



ESHA

ACCOUNTING

ABOUT MY MAJOR

Accounting is the study of how businesses report what they're doing. It's called the language of business. So, any path you want to go down that relates to how an organization runs is probably going to cross paths with accounting. I tell students that accounting is not just sitting in a cubicle and typing numbers all day. It's much more interactive! There's a couple of different paths you can pursue with accounting and they rely on your interpersonal skills. Accounting is really about how you tell the stories behind the numbers. People, executives who are making these decisions, ask: what are these numbers? What do these numbers mean and how do we make informed decisions based on that? So accounting is much more about storytelling than about numbers.

CHOOSING MY MAJOR

When I came in to UNI, I was a Business Deciding major. I knew I wanted to do something with numbers because math was my forte, but I didn't know what specific field in business. I saw accounting students stressed out all the time and studying all the time, so I was proactively anti-accounting! Then I took my first financial accounting class, which is required for all business majors, and had this really great professor - Tim Lindquist. He was really ardent about me being an accounting major, but I didn't think that that was going to happen.

A year went by after I took my first financial accounting class and then I started to realize that accounting might be the right fit for me because I was learning more about how a business operates as a whole and I knew knowing the numbers would help a lot. That's how I decided on being an accounting major. Also - the career opportunities are endless!

INTERNSHIPS

I did an internship last summer in Charlotte, North Carolina with Wells Fargo, in a job that's what I will be doing after graduation. It was a corporate banking internship, very similar to investment banking. I did risk assessments for various companies. My portfolio was mainly asset managers, like Principal Financial Group, banks, insurance companies like Progressive. My job was to do an annual risk assessment to see: are they still profitable, do we still want to lend to them? Our job was to make sure Wells Fargo isn't exposed to a lot of risk and doesn't lose money lending to those companies. That was a part of my job.

CAREERS

I've signed an offer with Wells Fargo's investment banking program, which is a different path than what a typical accounting major would pursue. I'm pursuing a more finance-based role because I was always interested in working on Wall Street. I really loved the city life, the hustle and bustle and everything like that. So I chose to pursue investment banking, which is more like - let's say a company grew really big and they want to go public, (they want to be listed on the stock market). That's what an investment banker does. I'll be moving to Charlotte, NC, where their investment banking is based.