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Arkansas state masters programs

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The university offers traditional graduate programs, online services, and international admissions, with a focus on supporting students in their academic journey. The Graduate School at Arkansas State values its students as integral members of the research, teaching, and service mission. It believes that expanding one's horizons through education is essential for personal growth and career development. Users can consider applying for graduate programs to enhance their knowledge and skills, with a tuition fellowship opportunity available for qualified students who meet specific criteria. Fee Waiver Policy Arkansas residents sixty years of age or older are eligible to have their in-state tuition waived. This waiver does not cover all charges related to enrollment. Graduate Bulletin Refer to your specific Graduate Bulletin for detailed information about our academic policies. Course Requirements Master's degree programs consist of courses numbered 5000 and 6000. Courses 7000 and above are typically reserved for specialist and doctoral programs. Degree Completion - For master's degrees requiring 30 hours, at least 50% must be completed at the 6000 level. - A course with undergraduate credit cannot be taken again as graduate credit. Graduate Studies - No more than six semester hours of independent study credit can be applied towards a graduate degree. - Graduate students in courses 5000 through 5999 are expected to complete additional work. Special Studies Courses These courses can be organized in any college at any level, with the second digit being 9 and following specific department guidelines. Auditing Courses All auditing students pay the regular audit fee, with no credit awarded. *For a student's first five class days of a five-week term, they will receive a WN (Withdrawal for Non-Attendance) grade and be administratively withdrawn from the course. This grade does not affect their GPA calculation.* Students who initially attend but discontinue attendance or complete assignments without dropping the class are assigned an FN (Failure for Non-Attendance) grade, equivalent to a grade of F for calculating GPA and academic standing. *Academic standing, not attendance, determines a student's eligibility for continued enrollment.* Graduate students may transfer up to nine semester hours of credit with approval from their advisor and program director. The transferred work must have a "B" or better average and be earned at an accredited graduate school and acceptable toward a graduate degree. *Arkansas State University uses a four-point grading system, where grades range from A (4 points) to F (0 points), with the following explanations:* A - Excellent for outstanding achievement B - Good for less than outstanding but demonstrating better performance C - Satisfactory for normal competency required for satisfactory progress toward graduation F - Failure for performance that does not meet minimum course requirements and justifies no degree credit P - Pass for satisfactory performance CR - Credit not requiring letter grades NC - No credit for not meeting minimum degree credit standards for courses not requiring letter grades *Grading system uses additional explanations:* AU - Audit for meeting all course requirements except taking examinations and completing written papers (0 points) IP - In progress for Thesis and Dissertation only (0 points) I - Incomplete for students' inability to complete all course requirements beyond their control (0 points) W - Withdrawal for dropping an individual course or complete withdrawal from the university (0 points) WN - Administrative drop for non-attendance during the first eleven days of class (0 points) FN - Failure for failure to attend and not withdraw from the University (0 points) *Grade point averages are calculated by multiplying credit hours of each grade by its assigned grade points, dividing the sum by total hours, and excluding grades P, CR, and NC.* However, the "WN" grade cannot be appealed. To earn a degree, students must have a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or higher on all coursework and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 in their academic college. If a student's GPA falls below 3.00 at the end of a semester, they will be placed on probation. To get off probation, students must raise their GPA to 3.00 or better by the end of the next semester. Failure to achieve this will result in suspension from further graduate studies. Students on probation cannot hold assistantships and are not eligible for graduation. If a student receives an "F" grade in any course while on probation, they will be suspended from the University. Suspended students can apply for readmission after a minimum one-semester break, but this does not guarantee readmission to their original program. Students must reapply to the program and will only be readmitted upon recommendation of their advisor and department chair. A second suspension makes a student ineligible for readmission to the same program, while multiple suspensions from different programs make them ineligible for University readmission. The last day to drop individual courses is two weeks prior to final exams in Fall and Spring semesters. For other semesters, deadlines are published on the Office of Admissions, Records and Registration website. Students who drop courses receive a "W" grade, while students enrolled in only one course must withdraw from the University instead. Graduate students who fail to officially withdraw from classes or complete the withdrawal process will receive an FN grade in all courses they were enrolled in. The maximum academic load for full-time graduate students is 15 semester hours per regular semester or the summer term, with special permission allowed for overload. Graduate students are considered full-time if they take nine hours or more in Fall and Spring terms, or six hours or more cumulative over summer terms. Those in accelerated online programs are considered full-time when taking at least three graduate hours. Master's and Specialist level graduate assistants must complete a minimum of six hours of graduate credit per regular semester and cannot enroll for more than 12 hours total. Doctoral level graduate assistants must take a minimum of nine hours during the regular semester and three hours during each summer term if holding an assistantship. Assistantships are available to support students' academic programs, teaching, research, and service missions. There are three types of assistantships: Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA), Graduate Research Assistants (GRA), and Graduate Administrative Support Assistants (GSA). Assistantships are available for both regular semesters and summer school. Applications must be made through the department chair in which the student wishes to major, and a graduate assistantship carries a waiver of out-of-state tuition. Graduate students at Arkansas State University must maintain a GPA above 3.00 to avoid probation and graduate assistantship loss. Assistantships have time limits: five semesters for master's and specialist level, eight semesters for Ed.D. and Ph.D., except for Ed.S. in Psychology and Counseling students, who have an eight-semester limit. Tuition Fellowship for Out-of-State Students: A waiver of out-of-state tuition costs is offered to qualified graduate students meeting specific criteria: cumulative GPA above 3.000, attending with 6+ graduate hours per semester or 3+ per summer term, and being U.S. residents outside Arkansas and its territories. Graduate School Appeals: Processes are outlined in the A-State Student Handbook. Students should appeal through their advisor first, then follow proper channels for timely resolution. Intent to Graduate: All candidates must notify the university and pay a graduation fee upon enrollment for the final registration period before completing requirements. Thesis and Dissertations: Some programs require a thesis or dissertation; students must form a committee, propose approval at least one semester prior, and register with the Registrar once the proposal is approved. IRB approvals are required for research involving humans under federal funding guidelines. All research and activities involving humans, funded or not, must comply with federal regulations. This includes thesis or dissertation work that involves human subjects. The A-State Institutional Review Board Information Packet is available in the Office of Research and Technology Transfer for more information. Research using live animals, hazardous materials, recombinant DNA, or radioactive materials may require approval from the relevant compliance committee. Contact the Research Compliance Officer in the Office of Research and Technology Transfer for additional details. The time allowed to complete a doctoral degree is eight years from initial enrollment, excluding time spent in the US armed forces. Any graduate work completed outside this timeframe cannot be used to meet degree requirements. However, transfer credit taken before admission at A-State may still be included within the eight-year limit. For specialist and master's degrees, the time allowed for completion is six years from initial enrollment, also excluding time spent in the US armed forces. Graduate work completed outside this timeframe cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements. As with doctoral degrees, transfer credit taken before admission at A-State may still be included within the six-year limit.