

**Fermanian School of Business**  
**Accounting Major PLO #A1 Assessment**  
**2023-2024**

**Learning Outcome:**

Accounting Major PLO #A1: Exhibit detailed knowledge of accounting and federal tax regulations.

**Outcome Measure:**

Accounting Major-Specific Exit Exam Results

**Criteria for Success:**

Score at or above 55 on the Accounting Major-Specific Exit Exam.

**Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):**

1. Specialized Knowledge
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning, and
5. Civic and Global Learning

**Longitudinal Data:**

**Accounting Major-Specific Exit Exam - Average Student Score:**

Semester	N <sup>1</sup>	Score
Spring 2018	17	59
Spring 2019	21	53.8
Spring 2021	13	54.2
Spring 2022	12	54.8
Spring 2023	19	52.3
Spring 2024	14	50.7

<sup>1</sup> Number of Students Taking Test

**Conclusions Drawn from Data:**

The Accounting Major-specific exit exam criteria for success was changed to 55 effective AY 21-22.

No data was collected in Spring 2020 due to Covid.

The criteria for success were not achieved in five of the six periods assessed.

Upon deeper analysis of the scores for Spring 2023, students' average scores were under the criteria for success in the following categories: Auditing (45.8); Internal Control and Cash (45.8) (closely related to auditing); Long-Term Liabilities, Bonds Payable, and Classification of Liabilities on the Balance Sheet (48.4); Taxation: Corporations (40.5); and Taxation: Individuals (46.3).

**Changes to be Made Based on Data:**

AY23-24 Accounting professors reviewed the data for opportunities to improve. The Auditing course, which covers the topics of Auditing and Internal Control and Cash, is being moved to the Master in Accounting program starting in AY 24-25. The course will be redesigned to bring it up to the graduate level, and hopefully, that will improve scores. This is also the case for Taxation: Corporations and Taxation: Individuals. AY23-24 added a new tax class, Principles of Taxation, at the junior level. Hopefully, this will help students gain foundational tax knowledge for this exit exam. The first group of students who will graduate under these changes will take the exam in Spring 2025. At this time, no further changes are required. Continue to monitor.

**Fermanian School of Business**  
**Accounting Major PLO #A2 Assessment**  
**2023-2024**

**Learning Outcome:**

Accounting Major PLO #A2: Prepare a set of consolidated financial statements using financial accounting knowledge.

**Outcome Measure:**

PLO #A2: ACC4021/5021 – Exam 2 Consolidation Problem - Implemented Fall 2021

**Criteria for Success:**

PLO #A2: The average score for each criteria of the Accounting Major PLO #A2 Rubric will be a 3.0 or higher out of 4.0.

**Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):**

1. Specialized Knowledge
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning, and
5. Civic and Global Learning

**Longitudinal Data:**

**Accounting Major PLO #A2 Rubric – Average Student Score:**

Semester	# of Assessments	Preparation of Consolidation Entries	Preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements	Total
Fall 2021	32	3.44	3.09	3.27
Fall 2022	40	3.60	3.25	3.43
Fall 2023	30	3.8	3.53	3.67

**Conclusions Drawn from Data:**

This PLO and related assessment was implemented in the Fall of 2021.

The criteria for success (average of 3.0 or higher out of 4.0) were met in all areas.

**Changes to be Made Based on Data:**

Data will continue to be collected and monitored in future semesters.

## ACCOUNTING MAJOR PLO #A2 RUBRIC

Point Loma Nazarene University Accounting Major Learning Outcome #A2: Prepare a set of consolidated financial statements using financial accounting knowledge.

Criteria	Excellent 4	Meets Expectations 3	Needs Improvement 2	Does Not Meet Expectations 1
<b>Preparation of Consolidation Entries</b>	The preparation of consolidation entries is accurate and shows an understanding of all elements of the eliminations required to consolidate two sets of financial statements.	The preparation of consolidation entries is mostly accurate and shows an understanding of most elements of the eliminations required to consolidate two sets of financial statements.	The preparation of consolidation entries is somewhat accurate and shows an understanding of some elements of the eliminations required to consolidate two sets of financial statements.	The preparation of consolidation entries is not accurate and does not show an understanding of the elements of the eliminations required to consolidate two sets of financial statements.
<b>Preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements</b>	Consolidated financial statements are correct and all sub-columns are correct.	Consolidated financial statements are mostly correct, most sub-columns are correct.	Consolidated financial statements are not correct, but some sub-columns are correct.	Consolidated financial statements are not correct and few, if any, sub-columns are correct.

Average Score: \_\_\_\_\_ (Total/# of criteria)

Note 1: All criteria are weighted equally

**Fermanian School of Business**  
**Accounting Major PLO #A3 Assessment**  
**2023-2024**

**Learning Outcome:**

Accounting Major PLO #A3: Evaluate tax positions and planning opportunities based on federal tax knowledge.

**Outcome Measure:**

PLO #A3: ACC4011 – Client Tax Letter

**Criteria for Success:**

PLO #A3: The average score for each criteria of the Accounting Major PLO #A3 Rubric will be a 3.0 or higher out of 4.0.

**Aligned with DQP Learning Areas (circle one or more but not all five):**

1. Specialized Knowledge
2. Broad Integrative Knowledge
3. Intellectual Skills/Core Competencies
4. Applied and Collaborative Learning, and
5. Civic and Global Learning

**Longitudinal Data:**

**Accounting Major PLO #A3 Rubric – Average Student Score:**

Semester	# of Assessments	Major Issues Identified	Friend's Advice	Alternatives and Recommendations	Total
Spring 2017	36	3.08	2.78	2.47	2.78
Spring 2018	34	3.47	3.21	3.47	3.38
Spring 2019	40	2.53	3.00	2.48	2.67
Spring 2020	38	2.79	2.92	2.63	2.78
Spring 2021	26	2.73	2.77	2.65	2.72
Spring 2022	28	3.36	3.46	3.04	3.29
Spring 2023	36	3.67	3.36	2.81	3.28
Spring 2024	28	3.54	3.54	3.14	3.4

**Conclusions Drawn from Data:**

The criteria for success (average of 3.0 or higher out of 4.0) was met in the rubric criteria area of Major Issues Identified and Friend's Advice in five of the eight semesters, including the three most recent. The average student score met the criteria for success in the area of Alternatives and Recommendations in three of the eight semesters. The total average met the criteria in four of the eight semesters, including the three most recent.

### **Changes to be Made Based on Data:**

In AY 21-22, the instructor continued to review and adjust course content, as necessary, in order to better prepare students to (1) identify major issues and (2) provide alternatives and recommendations as they relate to tax issues. In addition, the accounting faculty added technical writing exercises in ACC3070, ACC3071, and ACC4021 (all courses taken prior to ACC4011). As this change was partially implemented in Fall 2021 (ACC 4021 students from Fall 2021 took ACC 4011 in Spring 2022), it appears that Spring 2022 results were positively impacted by this change; however, the full impact of these changes is expected to be realized in AY 22-23. Data will continue to be collected, and all areas will be monitored.

In AY22-23, continued improvements were seen in students' abilities to identify the major issues. While a bit lower than AY 21-22, the quality of the friend's advice category still meets the threshold, and no changes are recommended as a result. Alternatives and recommendations fell below the criteria for success in AY22-23; however, they are still above the scores received before the addition of technical writing exercises in ACC 3070, ACC 3071, and ACC 4021.

In AY23-24, the criteria for success were met in all areas. As a result, no changes will be made, and the data will continue to be monitored.

## ACCOUNTING MAJOR PLO #A3 RUBRIC

Point Loma Nazarene University Accounting Major Learning Outcome #A3: Evaluate tax positions and planning opportunities based on federal tax knowledge.

Criteria	<b>Excellent 4</b>	<b>Meets Expectations 3</b>	<b>Needs Improvement 2</b>	<b>Does Not Meet Expectations 1</b>
<b>Major Issues Identified</b>	Letter clearly identifies all relevant issues regarding the choice of business form. No or little room for improvement.	Letter identifies most of the relevant issues regarding the choice of business form. Very little room for improvement.	Letter identifies a few of the major issues regarding the choice of business form. Acceptable, but some room for improvement.	Letter lacks identification of relevant business forms. There is much room for improvement.
<b>Friend's Advice</b>	Letter clearly articulates the reasonableness of friend's advice. Backs opinion with strong personal knowledge and evidence tax laws.	Letter mentions the reasonableness of friend's advice. Backs opinion with better than average personal knowledge and evidence of tax laws.	Letter implies the reasonableness of friend's advice. Backs opinion with somewhat average personal knowledge and/or average evidence of tax laws.	Letter does not address the reasonableness of friend's advice. Opinion is missing and/or has no personal knowledge or evidence of tax laws to support it.
<b>Alternatives and Recommendations</b>	All viable alternatives and recommendations are clearly identified and explained.	Most of the obvious viable alternative and recommendations are identified and explained.	Some of the viable opportunities are identified, but explanation is present but could use some improvement.	Few, if any, viable opportunities are identified with little or no explanation.

Average Score: \_\_\_\_\_ (Total/# of criteria)

Note 1: All criteria are weighted equally