

ACCOUNTING



Kristin Krawchuk discovered her interest in accounting in a roundabout way. At first, international business was her direction because of her keen interest in languages. Then, she considered majoring in math. Ultimately, it was accounting that offered her a good balance of business knowledge and math skills that she could apply in the real world.

"I was into business in high school," explains Kristin, "so I knew that I wanted to major in this area, but I didn't know exactly which part. The way that the accounting program is set up at the College really appealed to me. It weeds out the people who shouldn't be there. But if you do your work and you try really hard, you can thrive. To me, that was important."

Almost immediately, Kristin found a strong mentor in her faculty advisor. "He's been my biggest supporter. He impressed on me how difficult it would be to get a job and how thoroughly I would have to prepare. I remember getting an email from him with a plan mapped out for the next three years. He listed the courses I should take and the internships I should pursue. After I got further into the program, I realized how crucial his advice was. At one point, I was negotiating with six or seven different companies for an internship, and that wouldn't have been possible without his help."

According to Kristin, a principal strength of the program is the opportunity it provides for internships that really matter. And she should know, she's had a handful. In one case, she spent the summer in the Cayman Islands, where she was in charge of a new account. "I helped set up all the accounting systems for that company, dealing with the legal contracts and the issuing of stock. I also developed all the materials for the company's first board meeting. Eventually, it led to a part-time job once school resumed, and later, a full-time offer."

Kristin plans to specialize in auditing. "In that kind of work, you're usually part of a team, and I really value the fact that our program has not only taught me numbers and systems, but it's also made me a better communicator. I think I'll be well prepared to succeed in this field when I graduate."

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

Our department maintains close working relationships with many businesses in the Southeastern U.S., meaning our students experience active recruitment for internships as well as full-time employment. Students take a range of accounting courses, including cost, tax, financial, audit and managerial.

Facts

Our program is fully accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International).

Curriculum includes courses in financial accounting, managerial accounting, taxation, accounting information systems and auditing, as well as management, marketing and finance.

Our faculty members' areas of specialization include: financial reporting, accounting information systems, accounting theory, internal auditing, taxation and regulatory capture, accounting history, commercial law, international business law, managerial accounting, not-for-profit accounting, and the evolution of accounting and economic thought.

Opportunities

Our program can prepare you for certification as a certified public accountant (CPA), a certified management accountant (CMA), a certified fraud examiner (CFE) and a certified internal auditor (CIA).

The Department of Accounting and Legal Studies offers a bachelors degree in accounting and a masters degree in accountancy.