

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/28/21 11:22 am

Viewing: : **Bachelor's Degree (any)/Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, Accelerated MS**

Last approved: 01/29/21 2:51 pm

Last edit: 10/26/21 10:35 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages

Using this Program

[Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS](#)

[Geography, BA](#)

[Geography, BS](#)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Catalog: 2022-2023

Program Level: Undergraduate & Graduate (BAMs)

Program Type: Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

Title:

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, Accelerated MS

Registrar's Office

Use Only –

Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use

Only – SACSCOC

Status

Concentration(s):

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Geography & Geoinformation Science

Jointly Owned Program? Yes

In Workflow

1. Registrar-Programs:Workflow Review
2. GGS Chair
3. SC Curriculum Committee
4. SC Associate Dean
5. Assoc Provost-Graduate
6. Assoc Provost-Undergraduate
7. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 09/30/21 9:59 am
Tory Sarro (vsarro): Approved for Registrar-Programs:Workflow Review
2. 11/04/21 12:13 pm
Nathan Burtch (nburtch): Approved for GGS Chair

History

1. Feb 4, 2020 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)
2. Jan 29, 2021 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)

**Participating
Colleges****Participating
Departments****Justification**

What: Adding clarifying language about the 12 overlapping credits.

Why: It was noted that the sentence could be clearer, indicating that the 12 credits count toward both the undergraduate AND graduate degrees.

Catalog Published Information

**Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:**

Bachelor's Degree (any)/Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, Accelerated MS

Overview

Offered by the [Department of Geography and Geoinformation Sciences \(GGS\)](#) in the [College of Science](#), this bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program enables highly qualified undergraduates to obtain any Mason bachelor's degree and the [Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS](#) degrees within an accelerated timeframe. The program strategy enables students to undertake graduate coursework during their final year in the bachelor's degree. In the case of a 120 credit bachelor's program, this accelerated master's option can be completed as a 138 credit program (thesis option) or 145 credit program (comprehensive exam option). This accelerated pathway prepares students for professional careers where geoinformation management, geographic analysis, and geospatial visualization are of importance.

Students in this accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the bachelor's program and the [Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS](#). While the information below is largely comprehensive, students are strongly encouraged to also review [AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees](#).

Application Requirements

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.0 may apply for provisional acceptance into this accelerated master's program after completing at least 60 undergraduate credits. Additionally, **students they** must have completed the following courses with a combined GPA of 3.0 or better: [GGS 300](#) Quantitative Methods for Geographical Analysis, [GGS 311](#) Geographic Information Systems, **and any one upper level GGS-prefixed course.**

Applicants to all graduate programs at Mason must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Admissions section of this catalog. However, this accelerated master's does not

require GRE test scores, letters of recommendation, **CV/resume**, or a statement of interest.

While being undergraduate students, accelerated master's students must complete the graduate courses indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application (obtained from the Office of Academic and Student Affairs) with a minimum grade of B in each course. They must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all coursework and in coursework applied to their major.

At the beginning of their final undergraduate semester, they must submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form (found on the Office of the University Registrar website). Students must begin their master's program in the semester immediately following the term of undergraduate degree conferral. Students should consult with their faculty advisor in the Department of Geography and Geoinformation Science and the Office of Academic and Student Affairs to obtain further guidance.

Accelerated Option Requirements

Students admitted to this program may start taking graduate courses after completing 75 undergraduate credits. It is recommended that students register for one of the following courses in their first semester of accelerated coursework:

GGS 551	Cartographic Design	3
GGS 553	Geographic Information Systems	3
GGS 560	Quantitative Methods	3
GGS 579	Remote Sensing	3

Including the course chosen above, up to 12 credits of graduate coursework may be applied to both undergraduate degree and the master's degree. If students earn at least a B in these classes, they are granted advanced standing in the master's program and must then complete 18 (thesis option) or 25 (comprehensive exam option) additional credits to receive the master's degree. All other master's degree requirements must be met.

Reserve Graduate Credit

During the bachelor's degree status, students may take up to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the subsequent master's degree credits accordingly. With 12 credits counted toward the undergraduate **and graduate degrees** ~~degree~~ plus the maximum 6 reserve credits, the credits necessary for the **graduate degree** ~~graduate degree~~ can be reduced by up to 18. The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. To apply the reserved credits to the master's degree, students must request their transfer from the undergraduate degree to the graduate degree via the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form found on the Office of the University Registrar website.

Program Outcomes

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Additional Comments

Key: 805