

**UMass Amherst Accelerated Master's Programs  
Fall 2012**

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- Basic idea
  - Minimum master's = 30 credits (some are higher, as much as 60).
  - 30 credits can be completed in one year with some mix of:
    - Eligible courses taken as undergrad (up to 9 credits – see page 2)
    - Two semesters of courses (18-24 credits)
    - Internship/independent study (credits vary)
    - Summer or online courses (credits vary).
  - Students enter as early as junior year and receive guidance about courses that will transfer over.
- Why?
  - Transition from liberal arts education to a profession (Mellon Grant).
  - Beef up application to a PhD program.
  - Explore an area of interest, possibly leading to a career.
- Five College connection (see spreadsheet)
  - All programs limited to Five College students.
  - Almost all solicit applications from the four colleges.
  - Life science programs want students with on-going research in affiliated faculty member's lab, but these "big tent" programs include many faculty at the four colleges among their affiliates.
- Costs and financial aid
  - For two semesters, 24 credits, tuition and mandatory fees, AY12-13:
    - In-state \$13,335
    - Regional \$21,177
    - Out-of-state \$26,494
  - Financial aid available:
    - Work-study.
    - Loans.
    - Some programs may give full or partial assistantships to master's students, but this is not usual. (Assistantship includes stipend and waiver of tuition and fees.)
    - No grants or scholarships available.
- Future prospects
  - Models for tighter integration through Mellon Grant.
  - Worked out articulation agreements.
  - Where demand exists, other UMass master's programs could get an approved accelerated option. See the list on page 3.

*Rules governing the transfer of credits for courses taken as an undergraduate to a master's program:*

- In an approved accelerated master's program, a maximum of 9 credits may be transferred. In any other master's program, a maximum of 6 credits may be transferred.
- Limited double-dipping: credits required for the bachelor's degree cannot be transferred to cover the first 30 credits of a master's degree. If the master's degree requires more than 30 credits, the credits required above 30 can be fulfilled by double-dipping into the bachelor's requirements. This issue does not arise if the student is transferring courses that he/she did not need to graduate.
- Courses eligible for transfer, at the discretion of the master's program, are:
  - University courses numbered 500 or higher, taken through the Five College Interchange.
  - University courses numbered 400-499, or equivalents at the colleges, upon recommendation of the master's program and with the approval of the Graduate School.

**Extant UMass Amherst Face-to-Face Master's Programs Without an Accelerated Option  
Fall 2012**

Degree is shown in parentheses if not MA/MS. The asterisk calls out high-credit programs that could not be packed into 12 months.

Afro-American Studies*	Psychology
Anthropology	Public Policy & Administration (MPPA)*
Applied Mathematics	Regional Planning (MRP)*
Art (MFA)*	Resource Economics
Art History	Sociology
Astronomy	Sport Management
Biology	Theater (MFA)*
Chemical Engineering (MSChE)	
Chemistry	
Chinese	
Civil Engineering (MSCE)	
Communication	
Communication Disorders	
Comparative Literature	
Computer Science	
Education (MEd)	
English	
English — Poets and Writers MFA*	
Environmental Engineering (MSEnvE)	
French & Francophone Studies (MA, MAT*)	
Geography	
Geosciences	
German & Scandinavian Studies	
Hispanic Literatures & Linguistics (MA, MAT*)	
History	
Industrial Engineering & Operations Research (MSIEOR)	
Italian Studies (MAT)	
Japanese	
Kinesiology	
Labor Studies	
Landscape Architecture (MLA)*	
Latin & Classical Humanities (MAT)*	
Management (MBA)*	
Mathematics	
Mechanical Engineering (MSME)	
Music (MM)	
Nursing	
Nutrition	
Philosophy	
Physics	
Polymer Science & Engineering	