

# Accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate Degree Program in Mathematics at Virginia Tech

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The Mathematics Department offers an accelerated program permitting up to 12 credit hours to be counted towards both B.S. and M.S. requirements (but hours meeting B.S. requirements cannot also be used later to meet Ph.D. requirements). Graduate School expectations for the program, including application steps required by the Graduate School, can be found at the following url:

[http://graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/accelerated\\_masters\\_programs.html](http://graduateschool.vt.edu/admissions/accelerated_masters_programs.html)

Program requirements are structured so that admitted students can complete M.S. requirements one year after completing B.S. requirements.

Only courses begun after a student has been admitted to the accelerated program are eligible for counting towards both B.S. and M.S. degrees. All double-counted credit hours must be at the 4000 level or higher, with at most six of the double-counted credits at the 4000 level; double-counted credits must be taken in the final twelve months prior to receiving a B.S.; double-counted credits must be taken for an A-F grade except in courses offered only pass-fail; and the student's grade in each double-counted course must be B or higher.

Any student seriously considering participating in this accelerated program should discuss the program with an academic advisor and with the Math Department Graduate Program Director, [Jeff Borggaard](#), or Chair, Eric de Sturler.

## Admissions Requirements

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A QCA of 3.3 or higher is required for admission, but does not guarantee admission. Admission is at the discretion of the Math Department's graduate admissions committee, which will consider all information required in the application for admission. An applicant who has completed Math 4225 prior to the semester in which double-counting begins must have earned a B or higher in Math 4225. An applicant who has completed Math 4226 prior to the semester in which double-counting begins must have earned a B or higher in Math 4226. If an applicant has not completed Math 4225 prior to the beginning of double-counting, Math 4225 must be one of the double-counted courses. If an applicant has not completed Math 4226 prior to the beginning of double-counting, Math 4226 must be one of the double-counted courses.

The application for admission includes the Graduate School's online application and paper application materials submitted directly to the Math Department. The **online application** must include all information required for admission to the graduate program, with the exception of GRE scores.

The **paper application** includes:

1. the Graduate School's Accelerated Undergraduate/Graduate Status and Course Designation Form;
2. the identification of a faculty member who agrees to serve as the student's graduate advisor; and
3. a proposed plan of study that meets graduate degree requirements and that is of one of the three types listed below. Information about graduate degree requirements is available from the Policies link at the following url.

<https://www.math.vt.edu/grAdvising.php>

Among the required letters of recommendation, one letter must come from the student's proposed graduate advisor. The advisor must approve the proposed plan of study. For a student proposing a plan of study of type B, the advisor must confirm availability and willingness to advise the M.S. thesis. For a student proposing a plan of study of type C, the advisor must confirm the student's plans to complete an undergraduate research project lasting one academic year, must confirm the advisor's availability and willingness to advise the M.S. thesis, and must explain how the M.S. thesis will extend the undergraduate research project.

## Plan of Study

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The proposed plan of study must meet requirements described above and must be of one of the following three types.

**PoS A.** Includes 12 double-counted credits.

**PoS B.** Includes 9 double-counted credits and is in the M.S. thesis option. Note that this type requires faculty advisor agreement to supervise the M.S. thesis.

**PoS C.** Include 6 double-counted credits and is in the M.S. thesis option. Note that this type requires faculty advisor agreement to supervise a M.S. thesis extending work done during an extensive undergraduate research project.