

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/05/25 4:04 pm

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

Last approved: 01/27/22 9:36 am

Last edit: 02/26/25 12:39 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages

Using this Program

[Geographic and Cartographic Sciences, MS](#)

[Geography, BA](#)

[Geography, BS](#)

In Workflow

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

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

Yes

Requestor:

Approval Path

1. 02/06/25 4:49 pm
Deborah Mcgarrah (dmcgarra): Approved for Registrar-Programs:Workflow Review
2. 02/19/25 1:14 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)
3. Jan 27, 2022 by Jennifer Bazaz

Gettys (jbazaz)

Name	Extension	Email
Nathan Burtch	1207	nburtch

Effective Catalog: 2025-2026

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

**Participating
Colleges**

**Participating
Departments**

Justification

What: Adjusting minimum grade requirement and delayed enrollment wording.

Why: To align with updated university policies.

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.

During the bachelor's degree status, ~~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- 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 are encouraged to ~~must~~ begin their master's program in the semester immediately following the term of undergraduate degree conferral, but may elect to delay enrollment in for one semester. ~~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- 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 plus the maximum 6 reserve credits, the credits necessary for the 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 Attachments

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi_required.eshtml%

Key: 805