

Accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate Program Policy

Revised & Approved by Graduate Council on 1/17/2024 and Undergraduate Council on 1/24/2024.

Accelerated graduate degree programs provide academically strong undergraduate students a pathway to begin graduate-level course work towards a Master's, Specialist or Doctoral degree that will enable completion of a graduate degree in a shorter time frame. Students may apply to an approved accelerated degree program once they have completed at least 60 undergraduate semester credit hours. Upon admission to an accelerated program, students may enroll in graduate courses for credit once they have attained at least 72 undergraduate semester credit hours. Approved courses will apply to both an undergraduate and a graduate degree.

The following conditions apply:

- Up to 12 SCH of designated graduate courses may apply to both the Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree program comprised of 45 or fewer SCH; and up to 15 graduate SCH may apply toward both an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree program comprised of more than 45 SCH (Master's, Specialist or Doctoral degree.)
- Undergraduate students may enroll in no more than 6 SCH of graduate coursework in each semester or term.
- No undergraduate-level course may count toward a graduate degree. All proposed accelerated graduate degree programs must be reviewed in advance by both the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils, and approved by the Office of Curriculum and Strategic Initiatives, the Graduate School, and the Provost. Each academic program will develop admission and continuation criteria based on the following guidelines:
- Minimal criteria for admission will include a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0. Academic components may set higher requirements for their programs.
- Once admitted to an accelerated program, students must maintain a 3.0 GPA throughout the remainder of their baccalaureate degree, or their admission to the accelerated graduate program may be revoked. Academic components may set additional requirements for their programs.
- The academic component will send the student and the Registrar an Accelerated Graduate Degree Program Course Approval form stating which graduate courses may be counted in both degrees. A copy of this form will be placed with the student's record, and the change will be incorporated into the student's undergraduate and Master's, Specialist or Doctoral program as outlined above.
- Graduate courses substituting for required courses within the undergraduate degree program must be designated by the program as equivalent in content but delivered and assessed with graduate level rigor.
- Prior to applying to an accelerated degree program, students must have completed a minimum of 15 semester credit hours at Texas Woman's University.