



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #35.07 (2021) Accelerated Degree Programs

Policy Title:	Accelerated Degree Programs
Policy Type:	Administrative
Policy Number:	Administrative Policy #35.07 (2021)
Approval Date:	11/18/2021
Responsible Office:	School of Graduate Studies and Research
Responsible Executive:	Dean, School of Graduate Studies and Research
Applies to:	University Community

POLICY STATEMENT

Accelerated Degree Programs offer NSU students the opportunity to pursue both a bachelor's and master's degrees in the same discipline or a related discipline in an accelerated time frame. Approved accelerated degree programs allow student to begin taking courses in a master's degree program prior to the completion of their undergraduate degree.

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE NUMBER
Definitions.....	1
Contacts	1
Stakeholder(s) (For Administrative Policy).....	1
Accelerated Degree Programs.....	2
Education and Compliance	3
Publication	3
Review Schedule.....	3
Related Documents	3
Forms	3

DEFINITIONS

Accelerated Degree Program: Programs that allow advanced undergraduate students to begin graduate education prior to the completion of their undergraduate degree.

Dual credits: Academic credits that can be applied to both the undergraduate and graduate degree.



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #35.07 (2021) Accelerated Degree Programs

CONTACT(S)

The School of Graduate Studies and Research officially interprets this policy. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for obtaining approval for any revisions as required by BOV Policy # 01 (2014) *Creating and Maintaining Policies* through the appropriate governance structures. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

STAKEHOLDER(S): Faculty, Graduate Coordinators, Undergraduate Students, Graduate Students

ACCELERATED DEGREE PROGRAMS

Accelerated Degree Programs (ADP) allow exceptionally qualified undergraduate students to take graduate courses while they are completing their undergraduate degree. *The program is specifically designed for students who desire to immediately continue and complete their graduate education early, after the bachelor's degree.* This program provides undergraduate students the opportunity to work closely with faculty members to pursue a graduate degree.

Students must be accepted into the program prior to the beginning of the semester in which they would enroll in courses to be used on the accelerated program. Students qualifying for the program must be in the last 12 months of their undergraduate degree. Once completion of the undergraduate degree has been verified, students accepted into an ADP program will be classified as regular graduate students.

A maximum of 12 credits of graded graduate coursework at the 400/500-level may be used for dual credits in both the undergraduate and graduate degree program. A grade of B or higher must be earned in each course to be double counted. No pass-fail courses will be allowed for dual credits.

Programs that intend to accept students into an accelerated graduate program must submit an initial proposal to the Office of Graduate Studies for approval that includes the following:

- Accelerated program(s) to be offered.
- Graduate degrees included
- Admission criteria and application materials required, including but not necessarily limited to student status, minimum GPA requirement, statement of motivation and career objectives, student's experience and qualifications as reflected in a resume, a portfolio, and/or letters of reference.
- The number of credits to be double counted towards undergraduate and graduate degrees.



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #35.07 (2021) Accelerated Degree Programs

- Process for identifying potential students and faculty advisors, and for mentoring during matriculation in the ADP.
- Tentative listing of courses that the department expects to be used for graduate plans of study for students in the program.
- Other conditions or aspects of the proposed program, as appropriate.

EDUCATION AND COMPLIANCE

The School of Graduate Studies and Research will review all proposals for Accelerated Degree Programs to ensure compliance with the policy in program development. The UCC will ensure that programs meet academic standards through the review and approval process. The Office of the Registrar will certify all graduation applications to ensure compliance with the policy.

PUBLICATION

The policy will be widely distributed to the University community. To ensure timely publication and distribution thereof, the Responsible Executive will make every effort to:

- Communicate the policy in writing, electronically or otherwise, to the University community, including current and prospective students within 14 days of approval;
- Submit this policy for inclusion in the online Policy Library within 14 days of approval;
- Post the policy on the Division of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management Office, and University Registrar webpages and other related webpages, all student handbooks and University catalogs; and
- Educate and train all stakeholders and appropriate audiences on the policy's content as necessary.

Failure to satisfy procedural requirements does not invalidate this policy.

REVIEW SCHEDULE

- Next Scheduled Review: 11/18/2024
- Approval by, date: Board of Visitors, MM/DD/YYYY
- Revision History: MM/DD/YYYY
- Supersedes:

RELATED DOCUMENTS



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #35.07 (2021) Accelerated Degree Programs

[2018 SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation \(Section 9.2\)](#)

FORMS