

## **Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's Program in Mathematics**

### **Program Description**

The USA accelerated bachelor's to master's (ABM) in Mathematics provides exceptional undergraduate students the opportunity to earn a bachelor's and master's degree at an accelerated pace in Mathematics. ABM students may count up to 12 credit hours of graduate course work towards both the undergraduate and graduate degrees in approved programs. ABM students typically complete the master's degree within one academic year after completing the undergraduate degree.

Mathematics and Statistics majors are encouraged to apply for the Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's Program in Mathematics (ABM). This program is designed to allow the student to complete the Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and Statistics and the Master's degree in Mathematics in five years.

### **Admission Procedures**

The minimum requirements for admission to the ABM program are:

- o Have completed at least 90 credit hours
- o Have completed at least 30 credit hours at USA
- o Must have at least a 3.0 GPA

Once admitted into the ABM program, students must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA and remain in good standing to stay in the program.

To gain admission, students must complete a degree plan (typically during their junior year) that is approved by the undergraduate coordinator and graduate coordinator. Interested students are encouraged to discuss their plans with the undergraduate coordinator and the graduate coordinator as early as possible.

### **Program Procedures**

ABM students may begin taking graduate courses after completing at least 90 hours of undergraduate credit.

Typically, during their senior undergraduate year, students will take 6 graduate credits per semester for 2 semesters (12 hours) while they are also taking undergraduate courses. These 12 graduate hours can *count toward both* degrees (Bachelor's and Master's) if the courses are completed with grades of at least B. Courses with a grade of C can count toward the

undergraduate degree but not the graduate degree. Courses with a grade below C cannot count toward the undergraduate or graduate degree.

Upon completing the undergraduate degree, students will apply to the Master's in Mathematics program. ABM students who are in good standing will be accepted into the Master's program.

Completion of the Master of Science in Mathematics requires successful completion of all requirements, including at least 32 graduate credit hours. Graduate credit taken while an undergraduate that is completed with at least the grade of B will be transferred into the Master's program upon acceptance into the program and will apply toward the 32 hours required for the Master of Science degree.

Certain undergraduate courses (such as MA 437, MA 451, and MA 481) are dual listed with graduate courses (such as, MA 537, MA 550, and MA 581, respectively), and students may not receive credit for both of these courses. Students are advised to carefully read the Bulletin descriptions and consult with the undergraduate and graduate coordinators, as appropriate, to select appropriate coursework.

A student who withdraws or is dismissed from the ABM program may not count graduate coursework towards both degrees. Graduate courses for which an undergraduate student did not earn an "A" or "B" grade, may not be counted towards the graduate degree.

An ABM student must be a full time student and must complete all degree requirements for the master's within three semesters of the semester in which they were admitted to the Graduate School. An exception for a fourth semester may be granted where an additional semester is required for final revisions to and submission of a defended thesis. Exceptions to the ABM policy are at the discretion of the Dean of the Graduate School.

To qualify for a baccalaureate degree a student must complete a minimum of 120 approved semester hours, meet the university's general education requirements, meet the requirements of the major, and meet any specific requirements of the college or school. To qualify for a master's degree a student must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit in an approved program of study.