



## GRADUATE SCHOOL

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Degree Requirements

The Graduate School sets minimum degree requirements for all programs. Each [graduate program](#) may have additional requirements for degrees; consult their pages for details on program specific requirements.

## Degree Requirements

- [Doctor of Philosophy](#)
- [Master of Business Administration](#) (Tech MBA, Tech MBA Online)
- [Master of Engineering](#)
- [Master of Forestry](#)
- [Master of Science](#)
- [Master's International Peace Corps Program](#)
- [Master's Path](#) (for students who have completed a three-year bachelor's program outside the US)

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- [Certificate Programs](#)
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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Doctor of Philosophy

The doctor of philosophy degree is a research degree. It is awarded in recognition of demonstrated mastery of subject matter in a chosen field of study and demonstrated competence in the conduct of an individual research investigation that represents a significant contribution to the cumulative knowledge of the field. The program of study and research will be planned and supervised by an advisory committee. Each candidate's course work and research topic must be approved by the advisory committee as meeting the standards generally associated with the doctoral degree.

The doctoral student must comply with the requirements on this page, the requirements of their program, and complete any [necessary forms](#) to document their progress with the Graduate School. Individual programs may have higher standards, and students are expected to know their program's requirements.

**Modern Language Requirement**—There is no University-wide language requirement for doctoral degrees. Individual programs may require a foreign language. Each program is responsible for establishing standards and examination procedures where a foreign language is required. Doctoral students should consult with their advisory committee concerning program regulations.

**Preliminary Program of Study**—Initially the advisory committee will meet with the student and prepare a program of course study and research work that will lead to the doctoral degree.

**Proficiency Examinations**—Exams may be scheduled as necessary by the program to assist in planning students' study programs or to determine the advisability of students continuing in the doctoral program.

## Residency Requirements

- A minimum of two-thirds of the required non-research course-work credits required for the degree must be taken through Michigan Tech. PhD students must take at least 20 credits beyond the masters or 50 credits beyond the bachelors through Michigan Tech.
- Research credits used to satisfy degree requirements must be taken through Michigan Tech and must be supervised by a member of Michigan Tech graduate faculty.
- Some graduate degree programs may have other specific requirements.

Courses which meet the "at Michigan Tech" requirement are defined as courses listed in the course catalog and taught by Michigan Tech faculty either on campus, at field locations, or through distance learning.

## Graduate School Credit Requirements

Individual programs may have additional requirements.

## Minimum requirements

- Thirty credits beyond the bachelor's degree for a master's degree.
- Thirty credits beyond the master's degree are required for a PhD.
- Programs determine the distribution of credits, and may require more than the minimum.

## Unallowed credits

- Courses numbered below 3000
- Audited courses
- Continuous enrollment courses (ex: UN5951, UN5953)
- Non-research pass/fail courses
- Credits used to earn another degree (see exceptions below)

## Exceptions

- Maximum of 12 credits at the 3000 and 4000 level may be used with program approval.
- Peace Corps Master's International students may use 2 credits of language courses below the 3000 level.
- Research credits are the only non-graded classes that may be counted toward a degree.
- One-third of the non-research credits may be transferred as long as they were not used to earn another degree.
- One-third of the graduate credits earned at Michigan Tech may be reused to earn an additional master's degree in accordance with [Graduate School policy](#).

## GPA Requirements

Students must be in [good standing](#) to earn a graduate degree.

## Time Limits

All work for the master's degree must be completed within five calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. All work for the PhD must be completed within eight calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. Requests for extension must be made by the advisor to the Graduate School.

## Advisor

Initially the advisor may be the [graduate program director](#), but as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second

semester in residence, a permanent advisor should be chosen. This Michigan Tech graduate faculty member advises the student on course selection and, if applicable, supervises the research experience. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school. The advisor is an important factor in the graduate student's timely and successful completion of the program of study. All graduate students must have an advisor.

### Advisory Committee

The advisor and committee, consisting of at least two members of the graduate faculty in addition to the advisor, will be recommended by the advisor and the chair/graduate program director of the major department, school, or program and approved by the Graduate School and filed on the [Advisor and Committee Recommendation form](#). This committee, with the addition of a fourth, external member, will often become the Examining Committee (see "Oral Examination" below).

### Comprehensive Examination

A comprehensive examination will be given to determine the general knowledge appropriate to the student's program and the student's ability to use this knowledge. This examination will be a written examination, although it may be oral in part if recommended by the advisory committee, but it must be given no later than five years after enrollment and two terms before the final oral defense. It is recommended that the comprehensive exam be given after about two years of doctoral study and following completion of all course work required by the advisory committee. The examination will be given after the applicant has completed any modern language requirement and at least two terms prior to scheduling the final oral examination.

The examination will be prepared and administered by the program with the cooperation of the advisory committee. Satisfactory performance on the comprehensive examination will be regarded as an indication that no additional formal course work is needed, although the student may take additional course work. Any member of the graduate faculty may attend the oral examination as an observer.

### Dissertation

The research study undertaken as part of the doctoral degree program will be presented in the form of a dissertation that can be made a permanent acquisition of the library, along with an abstract. There is no word length requirement for the abstract, but students are advised that many databases will truncate the abstract at 350 words. Any classified or proprietary material that cannot be made available to the public is not acceptable as a dissertation. Completing the dissertation includes approval of the dissertation proposal, preparing the dissertation [according to guidelines](#), and [filing the completed](#) (and successfully defended) dissertation.

The dissertation will be written and prepared under the supervision of the chair of the advisory committee according to discipline-specific writing requirements. A completed draft of the dissertation must be approved by the advisory committee chair two weeks prior to the final examination.

### Oral Examination

At a public final oral examination, primarily concerning the research and doctoral dissertation, the candidate should justify the validity of the methods and conclusions contained in the dissertation and should be familiar with the import of the particular investigations reported in the dissertation relative to the larger body of existing knowledge. The examination may be given any time after a period of two academic terms following the successful completion of the comprehensive examination and upon completion of the dissertation in a satisfactory form. The student's examination results must be reported to the Graduate School on the [Report on Oral Exam form](#) (D8).

The examining committee will be appointed by the Graduate School in consultation with the department chair. The committee will consist of at least four members of the graduate faculty. At least one of these will be from outside the student's administrative home department or school. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor who serves as chair of the committee, must be from the student's home department or school. For interdisciplinary and non-departmental programs, the outside examiner may not be affiliated with the interdisciplinary or non-departmental program. A person external to Michigan Tech may be appointed as an [ad hoc member of the Graduate Faculty](#) to serve as the outside examiner. Persons who are not members of the Graduate Faculty may not serve as voting members of doctoral examination committees.

The examination will be scheduled by filing the [Pre-defense form](#) with the Graduate School, in consultation with the chair of the advisory committee. The date of the examination must be at least two weeks following the approval of the completed draft of the dissertation by the advisory committee. Copies of the completed draft must be distributed to any new members of the examining committee at least two weeks prior to the scheduled examination date.

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Ph. 906-487-2327  
Fax: 906-487-2284  
Email: [gradadms@mtu.edu](mailto:gradadms@mtu.edu)

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1400 Townsend Drive  
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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Master of Business Administration

## Tech MBA

The Michigan Tech MBA program with a focus in innovation and technology management is an easy choice for students who want to gain a competitive edge while working or before entering the workforce. Earn a BS and MBA in just five years or enjoy the flexibility of self-paced courses. After completing the MBA, graduates will be well equipped to take on positions in management, entrepreneurial endeavors, and make challenging decisions in a global economy. Classes are offered in the evenings, [view the course schedule](#). Review the [necessary forms and deadlines](#) for degree completion.

## Tech MBA Online

Earn the Michigan Tech MBA online in a two-year program designed for individuals with work experience. This degree is perfect for individuals looking for a strong foundation in business knowledge, and pairing business and technology for an advancing economy. Graduates will be prepared for roles in management, entrepreneurship, and leadership in a global workplace. View the [course schedule](#), or find out more about the [residencies](#); two at Michigan Tech and one at an international location. Review the [necessary forms and deadlines](#) for degree completion.

Master's Path Program—See [additional details](#) about program requirements.

## Residency Requirements

- Tech MBA: A minimum of 30 of the required credits required for the degree must be taken through Michigan Tech.
- Tech MBA Online: All required credits for the degree must be taken through Michigan Tech. Three [residency](#) experiences are also required.

Courses which meet the "at Michigan Tech" requirement are defined as courses listed in the course catalog and taught by Michigan Tech faculty either on campus, at field locations, or through distance learning.

## Graduate School Credit Requirements

Individual programs may have additional requirements.

## Minimum requirements

- Thirty credits beyond the bachelor's degree for a master's degree.
- Thirty credits beyond the master's degree are required for a PhD.
- Programs determine the distribution of credits, and may require more than the minimum.

## Unallowed credits

- Courses numbered below 3000
- Audited courses
- Continuous enrollment courses (ex: UN5951, UN5953)
- Non-research pass/fail courses
- Credits used to earn another degree (see exceptions below)

## Exceptions

- Maximum of 12 credits at the 3000 and 4000 level may be used with program approval.
- Peace Corps Master's International students may use 2 credits of language courses below the 3000 level.
- Research credits are the only non-graded classes that may be counted toward a degree.
- One-third of the non-research credits may be transferred as long as they were not used to earn another degree.
- One-third of the graduate credits earned at Michigan Tech may be reused to earn an additional master's degree in accordance with [Graduate School policy](#).

## GPA Requirements

Students must be in [good standing](#) to earn a graduate degree.

## Time Limits

All work for the master's degree must be completed within five calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. All work for the PhD must be completed within eight calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. Requests for extension must be made by the advisor to the Graduate School.

## Advisor

Initially the advisor may be the [graduate program director](#), but as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester in residence, a permanent advisor should be chosen. This Michigan Tech graduate faculty member advises the student on course selection and, if applicable, supervises the research experience. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school. The advisor is an important factor in the graduate student's timely and successful completion of the program of study. All graduate students must have an advisor.

## Options

Each student must submit any [necessary forms](#) for their degree option to document their progress with the Graduate School. Individual plan requirements are as follows.

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Tech MBA



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Tech MBA Online



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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Master of Engineering

The master of engineering degree is intended to be a terminal professional degree where the candidate demonstrates advanced ability in course work and with an advanced engineering design project, or practicum. The master of engineering student must comply with the requirements on this page, the requirements of their program, and complete any [necessary forms](#) to document their progress with the Graduate School.

**Campus Residency Requirement**—A minimum of one-half of the course work credits must be taken in residence at Michigan Tech. (Note that this is inconsistent with the general requirement that 2/3 of the course work be taken in residence. See [Senate Proposal 5-98](#).)

## Graduate School Credit Requirements

Individual programs may have additional requirements.

## Minimum requirements

- Thirty credits beyond the bachelor's degree for a master's degree.
- Thirty credits beyond the master's degree are required for a PhD.
- Programs determine the distribution of credits, and may require more than the minimum.

## Unallowed credits

- Courses numbered below 3000
- Audited courses
- Continuous enrollment courses (ex: UN5951, UN5953)
- Non-research pass/fail courses
- Credits used to earn another degree (see exceptions below)

## Exceptions

- Maximum of 12 credits at the 3000 and 4000 level may be used with program approval.
- Peace Corps Master's International students may use 2 credits of language courses below the 3000 level.
- Research credits are the only non-graded classes that may be counted toward a degree.
- One-third of the non-research credits may be transferred as long as they were not used to earn another degree.
- One-third of the graduate credits earned at Michigan Tech may be reused to earn an additional master's degree in accordance with [Graduate School policy](#).

## GPA Requirements

Students must be in [good standing](#) to earn a graduate degree.

## Time Limits

All work for the master's degree must be completed within five calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. All work for the PhD must be completed within eight calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. Requests for extension must be made by the advisor to the Graduate School.

## Advisor

Initially the advisor may be the [graduate program director](#), but as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester in residence, a permanent advisor should be chosen. This Michigan Tech graduate faculty member advises the student on course selection and, if applicable, supervises the research experience. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school. The advisor is an important factor in the graduate student's timely and successful completion of the program of study. All graduate students must have an advisor.

**Advisory Committee**—The advisory committee is nominated by the chair of the major department, usually in consultation with the advisor, and approved by the College of Engineering. At least two of the three examiners must be members of the graduate faculty and at least one of the graduate faculty members must be from outside the major department.

**Course Work**—The minimum requirements are as follows:

Course work	26–30 credits
Practicum	0–4 credits
Total (minimum)	30 credits
Distribution of course work credit	
5000–6000 series (minimum)	12 credits
3000–4000 level (maximum)	14 credits

Master of Engineering Practicum—The practicum is an advanced independent study for students in the master of engineering program. The student in consultation with the advisor develops and executes a project demonstrating capabilities in problem solving, communication, and decision making. The practicum can be completed on campus or at the site of a Michigan Tech corporate partner. Students must submit a written report and make an oral presentation related to their project to their advisory committee. In some cases, the practicum may be waived; approval of the waiver is indicated on the Final Degree Schedule.

The successful on-campus oral presentation will be evaluated by the committee on the [Verification of Degree Requirements](#) (MEng3).

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Master of Forestry

## Program Regulations

The program of study for each student will be planned and supervised in accordance with existing University and School policies. The student's advisory committee (which includes the student's advisor) must ensure that each Master of Forestry candidate's course work meets the standards of a master's program. To become a Michigan Tech forester and to achieve Society of American Foresters accreditation specific skills are needed. Therefore, the Master of Forestry has completely specified course work.

Students must file the [necessary forms](#) with the Graduate School to document their progress.

## Residency Requirements

- A minimum of two-thirds of the required non-research course-work credits required for the degree must be taken through Michigan Tech. PhD students must take at least 20 credits beyond the masters or 50 credits beyond the bachelors through Michigan Tech.
- Research credits used to satisfy degree requirements must be taken through Michigan Tech and must be supervised by a member of Michigan Tech graduate faculty.
- Some graduate degree programs may have other specific requirements.

Courses which meet the "at Michigan Tech" requirement are defined as courses listed in the course catalog and taught by Michigan Tech faculty either on campus, at field locations, or through distance learning.

## Graduate School Credit Requirements

Individual programs may have additional requirements.

## Minimum requirements

- Thirty credits beyond the bachelor's degree for a master's degree.
- Thirty credits beyond the master's degree are required for a PhD.
- Programs determine the distribution of credits, and may require more than the minimum.

## Unallowed credits

- Courses numbered below 3000
- Audited courses
- Continuous enrollment courses (ex: UN5951, UN5953)
- Non-research pass/fail courses
- Credits used to earn another degree (see exceptions below)

## Exceptions

- Maximum of 12 credits at the 3000 and 4000 level may be used with program approval.
- Peace Corps Master's International students may use 2 credits of language courses below the 3000 level.
- Research credits are the only non-graded classes that may be counted toward a degree.
- One-third of the non-research credits may be transferred as long as they were not used to earn another degree.
- One-third of the graduate credits earned at Michigan Tech may be reused to earn an additional master's degree in accordance with [Graduate School policy](#).

## GPA Requirements

Students must be in [good standing](#) to earn a graduate degree.

## Time Limits

All work for the master's degree must be completed within five calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. All work for the PhD must be completed within eight calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. Requests for extension must be made by the advisor to the Graduate School.

## Advisor

Initially the advisor may be the [graduate program director](#), but as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester in residence, a permanent advisor should be chosen. This Michigan Tech graduate faculty member advises the student on course selection and, if applicable, supervises the research experience. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school. The advisor is an important factor in the graduate student's timely and successful completion of the program of study. All graduate students must have an advisor.

## Options



Each student must submit any [necessary forms](#) for their degree option to document their progress with the Graduate School. Individual plan requirements are as follows.

Report Option (Plan B) 





## Oral Examination

Examination by and approval of a faculty committee is required for awarding a master's degree. This committee will examine the general professional knowledge, course work, and (in plans A and B) the written documents of each master's candidate. The public defense is scheduled and the committee nominated via the [Pre-defense form](#) , which must be in the Graduate School two weeks prior to the defense date. The committee's written evaluation must be filed on the [Report on oral examination form](#)  (M6). The student must be enrolled to defend.

**Examination Committee**—The examination committee will be appointed by the dean of the Graduate School in consultation with the department chair. The committee will consist of at least three members of the graduate faculty. At least one of these will be from outside the student's administrative home department or school. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school.

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Master of Science

The master's degree demonstrates advanced ability, usually in both course work and research. The master's student must comply with the degree requirements on this page, and submit any [necessary forms](#) for their degree option to document their progress with the Graduate School. Individual programs may have higher standards. Students are expected to know their program's requirements.

Master's Path Program—See [additional details](#) about program requirements.

## Residency Requirements

- A minimum of two-thirds of the required non-research course-work credits required for the degree must be taken through Michigan Tech. PhD students must take at least 20 credits beyond the masters or 50 credits beyond the bachelors through Michigan Tech.
- Research credits used to satisfy degree requirements must be taken through Michigan Tech and must be supervised by a member of Michigan Tech graduate faculty.
- Some graduate degree programs may have other specific requirements.

Courses which meet the "at Michigan Tech" requirement are defined as courses listed in the course catalog and taught by Michigan Tech faculty either on campus, at field locations, or through distance learning.

## Graduate School Credit Requirements

Individual programs may have additional requirements.

## Minimum requirements

- Thirty credits beyond the bachelor's degree for a master's degree.
- Thirty credits beyond the master's degree are required for a PhD.
- Programs determine the distribution of credits, and may require more than the minimum.

## Unallowed credits

- Courses numbered below 3000
- Audited courses
- Continuous enrollment courses (ex: UN5951, UN5953)
- Non-research pass/fail courses
- Credits used to earn another degree (see exceptions below)

## Exceptions

- Maximum of 12 credits at the 3000 and 4000 level may be used with program approval.
- Peace Corps Master's International students may use 2 credits of language courses below the 3000 level.
- Research credits are the only non-graded classes that may be counted toward a degree.
- One-third of the non-research credits may be transferred as long as they were not used to earn another degree.
- One-third of the graduate credits earned at Michigan Tech may be reused to earn an additional master's degree in accordance with [Graduate School policy](#).

## GPA Requirements

Students must be in [good standing](#) to earn a graduate degree.

## Time Limits

All work for the master's degree must be completed within five calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. All work for the PhD must be completed within eight calendar years of the first enrollment in the degree program or earliest course listed on the degree schedule, whichever is earliest. Requests for extension must be made by the advisor to the Graduate School.

## Advisor

Initially the advisor may be the [graduate program director](#), but as soon as possible, and no later than the end of the second semester in residence, a permanent advisor should be chosen. This Michigan Tech graduate faculty member advises the student on course selection and, if applicable, supervises the research experience. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school. The advisor is an important factor in the graduate student's timely and successful completion of the program of study. All graduate students must have an advisor.

## Options

Each student must submit any [necessary forms](#) for their degree option to document their progress with the Graduate School. Individual plan requirements are as follows.

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 Thesis Option (Plan A) 


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 Report Option (Plan B) 


Coursework Option - Examination Required (Plan C)

Coursework Option - No Oral Examination (Plan D)



## Oral Examination

Examination by and approval of a faculty committee is required for awarding a master's degree. This committee will examine the general professional knowledge, course work, and (in plans A and B) the written documents of each master's candidate. The public defense is scheduled and the committee nominated via the [Pre-defense form](#) , which must be in the Graduate School two weeks prior to the defense date. The committee's written evaluation must be filed on the [Report on oral examination form](#)  (M6). The student must be enrolled to defend.

**Examination Committee**—The examination committee will be appointed by the dean of the Graduate School in consultation with the department chair. The committee will consist of at least three members of the graduate faculty. At least one of these will be from outside the student's administrative home department or school. The primary advisor, or a co-advisor must hold a regular or adjunct appointment in the student's administrative home department or school.

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1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, Michigan 49931-1295

Ph. 906-487-2327  
Fax: 906-487-2284  
Email: [gradadms@mtu.edu](mailto:gradadms@mtu.edu)

**Michigan Technological University**  
1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, Michigan 49931-1295  
906-487-1885

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Peace Corps Master's International Program

## General Information

Students may earn an MS in conjunction with the US Peace Corps, combining academic study in the fields listed below with supervised, practical field experience and research. View a [brochure](#) with overviews of all of the disciplines for more information.

- [Forestry](#)
- [Civil Engineering](#)
- [Environmental Engineering](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering](#)
- [Mitigation of Natural Geological Hazards](#) (Geological Engineering, Geology, Geophysics)
- [Applied Science Education](#)

After completing a program of on-campus academic work, students serve two years with the US Peace Corps. While participating in Peace Corps field work, students enroll in one of [these courses](#) to maintain full-time student status. Students return to campus for one additional semester following their Peace Corps tour to complete their degree requirements. Additional information on each program available through the links above.

## Graduate School Policies

## I. Peace Corps Status

Graduate students entering any of the Peace Corps Master's International Programs on campus receive Peace Corps status and are eligible for the Peace Corps tuition rates and support from the Graduate School for tuition while serving in Peace Corps.

1. Any student who enters their Peace Corps country of service after successfully completing Peace Corps staging maintains Peace Corps status unless they are administratively separated or early terminate their service.

Students who are administratively separated or early terminate may appeal to maintain Peace Corps status. The appeal is made to a committee composed of the Program Directors of the Michigan Technological University Peace Corps Master's International Programs. Appeals are approved at a meeting of the coordinators where a majority of the coordinators constitutes a quorum. Meetings may be held in person or electronically. Appeals to reinstate Peace Corps status must receive approval by a majority of the coordinators who are present. If the student is not satisfied with decision of the committee, the student may appeal to the dean of the Graduate School. The decision of the dean of the Graduate School is final. Appeals may be made at any time prior to graduation, however decisions are not retroactive. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to appeal promptly if the student wishes to maintain Peace Corps enrollment status.

2. Any student who is medically declined by Peace Corps maintains Peace Corps status.
3. Students who do not enter a country of service, except those medically declined by Peace Corps, lose Peace Corps status. This group of students includes those students who voluntarily choose to change programs including, but not exclusively, those who are medically deferred.
4. Any student who loses Peace Corps status must develop a new graduate committee and find a new advisor. This responsibility lies with the student and not the department or school. This change of status is a change of graduate programs and acceptance into the new graduate program is at the discretion of coordinator, director, dean, or department chair responsible for the new graduate program selected by the former Master's International graduate student. The new advisor and student will be required to file a new set of forms with the Graduate School.

This policy is effective for all students who entered a Peace Corps Master's International Program in the 2006-2007 academic year or in subsequent years. Students who entered before the 2006-2007 academic year are covered by the previous policy.

## II. Language Credit

Up to 2 credits of 1000 or 2000 level language credits may be counted as 3000-4000 degree credit towards the completion of Peace Corps Masters International degree.

## III. Thesis Research Credit

Students pursuing thesis option MS degrees may count up to 4 of their "in-country" CE5994, FW5730, or GE5994 credits as thesis research credits if they conducted research while serving in the Peace Corps.

## IV. UN5951

Peace Corps Master's International students can enroll in UN5951 if their program is inactive. This includes students who have completed their coursework prior to entering Peace Corps but have not been given a country assignment by Peace Corps or have been given a late departure date for their assignment.

## V. Enrollment in Overseas Peace Corps Credit

1. Each student should send a copy of his or her Volunteer Assignment Description to the Director of Peace Corps Programs to start the overseas course enrollment.
2. Since the university has no control over when Peace Corps starts people in their assignments or when Peace Corps closes their service, if a student is serving in Peace Corps for any part of a semester the student can be enrolled for the overseas credit for that entire semester. If a student chooses, he or she may opt to be an on-campus student during a semester that is at the beginning or end of Peace Corps service. In this case the student pays the tuition since it is for on-campus credit.

3. If a student is enrolled for the one overseas Peace Corps credit the student cannot be enrolled in any other credits during that semester.
4. The Peace Corps course should not be used as a placeholder for students who have finished on-campus coursework prior to Peace Corps but have not been placed by Peace Corps. This happens most frequently for students with some kind of medical hold from Peace Corps, but there have been other reasons Peace Corps has delayed placement. These students can request enrollment in UN5951.
5. Students can finish their degree while overseas and enrolled in the Peace Corps credit.
6. Students not enrolled in the overseas Peace Corps credit must follow general university regulations regarding health insurance. Students in Peace Corps are covered by the Peace Corps for health insurance.

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Master's Path Program

For students who have completed a three-year bachelor's program outside the US. See our [brochure](#) for more information.

## Background

Some colleges and universities outside the US are moving to a three-year bachelor's degree and a five-year master's degree. After obtaining the three-year degree in their home country, many students would like to go abroad to pursue a high-quality master's degree, gain international experience, and perfect their English. The Michigan Tech Master's Path Program allows students to pursue a master's degree directly, rather than requiring they first complete a bachelor's program at a US institution. The Master's Path Program is offered in more than twenty disciplines in the sciences, engineering, forestry, communications, social sciences, and business.

## Application Process

Students apply for graduate admission using the [international forms](#), specifying "Master's Path." Applications must be approved by both the department chair or school dean and by the Graduate School.


Suggested minimum admissions criteria:

- Completion of recognized three-year degree in appropriate area
- Statement of purpose, official transcripts
- Three letters of reference
- Adequate academic achievement in pursuit of the three-year degree
- GRE/general test results, if required by graduate program,
- Proof of English proficiency TOEFL (at least 550 written, 213 computer-based, or 79 internet based) or ILETS (a score comparable to TOEFL requirements)

## Master's Path Curriculum

Students who hold a 4-year bachelor's degree are required to take at least 30 semester credits beyond the bachelor's for their master's degree. Students entering the Master's Path Program with a 3-year bachelor's degree will be required to take additional credits depending on their preparation in the chosen field of study. The transcript of each accepted student is reviewed by the graduate program, which delineates the specific course requirements needed for completion of the master's degree.

Based on the specific Michigan Tech degree program, the student's focus, and the transcript review, a set of bridge courses, required in addition to the 30 credits, is defined. Courses on the student's transcript that have been taken beyond the requirement of their 3-year bachelor's degree may be evaluated for transfer into the master's curriculum. Bridge courses are integrated into the Master's Path curriculum, which is normally completed within 24 months. Students typically will take a mix of graduate and bridge courses during their first one or two semesters. Students in the Master's Path Program may take an hourly, salaried job on campus during their first semester of residence, provided it does not slow progress toward their degree. (A limited number of hourly research, teaching, and service jobs are available.) Following the successful completion of their first semester, they may, at the discretion of their advisor, be eligible for a research and/or teaching stipend.

Students may use the [Master's Path course planning form](#)  to assist them in degree planning.



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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Certificate Programs

Graduate certificates can be obtained concurrently with a graduate degree or can be obtained by students who have completed an undergraduate degree and apply to Michigan Tech as [nondegree graduate students](#). Undergraduate/Graduate certificates can be obtained concurrently with an undergraduate or graduate degree or can be obtained by part-time students without enrolling in a degree program. All students must, however, comply with the procedures for admission to Michigan Tech.

## Graduate Certificates


Requirements for graduate certificates are defined by University Senate [Proposal 11-10](#). To demonstrate that students have fulfilled the requirements of the certificate, students must complete a [degree schedule](#).

A current listing and brief description of graduate certificate programs may be found [online](#).

## Undergraduate/Graduate Certificates

A certificate is a program of courses that provides a student with knowledge of a disciplinary or interdisciplinary subfield. Departments may offer certificates to both degree seeking and nondegree-seeking students. Nondegree-seeking students who wish to acquire a certificate must comply with procedures for admission to Michigan Tech.

Certificate programs require at least 12 credits, but no more than 25, at least one-half of which must be at the 3000 level and higher. Students must earn a grade of C or better in each course that is used to meet certificate requirements. Departments offering certificates may establish GPA requirements up to 2.5.

- A [full list of certificates](#) is available in the undergraduate catalog.
- Students interested in pursuing a certificate must first express their interest to the appropriate department and complete a [certificate audit form](#).
- Students must add the certificate program to their academic record by completing a [curriculum add/drop form](#)  and submitting it to the Registrar's Office.
- Students who participate in a certificate program are required to complete and submit a [certificate application](#) before graduating.

## Teacher Certification Program

Michigan Tech offers programs leading to Michigan Secondary School Teacher Certification with majors and minors in biology (clinical laboratory science), chemistry, computer science, earth science, social studies, English, mathematics, science, and physics. Students with undergraduate degrees combine a sequence of professional education courses with student teaching to get teacher certification at the secondary school level. Contact the Department of Cognitive & Learning Sciences for specific requirements.

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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Nondegree Graduate Applicants



Students who have completed a bachelor's degree or the equivalent may wish to take courses for graduate credit without enrolling in a specific degree program. This might, for instance, be to meet employer or certification requirements, to facilitate a research exchange, or to transfer graduate credits to another university. This option might also be used by students who are in the process of applying for a degree program but who wish to begin taking courses immediately.

## How to Apply for Nondegree

[Application Form](#). Proof of Bachelor's Degree (photocopy acceptable)  
 NOTE: Michigan Tech graduates do not need to provide proof of degree.

For K-12 Teachers ONLY: Proof of current certification (photocopy acceptable)

## Application Deadlines and Graduate Standing

There is no application deadline.

## Cost of Study

[Current tuition](#). Practicing K-12 teachers who provide proof of certification qualify for the Applied Science Education graduate tuition rate.

## Conditions of Nondegree Graduate Status

Courses taken prior to admission to nondegree seeking status will be reported on an undergraduate transcript and will not transfer as graduate course work.

Graduate-level courses will appear on the transcript as, and be transferable as, graduate level credits. NOTE: Failure to provide proof of bachelor's degree prior to completion of a course will result in any credits earned being reported on an undergraduate transcript.

TOEFL or GRE scores are not required for admission. Students whose academic or language proficiency is not sufficient for acceptable participation in the chosen class will be advised to register for a lower-level class and/or will be expected to take language courses concurrent with the graduate enrollment.

Admission to a graduate degree program will require submission of a standard application for graduate admission.

Nondegree seeking students can transfer a maximum of 1/3 of the total number of non-research credits required for a specific graduate degree if they change from nondegree seeking to degree-seeking status at Michigan Tech.

Departments and programs determine which courses taken by nondegree seeking students can be used to satisfy requirements for a specific degree.

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**APPLY** to Michigan Tech





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## GRADUATE SCHOOL | Off-Campus Programs with Partnered Sponsors

Michigan Tech promotes knowledge enrichment and personal development through graduate level credit courses and programs, as well as noncredit courses and seminars offered via online and distance delivery technologies to individuals and corporate sponsors. For information about Michigan Tech's off-campus options for individuals outside of partnership agreements, visit [Tech Online](#). Most online courses are delivered via streaming video and Blackboard. View a [preview of a streamed video lecture](#).

## Partnered Research Master's and PhD Degrees

This option is for research degrees offered under the auspices of a contractual agreement with a cooperating partner in industry, government, or the non-profit sector.

The heart of this option lies not only in the student-advisor mentoring relationship, but also in opportunities for students to work together and for the advisory committee to meet with the student. Distance learning research-based degrees at both the master's and doctoral level are designed to ensure fidelity to these relationships and thus maintain the high standards of Michigan Tech graduate degrees. The public defense of theses, dissertations, reports, projects, and plan C coursework should preferably occur on campus. Students in partnered programs may take up to 1/3 of the required coursework credits from other universities provided the course plan is approved in advance of course registration.

## Master's Partnered Option

A distance option is available in some programs for students who are employees of cooperating industrial, government, and organization partners and who meet admissions requirements. Each agreement is site- and program-specific, particularly with regard to how the student-advisor relationship will be maintained, but all generally involve the following conditions:

- approval of the site facilities (laboratories, libraries, computer facilities, etc. as appropriate to the program)
- appointment of a qualified on-site co-advisor to adjunct graduate faculty status
- periodic visits to the Michigan Tech campus in Houghton at specific mileposts in the degree, e.g., orientation; proposal defense; study weeks; thesis, project, or coursework defense

Agreements may also include additional requirements, e.g., Michigan Tech faculty time on site with the student, summer school residency, video-conferences for periodic reviews, etc.

## Doctoral Partnered Programs

A distance option is available in some programs for students who have already earned a master's degree; who are employees of cooperating industrial, government, and organization partners; and who meet admissions requirements. Each agreement is site and program specific, particularly with regard to how the student-advisor relationship will be maintained, but all generally involve the following conditions:

- approval of the site facilities (laboratories, libraries, computer facilities, etc. as appropriate to the program)
- appointment of a qualified on-site co-advisor to adjunct graduate faculty status
- all degree exams (qualifiers, preliminaries, comprehensives, and dissertation defense and oral examination) are preferably conducted on the Michigan Tech campus.
- additional periodic visits to the Michigan Tech campus in Houghton.
- Michigan Tech advisor will be supported by the partner and will spend substantive time on site at the student's research facility
- some remote programs require one or more semesters in residence on the Michigan Tech campus, which can be met by enrollment in the full (14-week) summer session.

For more information contact Jacque Smith in the Graduate School at 1.906.487.1434, or via [e-mail](#).