**Mission:**

The mission of the MS in Accounting is to develop students into leaders in their chosen field in the profession of accounting. Students will be prepared to thrive in the constantly changing accounting environment. Ethics, business communication, global awareness, and critical thinking will be significant components of the degree program.

**Goals:**

Goal 1: Professional accounting knowledge

* Accounting knowledge Students will know and demonstrate knowledge of:

1) generally accepted accounting principles

2) generally accepted auditing standards

3) U.S. tax law

* Professional standards Students will be able to explain, compare, and contrast the professional standards of the major bodies that regulate the practice of accounting.
* Application Students will be able to apply the accounting knowledge and professional standards using available research tools to a given accounting problem.

Goal 2. Critical thinking

* Students will be able to analyze an accounting problem, critique alternative solutions, and defend their chosen solution.

Goal 3. Business environment

* Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the global business environment.
* Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the ethical foundations of business behavior.

Goal 4. Professional communication

* Students will be able to prepare communications commonly used within the profession.
* Students will be able to prepare communications for the dissemination of information to non-accountants who use accounting information.

**Learning outcomes:**

Professional accounting knowledge

1. Students will be able to identify and describe the foundational principles of GAAP, GAAS, and US Tax law.

 2. Students will be able to compare and contrast the professional standards set forth by the governing bodies of accounting practice.

 3. Students will be able to apply the accounting standards and the professional standards to practical accounting problems.

Critical thinking

 1. Students will be able to identify alternative solutions to accounting or ethical situations.

 2. Students will evaluate alternative solutions and defend their chosen solution.

Business environment

 1. Students will demonstrate a general knowledge of the global business environment.

 2. Students will be able to identify an ethical problem, formulate a set of possible solutions, and select a solution.

Professional communication

 1. Students will be able to compose professional communications in an audience-appropriate format.