

Accelerated Master of Forestry Program

School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science

4+1 programs for Michigan Tech students

Contacts:

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Overview

The accelerated Master of Forestry is an existing option within our Master of Forestry (MF) professional master's degree program. Natural Resources Policy is a new line of focus further developing specialization skills. The current accelerated option focuses on training in Advanced Technologies. The original MF is designed for students with undergraduate degrees from outside the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science (SFRES) and who wish to reorient their career towards forestry; the original option is accredited by the Society of American Foresters, and will continue.

The accelerated MF is for students who earn both bachelor and master degrees in Forestry from Michigan Tech. It provides additional training and specialization beyond the Society of American Foresters accredited undergraduate major in areas relevant to the forestry profession. The maximum time to degree for students in an accelerated master's program is 5 years from the time the student is accepted into the program.

In order to be formally accepted into this accelerated master's program, students must apply to and be accepted into the Graduate School at Michigan Technological University. Applications will be reviewed by the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science (SFRES) according to normal procedures. Admission requirements are the same as for other graduate programs in SFRES with the exception that students should have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be admitted. Students can apply for admission to an accelerated master's program at any time after they attain sophomore-level class standing and up until they are awarded their bachelor's degree.

Only students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above are eligible to enter an accelerated master's program. Students who are accepted to the program will not be allowed to continue if their cumulative undergraduate GPA falls below 3.0. A student may reapply if their GPA rises above a 3.0, or may apply to enter the regular MF degree program.

Students will be considered undergraduates for the purposes of financial aid, tuition, and class standing until their undergraduate degree has been awarded. Once students are awarded their undergraduate degree, they will be considered graduate students for the purposes of financial aid and tuition.

Credit Requirements

A total of 30 credits are required for the master's degree, including six that may be applied to both the bachelor's and master's degree. A minimum of 152 credits must be completed for the combined bachelor's and master's degree programs. Ten of the remaining 24 credits may be completed while an undergraduate under senior rule, but these credits cannot be applied towards the bachelor's degree. Prior to completion of the master's degree, students must indicate on their master's degree schedule which undergraduate-level courses and credits (up to a maximum of six), should be applied to both

their bachelor's and master's degrees. These classes will be 3000 or 4000 level classes required of the undergraduate forestry major. It is anticipated that the six credits applied to both degrees will be FW3110 (Natural Resources Policy, 3 credits) and FW4150 (Forest Resource Management, 3 credits), though other classes from the undergraduate major would also be acceptable.

This program is offered only as a coursework option, requiring no thesis or report. Under this option, up to 12 credits of the 30 credit total may be at the 3000 or 4000 level. The 6 credits counted for both the bachelor's and master's degree count towards these 12 credits if they are at the 3000 or 4000 level.

Program Administration

A faculty member has been designated as the Coordinator of the Accelerated Master of Forestry program for the Policy option. Adjustments to the course of study are possible with the approval of the Coordinator.