

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 12/09/20 10:09 am

Viewing: : **Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Environmental Science and Policy Accelerated Master's**

Last approved: 03/25/19 4:45 pm

Last edit: 12/09/20 10:09 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages Using this Program

- [Health, Fitness, and Recreation Resources, BS](#)
- [Civil and Infrastructure Engineering, BS](#)
- [Global Affairs, BA](#)

Rationale for

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

No

Effective Catalog: 2021-2022

Program Level: Undergraduate & Graduate (BAMs)

Program Type: Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

Degree Type:

Title: Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Environmental Science and Policy Accelerated Master's

Is this a retitling of

Existing Program Registrar/OAPI Use

Registrar's Office Use Only – Program Start Term

Registrar/OAPI Use

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 12/09/20 12:01 pm
Johanna Riemen (jriemen): Approved for Registrar-Programs:Workflow Review
2. 12/09/20 12:16 pm
A. Alonso Aguirre (aaguirr3): Approved for ESP Chair

History

1. Oct 31, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Mar 6, 2018 by Rebekah Zacharias (rzachari)
3. Mar 13, 2018 by Rebekah Zacharias

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SACSCOC Status

Concentration(s):

INTO M.../A...

Registrar/IRR Use Only –

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Environmental Science & Policy

Jointly Owned Program? Yes

Participating Colleges

Participating Departments

Justification

Updating this BAM pathway to accommodate the new policy revisions: 1. Ability to complete programs in 141 credits, 2. Admission into BAM program by at least 60 UG credits, 3. Begin graduate coursework at 75 UG credits, 4. Allow 3-12 credits to be applied to the UG and GR degree, 5. Including a curated list of graduate courses.

Inserting a college "template" for BAM entries so that the college has consistent and clear messaging.

(rzachari)

4. Apr 5, 2018 by pchampan

5. Mar 25, 2019 by Tory Sarro (vsarro)

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:

Registrar/IRR Use

Admission

Requirements:

Program-Specific Policies:

Degree Requirements:

Retro:

Plan of Study:

**Honors
Information:**

**Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:**

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Environmental Science and Policy, Accelerated MS

Overview

This ~~bachelor's/accelerated master's~~ degree ~~program option~~ allows ~~academically strong undergraduates~~ ~~highly qualified George Mason University students to earn an Environmental Science and Policy, MS in less time than if they had first graduated~~ with a ~~commitment to advance their education~~ ~~an environmentally-focused Green Leaf-designated BA or BS degree and then applied~~ to obtain a Green Leaf-designated bachelor's degree and the Environmental Science and Policy, MS degrees within an accelerated timeframe. ~~MS program sequentially~~. 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, programs~~; see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#). For more information on undergraduates enrolling in graduate courses, see [AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates](#).

Admission ~~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 ~~Admission~~ Policies section of this catalog. ~~catalog, excluding the GRE exam requirement (which is not required for those enrolled in the accelerated program)~~:

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

The GRE exam is not required for this accelerated master's program.

Students should submit ~~This includes~~ three letters of recommendation (at least one from a former professor or someone with a PhD), a recent resume, a statement of interest/research goals and interests (including information on the candidate's proposed MS research), and a letter from their advisor (see Graduate Advisor section below) stating that the advisor agrees to take on the candidate as an MS student, how the candidate would be a good fit for them and why candidate's research topic would be suitable. ~~Admission Requirements~~

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.20 who are pursuing any Green Leaf-designated major or minor may apply to ~~for provisional acceptance into~~ this accelerated master's program after completing two semesters of chemistry (including CHEM 211 General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and CHEM 212 General Chemistry II (Mason Core)) and ~~CHEM 211 General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and CHEM 212 General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and~~ three semesters of biology, including a course in ecology, or the equivalent, for example:

Select one of the following options:

Option 1:

13

BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution
Option 2:	
EVPP 210	Environmental Biology: Molecules and Cells
EVPP 301	Environmental Science: Biological Diversity and Ecosystems
EVPP 302	Environmental Science: Biomes and Human Dimensions
EVPP 305	Environmental Microbiology Essentials
EVPP 306	Environmental Microbiology Essentials Laboratory
Option 3:	
CONS 401	Conservation Theory
CONS 402	Applied Conservation
6 credits of BIOL or CONS electives	

~~By the beginning of the undergraduate's senior year, they should first submit a Graduate Application for Accelerated Master's Program form (obtained from the Office of Academic and Student Affairs). Secondly, in their senior year accelerated master's students must complete the two graduate courses indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. They must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00 in all coursework and in coursework applied to their major. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in a Green Leaf-designated program, in the semester indicated in the application, they must additionally submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form (found on the Office of the University Registrar website) and will subsequently be admitted into graduate status.~~ **Graduate Advisor**

By at least the beginning of their senior year, **students they** should seek out a faculty member in the [Department of Environmental Science and Policy](#) who is willing to serve as their advisor. This advisor will aid the student in choosing the appropriate graduate courses to take and help to prepare the student for graduate studies. Admission into a research-oriented master's concentration is dependent upon securing the agreement of a faculty advisor. Faculty from a variety of departments and colleges at George Mason **University** (called "program faculty") can serve as master's advisors. Potential students are encouraged to speak with the graduate program coordinator in the department to obtain guidance on this issue.

~~**Application Requirements Applicants to all graduate programs at Mason must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Graduate Admission Policies section of this catalog, excluding the GRE exam requirement (which is not required for those enrolled in the accelerated program). This includes three letters of recommendation (at least one from a former professor or someone with a PhD), a recent**~~

~~resume, a statement of interest/research goals and interests (including information on the candidate's proposed MS research), and a letter from their advisor stating that the advisor agrees to take on the candidate as an MS student, how the candidate would be a good fit for them and why candidate's research topic would be suitable. For information specific to the accelerated Environmental Science and Policy, MS, see Graduate Admissions on the department's website.~~

Accelerated Option Requirements

~~After the completion of 75 Reserve Graduate Credits~~ Students admitted to this program may take graduate courses after completing ~~90~~ undergraduate credits, **students may complete 3 to 12** and up to ~~6~~ credits of appropriate environmentally-focused graduate coursework may be used in partial satisfaction of **graduate coursework that can apply to both the requirements for the undergraduate and graduate degrees.** ~~degree.~~

~~To apply these credits to applying to graduate from the undergraduate program, the master's degree, students in the accelerated program must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition request that the credits be moved from the undergraduate degree to the graduate degree using the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form (available from found on 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.~~ **website (as noted above).** Students should enroll for courses ~~if students earn at least a 3.00 GPA in these classes, they are granted advanced standing in the master's program in and must then complete an additional 27 credits to receive 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.~~ ~~master's degree.~~

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.

~~To apply these credits to the master's degree, students must request that the credits be moved from the undergraduate degree to the graduate degree using the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition form found on the Office of the University Registrar website (as noted above).~~

Reserve Graduate Credits

Accelerated master's students Students may **also** take up to 6 ~~additional environmentally-focused~~ graduate credits as reserve graduate **credits.** ~~credit.~~ These credits do not apply to the undergraduate ~~degree,~~ ~~degree~~ but will reduce the ~~subsequent~~ master's degree **by up to credits accordingly (e.g., with 6 credits. With 12 graduate credits credits counted toward the towards undergraduate degree plus the the maximum 6 reserve graduate credits, the credits**

necessary for the graduate degree can ~~an MS could~~ be reduced by up to 18. ~~completed with 21 post-bachelor's credits).~~

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.

<u>EVPP 518</u>	Conservation Biology	3
<u>EVPP 621</u>	Overview of Biodiversity Conservation	3
<u>EVPP 635</u>	Environment and Society	3

~~The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high-achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department.~~

INTO-Mason
Requirements:

College
Requirements &
Policies:

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:

Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity

Courses offered via
distance (if

Indicate whether
students are able

What is the
primary delivery
format for the
program?

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus?

Off-campus details:

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

Please explain:

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Are you changing the total number of credits required for this program?

Are you changing the delivery format in any way (e.g adding an online option)?

Are you adding/removing a licensure option which was approved by SCHEV?

Will any portion of this program be offered at an off-campus location?

What off-campus location(s)? List all

What percentage of credits toward this program are offered at the off-campus location?
Please list percentages by site (i.e. 15% at Site A, 35% at Site B etc.)

Will this program change affect any specialized accreditation?

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "advancing the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at lower degree level, new content is at the higher degree level)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "lowering the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at higher degree level, new content is at the lower degree level)?

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program?

Green Leaf

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated

Relationship to

Relationship to

List sustainability-focused courses currently required

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least one sustainability-related

List sustainability-related courses

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

Impacted

Additional Attachments

SCHFV Proposal Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi_required.eshtml%

Attached Document

Key: 117

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/Environmental Science and Policy, Accelerated MS

Overview

This bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program allows academically strong undergraduates with a commitment to advance their education to obtain a [Green Leaf-designated](#) bachelor's degree and the [Environmental Science and Policy, 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.

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Course List

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