

Animal Science

The **Accelerated Bachelors/Master's (ABM)** degree program allows exceptional undergraduate students at NC State an opportunity to complete the requirements for both the Bachelor's and Master's degrees at an accelerated pace. These undergraduate students may double count up to 12 credits and obtain a non-thesis Master's degree in the same field within 12 months of completing the Bachelor's degree, or obtain a thesis-based Master's degree in the same field within 18 months of completing the Bachelor's degree. This degree program also provides an opportunity for the Directors of Graduate Programs (DGPs) at NC State to recruit rising juniors in their major to their graduate programs. However, permission to pursue an ABM degree program does not guarantee admission to the Graduate School. Admission is contingent on meeting eligibility requirements at the time of entering the graduate program.

Procedures for ABM Students

- 1.** To enter the ABM program the student first meets with the director of undergraduate programs (DUP) to determine eligibility for the program as outlined below.
- 2.** The student submits an electronic Plan of Work that is approved by the director of graduate programs (DGP) and DUP.
 - a.** The student should review the list of courses that can be double counted.
 - b.** The student should review the available graduate courses typically taught each semester to plan out their remaining schedule.
- 3.** Course Registration
 - a.** While dual enrolled in the ABM and undergraduate degree, the student should email the graduate services coordinator (GSC), copying the DGP, and ask to be manually enrolled in graduate courses.
 - b.** Upon completion of the undergraduate degree, the student can self-enroll in graduate courses.
- 4.** In the last semester of the undergraduate degree the student applies to the graduate program.
- 5.** In the first semester of the graduate program, the student completes a new Plan of Work.

- a. When entering classes taken while enrolled as an undergraduate, use the Slect button to choose the transfer code TR999 from the drop down menu, then type in each course taken as an ABM student along with the semester and grade.
6. When all requirements are met for the graduate degree Apply to Graduate through MyPack Portal.

Requirements

Admissions

- A minimum of 75 credit hours in the undergraduate program, including credits earned from advanced placement, but before completing the bachelor's.
- A minimum overall 3.5 GPA in undergraduate work at NC State at the time of admission into the ABM program.
- Receive a grade of B or better in the double-counted graduate-level courses (500 or 700 level) while maintaining a 3.5 GPA. (Courses with a grade of B- or below cannot be double-counted between the two degrees.)
- Maintain a 3.50 GPA or better in animal science major.
- Be positioned to complete the B.S. degree requirements by the end of the fourth year, and formally apply for admission to [the Graduate School](#).
- One letter of recommendation from the proposed faculty mentor, indicating the qualifications of the student and their willingness to serve as the master's advisor.

Course Requirements

In addition to the standard university and animal science requirements for a B.S. in animal science, students must complete 30 credit hours at the graduate level for the MS degree component outlined below:

- **Undergraduate courses (12 credit hours):**
 - 6 credit hours total of 500-level courses in ANS*
 - e.g. ANS 550, ANS 552, ANS 553, ANS 561, ANS 571
 - 6 credit hours of 400-level courses with a 500-level counterpart in other departments*

- e.g. CH 463/563, BIO 488/588, GN 421/521, GN 441/541, or other approved courses
- **Required graduate courses (18 credit hours):**
 - 12 credit hours of 500/700 level courses
 - ANS 601 and ANS 811 are required + other approved courses
 - 6 credit hours of Research/Scholarship/Education
 - ANS 685, ANS 693, ANS 695

Thesis Requirements

ABM program students will present original research and evidence of mastery of biochemical techniques. They should present the thesis as an original scientific manuscript, suitable for publication in a scientific journal. To complete a significant body of work to include in the thesis, students should identify a faculty mentor while completing the undergraduate degree requirements. We recommend students make these decisions no later than the end of their junior year, but preferably sooner to meet the accelerated schedule.

** Indicates courses double-counted for both the bachelor's and master's degrees.*