

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/06/25 11:11 am

Viewing: : **Atmospheric Sciences, BS/Climate Science, Accelerated MS**

Last approved: 01/27/22 9:24 am

Last edit: 02/06/25 11:11 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages Using this Program

- [Atmospheric Sciences, BS](#)
- [Climate Science, MS](#)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?
No

Effective Catalog: 2025-2026

Program Level: Undergraduate & Graduate (BAMs)

Program Type: Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

Title:
Atmospheric Sciences, BS/Climate Science, 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: Atmospheric, Oceanic, & Earth Sciences

Jointly Owned Program? Yes

Participating Colleges

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 02/06/25 4:39 pm
Deborah Mcgarrah (dmcgarra):
Approved for Registrar-Programs:Workflow Review
2. 02/07/25 11:04 am
Barry Klinger (bklinger):
Approved for AOES Curriculum Committee
3. 02/07/25 1:13 pm
Mark Uhen (muhen): Rollback to AOES Curriculum Committee for AOES Chair

**Participating
Departments****Justification**

4. 03/11/25 2:09 pm
Mark Uhen
(muhen): Approved
for AOES Chair
5. 03/13/25 1:27 pm
Barry Klinger
(bklinger):
Approved for AOES -
Curriculum
Committee

History

1. Jan 27, 2022 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)

What: Removing requirement for "immediate" graduate coursework to begin.

For reserve graduate credit, specifying that 12 credits is the maximum counted toward both the UG and GR degrees.

Why: As this program aligns with the university's BAM requirements, we're removing contradictory language and instead referring students to the BAM policy.

Catalog Published Information

**Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:**

Atmospheric Sciences, BS/Climate Science, Accelerated MS

Overview

This bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program allows academically strong undergraduates with a commitment to advance their education to obtain both the [Atmospheric Sciences, BS](#) and the [Climate Science, MS](#) degrees within an accelerated timeframe. Upon completion of this 141 credit accelerated program, students will be exceptionally well prepared for entry into their careers or into a doctoral program in the field or in a related discipline.

Students are eligible to apply for this accelerated program once they have earned at least 60 undergraduate credits and can enroll in up to 18 credits of graduate coursework after successfully completing 75 undergraduate credits.

This flexibility makes it possible for students to complete a bachelor's and a master's in five years.

For more detailed information, see [AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees](#). For policies governing all graduate degrees, see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#). For more information on undergraduates enrolling in graduate courses, see [AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates](#).

Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the [Graduate Admission Policies](#) section of this catalog.

Important application information and processes for this accelerated master's program can be found [here](#).

Students should seek out the graduate program's advisor who will aid in choosing the appropriate graduate courses and help prepare the student for graduate studies.

Three letters of recommendation, including one from a prospective thesis or project advisor, are required.

GRE scores are not required for students in this accelerated program.

Successful applicants will have an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 3.00.

Accelerated Option Requirements

After the completion of 75 undergraduate credits, students may complete 3 to 12 credits of graduate coursework that can apply to both the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

In addition to applying to graduate from the undergraduate program, students in the accelerated program must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the [Office of the University Registrar](#)) to the [College of Science's Office of Academic and Student Affairs](#) by the last day to add classes of their final undergraduate semester. ~~Students should enroll for courses in the master's program in the fall or spring semester immediately following conferral of the bachelor's degree, but should contact an advisor if they would like to defer up to one semester.~~

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or higher in all graduate coursework and should consult with their faculty advisor to coordinate their academic goals.

Reserve Graduate Credit

Accelerated master's students may also take up to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credits. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the master's degree by up to 6 credits. With [the maximum](#) 12 graduate credits counted toward the undergraduate and graduate degrees plus the maximum 6 reserve graduate credits, the credits necessary for the graduate degree can be reduced by up to 18.

Graduate Course Suggestions

The following list of suggested courses is provided for general reference. To ensure an efficient route to graduation and post-graduation readiness, students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor before registering for graduate-level courses.

CLIM 511	Atmospheric Dynamics ¹	3
CLIM 512	Physical Oceanography ¹	3

CLIM 601	Midlatitude Synoptic Meteorology ¹	3
CLIM 610	Introduction to the Physical Climate System	3
CLIM 614	Land-Climate Interactions	3
CLIM 631	Urban Climate	3
CLIM 670	Earth System Modeling	3
CLIM 680	Climate Data	3
CLIM 690	Scientific Basis of Climate Change	3

1

An undergraduate version of this course exists. Students in this accelerated master's program who wish to take a cross-listed graduate/undergraduate course as part of the MS program should take the graduate version of the course.

Program Outcomes

Have you reached out to the Libraries to determine whether there are adequate resources to support your program? If not, please email Meg Meiman, Associate University Librarian for Learning, Research, and Engagement at mmeiman2@gmu.edu.

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Additional Attachments

Reviewer Comments

Mark Uhen (muhen) (02/07/25 1:13 pm): Rollback: Consider updates being discussed in email.

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eshtml%