



2022-2023 Graduate Academic Catalog Addendum

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College of Arts and Sciences

C. David Ragsdale, D.M.A – Dean

The programs below were approved by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education following the publication of the 2022-23 Graduate Academic Catalog. Please refer to the 2022-23 College of Arts and Sciences catalog section for additional degree and certificate options.

Program Name	Degree(s) Available
<u>Master of Science in Computer Science: Non-Thesis Track</u>	Yes
<u>Master of Science in Computer Science: Thesis Track</u>	Yes

The current listings of [Faculty and Staff in the College of Art and Sciences](#) and [Faculty and Staff in the University Library](#) can be found on the Athens State University website.

Computer Science

The Master of Science degree program in Computer Science prepares students to be more productive in the computing field. Students in the degree program will gain a broad perspective of the computing field through a collection of core courses in computer science and focus on areas of emphasis in Software and Systems, Data and Visualization, Artificial Intelligence, and Communications and Cybersecurity. Two tracks are offered in the program: a project track and a thesis track.

Master of Science in Computer Science: Non-Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Computer Science Non-Thesis Track:

Applicable General University Requirements for Graduate Programs

Students earning the Master of Science degree in Computer Science must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Computer Science Core Course Requirements

	Computer Science Core Courses	Hours
	CS 514 Programming Language Theory	3
	CS 518 Advanced Object-Oriented Programming	3
	CS 575 Theory of Computation	3
	CS 551 Advanced Software Engineering and Methods	3
	Select TWO elective groupings Software and Systems: CS 509 Advanced Computer Architecture CS 515 Operation Systems Design and Implementation CS 516 Embedded Systems Design and Implementation Data and Visualization (Choose 3): CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Retrieval CS 523 Computer Graphics and Image Processing ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Artificial Intelligence: CS 585 Intelligent Systems: Theory, Design and Implementation CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation CS 586 Machine Learning: Theory and Methods Communications and Cybersecurity (Choose 3): CS 530 Principles of Computer Communication and Networks CS 553 Secure Software Testing CS 584 Applied Cryptography ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	18
	Core Required Hours	30

Non-Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Computer Science Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Non-Thesis Track	
	Course	Hours
	CS 598 Project Design and Development	3-6

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Computer Science Non-Thesis Option	33-36

Master of Science in Computer Science: Thesis Track

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Computer Science Thesis Track:

Applicable General University Requirements for Graduate Programs

Students earning the Master of Science degree in Computer Science must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Computer Science Core Course Requirements

	Computer Science Core Courses	Hours
	CS 514 Programming Language Theory	3
	CS 518 Advanced Object-Oriented Programming	3
	CS 575 Theory of Computation	3
	CS 551 Advanced Software Engineering and Methods	3
	Select TWO elective groupings Software and Systems: CS 509 Advanced Computer Architecture CS 515 Operation Systems Design and Implementation CS 516 Embedded Systems Design and Implementation Data and Visualization (Choose 3): CS 513 Data Mining, Analysis, and Visualization CS 527 Advanced Database Systems and Information Retrieval CS 523 Computer Graphics and Image Processing ITE 525 Virtualization and Cloud Security Artificial Intelligence: CS 585 Intelligent Systems: Theory, Design and Implementation CS 577 Event Modeling and Simulation CS 586 Machine Learning: Theory and Methods Communications and Cybersecurity (Choose 3): CS 530 Principles of Computer Communication and Networks CS 553 Secure Software Testing CS 584 Applied Cryptography ITE 520 Cybersecurity Foundations	18
	Core Required Hours	30

Thesis Track Course Requirements

In addition to the Computer Science Core Course Requirements, students must complete the additional coursework for the Non-Thesis Track.

	Thesis Track	
	Course	Hours
	CS 597 Research Methods	3
	CS 599 Thesis	1-3

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Computer Science Thesis Option	33-36

		Hours
	Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science degree in Computer Science Thesis Option	34-36

College of Business

Gary Valcana, M.B.A., (ABD), SPHR, SHRM-SCP – Interim Dean

Athens State University’s College of Business is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), 11520 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66213.

The programs below were approved by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education following the publication of the 2022-23 Undergraduate Academic Catalog. Please refer to the 2022-23 College of Business catalog section for additional degree and certificate options, or the 2022-23 Minors catalog section for minor options.

Program Name	Degree(s) Available		Certificate Available
<u>Accountancy</u>			Yes
<u>Acquisition and Contract Management</u>	Yes		

The current listings of [Faculty and Staff in the College of Business](#) and [Faculty and Staff in the University Library](#) can be found on the Athens State University website.

College of Business – General Information

The mission of the College of Business is to offer programs of study to students that will prepare them for positions in business, finance, or government; enhance the professional development of those already employed; and provide an academic framework for graduate study leading to professional positions. The purpose of the College of Business is to provide quality education for all students, teaching them to think critically, to use technology efficiently, to be effective leaders, decision makers, and communicators; to maintain ethical standards, and to understand the global economy. To carry out its mission and support its purpose, the College of Business has established the following goals:

- Provide for continuous improvement of the programs within the College of Business in keeping with the standards set by Athens State University, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).
- Place excellence in teaching as the number one priority for serving students and for evaluating faculty.
- Encourage growth and diversity in the faculty and student body.
- Seek community and business relationships for advice and support of student and curriculum needs.
- Maintain cooperative relationships with other educational institutions to facilitate student transfer, maximize resource utilization and provide quality programs.
- Support a quality-based, equivalent learning environment for all students in all settings.
- Produce graduates who will be academically and professionally prepared by the quality teaching programs of the College of Business for work in an increasingly diverse, global environment.

Athens State University, through its College of Business, is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council of Business Schools and Programs to offer the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree with majors in accounting, acquisition and contract management, advanced manufacturing management, human resource management, information assurance, logistics and supply chain management, management, management of technology, and occupational health and safety management. The College of Business curriculum complies with the Common Professional Component (CPC) recommended by the ACBSP. Instruction offered by the College of Business is designed to assist in the preparation of competent and effective professionals in the areas of accounting and management. Students completing a degree program offered by the College of Business will possess the following skills and competencies:

- Demonstrated knowledge of core business concepts, theories and applications in the areas of accounting, finance, management, marketing, management information systems, global business, strategic management, and production.
- Demonstrated proficiency in the use of technology as it relates to business.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively apply critical-thinking skills to analyze business issues and financial data.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the global economy including an appreciation of diversity as it relates to business.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing.
- Demonstrated understanding and appreciation of ethical issues as it relates to business.
- Demonstrated understanding and ability to use effective managerial, leadership and group interaction techniques.

Distance Education

All College of Business majors are available online. All professional coursework for these majors may be completed via distance learning. However, if students have not completed all general education and pre-professional course requirements, the University cannot guarantee that all courses will be available in online formats. For further information regarding distance education, refer to the Academic Policies section in the Introduction and General Information portion of the catalog or the University website.

Assessment (Pre- and Post-Testing)

The College of Business, as a part of its continuous evaluation process, has implemented a program to assess the business knowledge levels of incoming students. This will be accomplished through a pre-test to be administered in a required course, MG 320 Organizational Communication. This course should be taken during a student's first term at Athens State University. A post-test will be administered in the capstone course, MG 420 Business Policy, which should be taken during a student's last term. An external benchmark post exam is administered in MG 480 Seminar in Business. In addition to the pre- and post-assessment related to knowledge of the core professional courses, business majors will also take a pre- and post-assessment designed to measure knowledge related to their specific major(s).

LiveText is a software platform used for creating an electronic portfolio, and is required in all "core" business courses (AC/MG 302, MG 320, MG 346, MG 350, MG 352, MG 390, MG 420, MG 480, and MK 331). Specified assignments in these courses will be placed in this portfolio and will be used in assessing student progress. This program will also provide students a digital professional development resource and a workspace for building and maintaining an online personal portfolio reflecting educational achievements, and may be used for developing career credentials. There is a one-time cost for this membership. Membership is available for up to five years.

Advising and Scheduling Information

Academic Advising

An Academic Advisor is assigned to each College of Business major by the Student Success Coach for the College of Business. After a student's transcript(s) have been received, a plan of study which reflects the transferred credit and the requirements for degree completion is available to the student and the advisor in Degree Works via the student's Athens State Online account. Students are encouraged to read **all** the information regarding degree requirements on the plan of study. Students should contact an advisor for any questions about the degree plan. Office hours are available on the College of Business website, along with telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Students may also contact the College of Business staff whenever assistance is needed.

Scheduling

Degree programs in the College of Business are developed to ensure that students who complete the programs possess the skills and competencies for successful careers or further academic study. To obtain the maximum benefit from the programs, some sequencing of courses is necessary.

Most business courses are offered each term, particularly the common core courses which are required in all College of Business majors (AC/MG 302, MG 320, MG 346, MG 350, MG 352, MG 390, MG 420, MG 480, and MK 331). However, some courses (particularly those which are required in only one program or minor) are offered less frequently. Observing the following guidelines will help you in efficient scheduling.

- Those courses in most demand (common core courses) are generally offered each term in multiple formats.
- Courses which are specific to only one program (or minor), may not be offered every term and/or in all formats.
- Sequential courses (especially accounting and statistics) must be taken in order, and may be offered on a rotating or alternating basis.

Students should plan accordingly and not wait until they are nearing the end of their program to begin scheduling the less frequently offered courses or sequential courses.

Special Scheduling Requirements

First Term:

The following course, which is required for all Business majors, MUST be taken in the student's first term at Athens State. MG 320 Organizational Communication (3 semester hours). This course includes an initial assessment as part of our required outcomes assessment plan.

The following courses, which are required for all Business majors, should be taken in the student's first term at Athens State. The content in these courses is essential preparation for other courses in the curriculum.

AC/MG 302 Management Information Systems (3 semester hours).

MG 346 Principles of Management and Leadership (3 semester hours).

Accounting majors should take AC 321 Intermediate Accounting I during the first term in which they are eligible to take the course at Athens State University.

Last Term:

The following courses (which are required in all Business majors) should be taken during the student's last term at Athens State.

MG 420 Business Policy (3 semester hours). This course is the capstone course which integrates content from all other core business courses. The required Assessment Exam is given in this course.

MG 480 Seminar in Business (2 semester hours). This course is taken at the end of a student's program. An external benchmark exam (post) is administered, and the electronic portfolio in LiveText is completed.

Prerequisites

Observance of prerequisites will ensure that students have the background knowledge to obtain the maximum benefit from the curriculum. Please consult the course descriptions section of this catalog for information on course prerequisites.

Degree Programs in the College of Business

General University Requirements for Graduation

Every student planning on completing an undergraduate degree/major program at Athens State University must satisfy all University requirements and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

To be eligible to receive an undergraduate degree, a student must:

- Complete a minimum of 124 semester hours with at least 25 percent of the degree requirements earned at Athens State University.
- Complete all of the general education and pre-professional courses (Areas I-V) required for the degree or major(s).
- Apply no more than 64 semester hours from a community college, excluding remedial courses (all courses taken will be transferred in but only 64 semester hours from a community college will be applicable toward an undergraduate degree).
- Complete all course requirements for the degree or major(s).
- Complete a minimum of 15 semester hours of upper level (300-400 level) coursework in the major at Athens State University, not including courses taken by reciprocal or visiting arrangements. **College or departmental regulations may require completion of more than 15 semester hours of coursework in the major at Athens State University. These degree-specific requirements are published in the appropriate degree/major section of the University catalog.**
- Attain a minimum institutional grade point average of 2.0 on all coursework attempted at Athens State University, and at least a 2.0 in the major field. **College or departmental regulations may require grade point averages higher than 2.0. These degree-specific requirements are published in the appropriate degree/major section of the University catalog.**
- When applicable, complete all course requirements for a minor with a minimum of six (6) semester hours of upper-level coursework in the minor from Athens State University. College or departmental regulations may require completion of more than six (6) semester hours of coursework in the minor at Athens State University. These specific requirements are published in the appropriate Minors section of the University catalog.
- Apply no more than 64 semester hours of non-traditional/non-graded college credit toward the degree.
- Complete the requirements for teacher certification (when applicable).

The rules, regulations, policies, fees and other charges, courses, programs of study, and academic requirements that appear in this catalog were in effect at the time of its publication and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information. The contents are published for informational purposes only, and do not constitute a contract between the University and any student, applicant for admission or other person. Statements regarding courses, programs of study, fees, and conditions are subject to change without advance notice.

Graduate Certificate of Accountancy

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Accountancy (a grade of “C” or better must be achieved on all required courses; please consult course descriptions for possible prerequisites):

Course	Hours
Choose 5 of the following courses:	
ACC 511 Government Contract Accounting I	3
ACC 512 Government Contract Accounting II	3
ACC 525 Accounting Information Systems	3
ACC 540 Accounting Analytics I	3
ACC 551 Forensic Accounting I	3
ACC 552 Forensic Accounting II	3
ACC 561 Tax Research	3
ACC 571 Advanced Cost Accounting	3
ACC 620 Internal Auditing	3
ACC 630 Financial Statement Analysis	3
ACC 640 Accounting Analytics II	3
ACC 650 Current Issues and Research in Accounting	3
ACC 660 Accounting Ethics	3
ACC 670 Corporate Controllershship	3
Total Required Hours	15

Acquisition and Contract Management

The Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management degree program is designed for professionals from diverse backgrounds seeking a degree that prepares them with the strategic decision-making skills necessary for management positions in any organization. The master's degree in acquisition and contract management focuses on procurement, contract negotiations, cost principles, and subcontract formulation, among other topics related to acquisition and contract management. The objective of the master's program in acquisition and contract management is to meet the demand of working professionals who are pursuing upward mobility within their organization. Career paths for individuals who earn a master's degree in acquisition and contract management vary widely as the program is suited for any individual who is advancing their career in the private, public, and military sector.

Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management

EACH STUDENT MUST ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE THAT IS BEING PURSUED.

Program components for the Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management:

Applicable General University Requirements for Graduate Programs

Students earning the Master of Science (MS) degree in Acquisition and Contract Management must satisfy all general University requirements or graduate programs and meet all financial obligations before a degree is awarded.

Acquisition and Contract Management Course Requirements

	Professional Courses	Hours
	ACC 511 Financial Accounting	3
	ACM 500 Procurement and Contract Management	3
	ACM 520 Advance Procurement and Contract Management	3
	ACM 525 Contract Changes, Terminations and Disputes	3
	ACM 540 Government Contract Law	3
	ACM 580 Cost Principles and Control	3
	ACM 620 Contract and Sub Contract Formulation	3
	ACM 630 Contract Negotiations and Incentive Contracts	3
	ACM 695 Capstone Research for Contract Management	3
	LSM 600 Supply Chain Governance	3
	LSM 601 Procurement and Materials Management	3
	Total Professional Requirement Hours:	33

	Hours
Total Minimum Hours Required for Completion of Master of Science in Acquisition and Contract Management	33

Course Descriptions

Acquisition and Contract Management (ACM)

- ACM 500 Procurement and Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Overviews in depth the federal acquisition process and introduces basic concepts, policies and procedures incident to government contracting through the FAR and supplementing directives.
- ACM 520 Advance Procurement and Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Covers principles, policies, concepts and procedures in management of contracts and subcontracts. Includes rules of interpretation, subcontracting terms and conditions, in-depth examination of significant contract clauses, patent/data provisions, risk allocation and assumption, impossibility of performance, product liability, warranties and claims.
- ACM 525 Contract Changes, Terminations and Disputes (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Uses case studies and lectures to examine in-depth the post-award management problems associated with contract administration. Covers contract changes, terminations, disputes and other issues.
- ACM 540 Government Contract Law (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Focuses on the method rather than the material. Uses the case method of study and basic source material to cover all facets of procurement law. Emphasizes legal methods, logic and the developmental concepts of procurement law.
- ACM 580 Cost Principles and Control (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
This course uses case studies and lectures to educate students on foundations for a compliant job cost accounting system, to include segregation of cost by contract, direct cost charging, indirect cost groupings and proper allocation bases, identifying unallowable costs, properly documenting expenses, and penalties for unallowable costs. Specific types of costs, identified in the FAR, that are often subject to misunderstanding or judgmental interpretation will be discussed in detail. The course will discuss recent or proposed changes to relevant regulations, as well as evolving trends in government contract audit interpretations of the cost allowability provisions of FAR.
- ACM 620 Contract and Sub Contract Formulation (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Studies in-depth the pre-award phase of the federal acquisition process. Uses class discussions and case studies to examine the management problems from the perspective of the contracting office, requiring activity, course, Congress and the contractors.
- ACM 630 Contract Negotiations and Incentive Contracts (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Explores, analyzes and discusses negotiation concepts and techniques, and places them into practice using mock negotiations. Examines all types of contracts.
- ACM 695 Capstone Research for Contract Management (3 Sem. Hrs.)**
Advanced study and research of topical government contract management issues. Involves a significant research paper or challenging capstone project to demonstrate mastery over the complete curriculum.