E. Cairnes scholarship has greatly reduced the financial strain brought on by the cost of the course. I would highly recommend this course to anyone who is considering it. “

Niamh Irvine

Master of Accounting
Scholar



Schedule of Modules

Semester 1

Core Modules (45 Credits)

- [AY5104: Investment and Financing Decisions - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5103: Management Accounting - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5116: Auditing I - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5118: Advanced Financial Reporting I - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5100: Taxation I - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY518: Research Project - 20 Credits](#)

Optional Modules (5 Credits needed)

- [MG571: Strategic Management - 5 Credits](#)
- [MS5128: Decision Theory, AI and Analytics - 5 Credits](#)

Semester 2

Core Modules (40 Credits)

- [AY5140: Management Control for Sustainable Organizations - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5117: Auditing II - 10 Credits](#)
- [AY5105: Corporate Finance - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5101: Taxation II - 5 Credits](#)
- [AY5119: Advanced Financial Reporting II - 10 Credits](#)
- [AY537: Skills for Accounting Research and Practice - 5 Credits](#)

List of modules is indicative and subject to change

Click on individual modules for course module information

Programme Learning Outcomes



Apply effective decision making to global business problems.



Analyse and solve corporate finance and investment problems using the techniques, practices, and theory of corporate finance



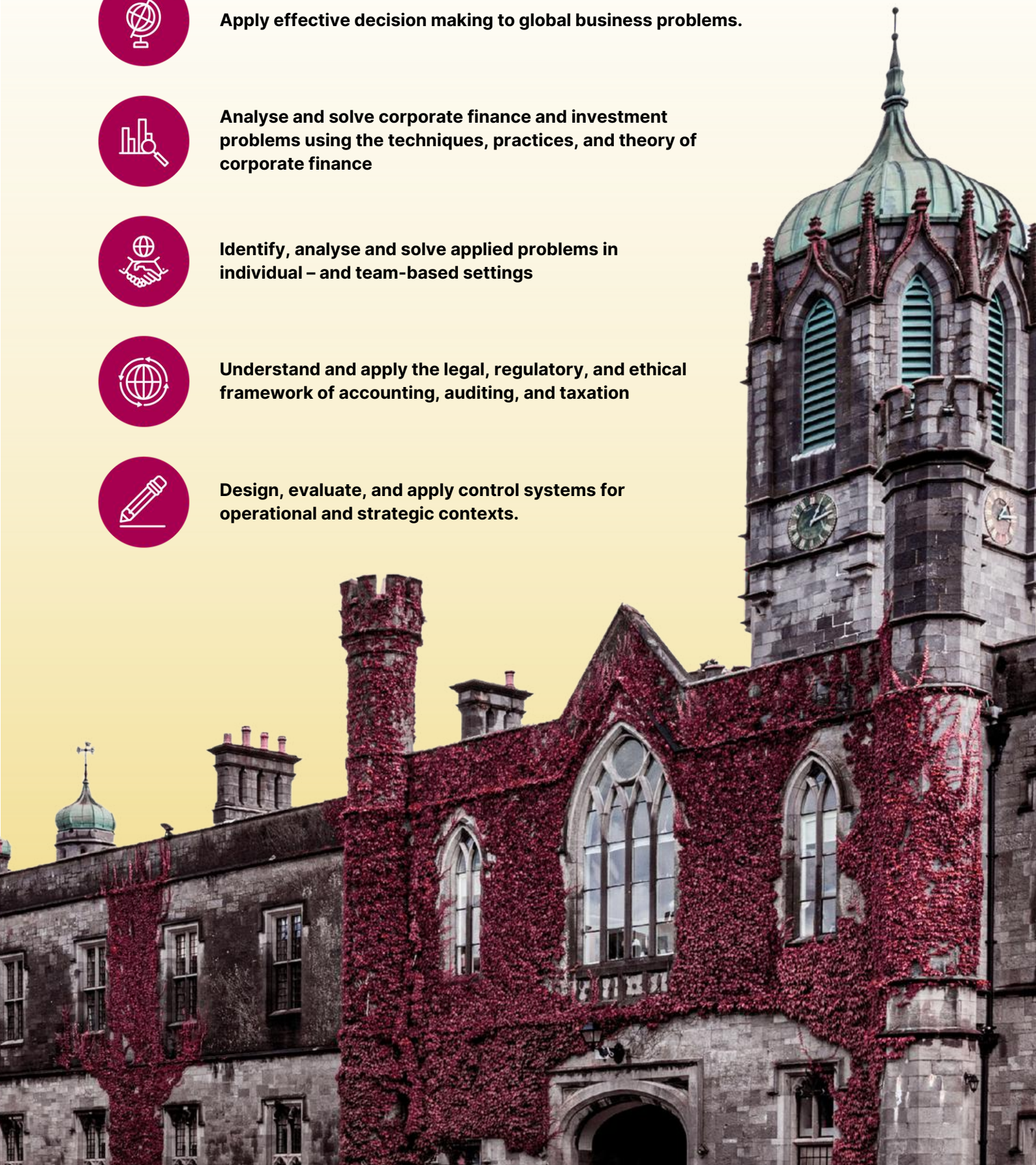
Identify, analyse and solve applied problems in individual – and team-based settings



Understand and apply the legal, regulatory, and ethical framework of accounting, auditing, and taxation



Design, evaluate, and apply control systems for operational and strategic contexts.



Admission

Duration

1 year
Full-time

Course Fees for Academic Year 2026/27

EU: €11,700

Non-EU: €20,400

Student Levy: €140

Note to non-EU students:

Learn about the 24-month Stayback Visa [here](#).

Entry Requirements

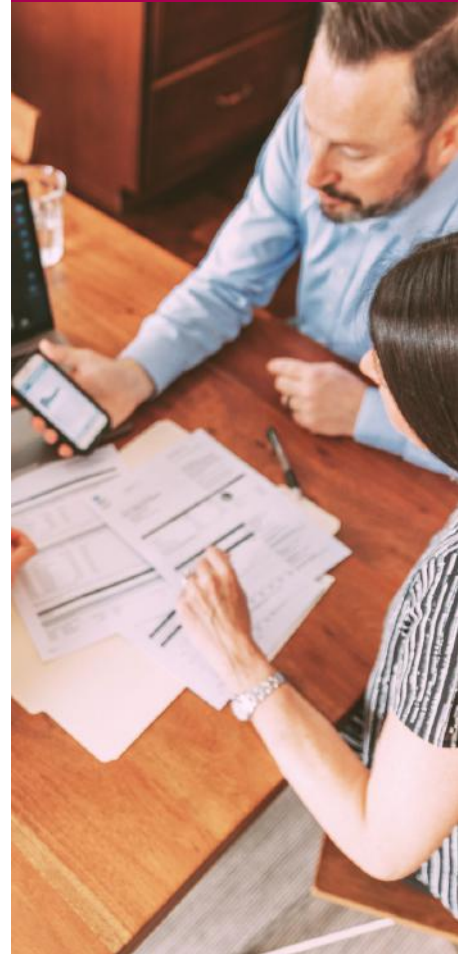
A H2.1 degree (NFQ Level 8 or equivalent) in Business or Commerce, with a significant specialisation in Accounting. IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent, if applicable. Students are required to have full (or nearly full) exemptions from the CAI's CAP1 examinations before embarking on the MAcc programme.



Find out More

Programme Director:
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Programme Administrator:
Ms Sharon Gilmartin
Ms Tracy Coloe Cloonan
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Learn More:



“ Since its inception, KPMG has sponsored students on the Master of Accounting programme. We are delighted with the results. In its graduates, KPMG looks for rounded individuals with well-developed thinking and interpersonal skills. We really notice these skills in those who have completed the Master of Accounting at University of Galway. It is the combined focus on technical skills development and personal development that we believe prepares students well for a career in business ”

Industry Testimonial

Colm Gorman

Head of People

KPMG Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMA) &
KPMG Ireland

