

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Degrees

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Concurrent Session
Salon II



Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's (ABM) Degrees at NC State University

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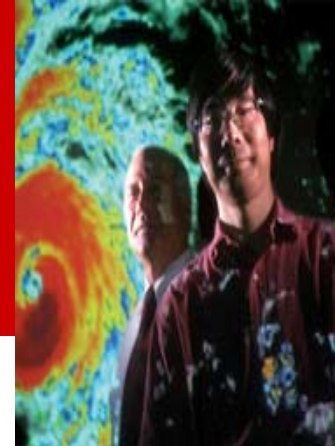
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The
Graduate School

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Purpose



The Accelerated Bachelors/Master's (ABM) degree program allows:

- **Exceptional undergraduate students at NC State an opportunity to:**
 - complete the requirements for both the bachelor's and master's degrees at an accelerated pace
- **Directors of Graduate Programs at NC State an opportunity to:**
 - provides an opportunity for the Directors of Graduate Programs (DGPs) at NC State to recruit rising juniors in their major to their graduate programs

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's - Creating



Two Options for Creating ABM Degrees:

- **Disciplinary model** – bachelor's and master's in the same department or closely related field
 - developed by the cooperative undergraduate and graduate units
 - first created in 90's
 - 27 such programs currently approved
- **Individualized model** - student is in a department that has not established a formal ABM program or is in a department in one discipline and wants to take a master's degree in a different discipline
 - approved in 2008
 - an ABM arrangement must be made between the student and the director of the graduate program granting the graduate degree and must be approved by the coordinator of the undergraduate program.

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Student Eligibility Requirements



- Students must have completed a minimum of seventy-five (75) credit hours in their undergraduate programs, including credits earned from advanced placement.
- Transfer students must have completed a minimum of two semesters as a full-time student at NC State, a minimum of 24 hours.
- Students must have a minimum accumulated grade point average (GPA) of 3.50/4.00 at NC State at the time of admission into the ABM degree program.

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Application



- Before admission to an ABM program can be finalized, students must submit the standard application for admission to the Graduate School.
- In addition, a Plan of Graduate Work signed by the prospective student and the Directors of Undergraduate and Graduate Programs must be submitted.
- Upon review of the materials submitted by the Directors of Graduate and Undergraduate programs to the Graduate School, a letter of acceptance (or denial) to the master's program, contingent on meeting the ABM requirements is issued.

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Requirements



- Students must complete the bachelor's degree prior to entering the master's program. Students in the ABM may not elect to by-pass the bachelor's degree.
- Students must receive a grade of B (3.00/4.00) or better in the double counted graduate level courses.
- No more than twelve (**12**) hours of graduate work may be counted towards the requirements of both degrees.
- Students must complete the master's degree within 12 months from the completion of the bachelor's degree for a non-thesis master's degree and within 24 months for master's programs requiring a thesis.

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Continuing Eligibility



- If a student completes the bachelor's degree requirements with an accumulated GPA of less than 3.50/4.00, then he/she needs program approval to continue to pursue the ABM program.
- If a student becomes ineligible to participate in the ABM degree program, the DGP must inform the student, the coordinator of the undergraduate program and the Graduate School in writing of his/her ineligibility.
- A student who is ineligible to participate in (or withdraws from) the ABM program, cannot double count any courses for both bachelor's and master's degrees.

International Partnerships Utilizing this ABM Model



- 3+X Programs
 - International students from partner institutions come to NC State and take graduate courses (as a “special” student) during their first semester that apply to both UG degree at foreign institution and master’s degree at NC State.
 - Upon completion of bachelor’s, the student is admitted to master’s degree program at NC State.

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's – Challenges



Apply/Enter in between 75-96 credits

- Applications not “officially” submitted

Tracking

- Not admitted to master's until completion of bachelor's (PeopleSoft solution)

Minimum 3.5 GPA

- Continuation requires program approval