

Understanding Accelerated Master's Degrees



**Annual Meeting
Scottsdale, Arizona
06-09 December 2017**

A Collaborative Discussion on the Opportunities and Challenges of Accelerated Master's Degrees

Brian Kloeppe – Western Carolina University

Susan Stapleton – Western Michigan University

David Berkowitz – University of Alabama in Huntsville



Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY

Western Carolina University



WCU Cullowhee NC 12/08/2017 08:44:46 AM



[Camera Link](#)

Western Carolina University at a glance

Enrollment:
11,034 students

1,628 graduate students (14.8%)
69 % female / 31 % male
19.7 % underrepresented

Graduate Degree Programs:
40 degree programs
including 3 doctoral programs



**SACSCOC reaffirms university's
accreditation for another 10 years**

BILL STUDENC > DECEMBER 7, 2017

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges has publicly reaffirmed accreditation of Western Carolina University for an additional 10 years, bringing to a successful close a multiyear process of evaluation of the university's academic and administrative programs.

Accelerated Bachelor to Master (ABM) Programs

Chemistry

- double count graduate courses as senior-level courses

Accounting

- no double counting since graduates need 150 unique credits to sit for the CPA exam (120 undergrad + 30 graduate)

In Development

History

Music → Entrepreneurship

English → TESOL Certificate

Math and Computer Science → Data Analytics Certificate



Graduate School
and Research

ABM Opportunities

- 1) Collaborative recruitment with undergraduate admissions
- 2) Reduced time to graduation with multiple degrees
- 3) Benefits of reduced tuition costs due to “NC Promise”

ACCELERATED
Bachelor's/Master's Degree



Graduate School
and Research

ABM Challenges

- 1) Financial Aid management to avoid issues for student and institution
- 2) Manage grading issues for students who do not perform well
- 3) Maintain 'select' status for admissions

ACCELERATED
Bachelor's/Master's Degree



Graduate School
and Research

Brian Kloeppele
Dean and Professor
Graduate School and Research
bkloeppele@wcu.edu



Western
Carolina
UNIVERSITY