Template For Development Of An Accelerated Bachelor's / Master's Program

1. Proposing College(s)/School(s): College of Science and Math
   Department(s): Geology and Geography

2. Program Coordinator(s): Toni Alexander/Ashraf Uddin
3. Effective Term: Spring 2013

4. Included Programs:
   Undergraduate: Bachelor of Geography
   Graduate: Master of Arts/Science in Geography

5. Program Hours:
   Undergraduate: 120
   Graduate: 30

6. Admission Qualifications:
   Credit Hours Earned
   Minimum: 45
   Maximum: 96
   At Auburn: 24
   Grade Point Average
   Major: 3.4
   Minimum Grade in Gateway Course
   Course(s), Grade(s): See item #11
   Time Limit to Earn Degree
   Undergraduate Program: 2 years
   Graduate Program: 3 years

7. Retention Standards:
   Grade Point Average
   Major: 3.4
   Minimum Grade in Major Course(s)
   Course(s), Grade(s):

8. Graduate Course Substitutions:
   Graduate Course
   GEOG 6700
   GEOG 6800
   GEOG 6XXX Elective

   Undergraduate Course Replaced
   GEOG Elective
   GEOG Elective
   GEOG Elective

   Credit Hours
   3
   3
   3

9. Maximum Double-Counted Hours: 9
   (Indicate the maximum number of credit hours (c.h.) that may be double-counted, as per the guidelines listed above)
10. Justification for Program:
The accelerated degree program will provide an opportunity for highly motivated students to gain an in-depth understanding of materials related to geography beyond that of typical bachelor's level graduates and make them more competitive for the job market or for graduate studies. The accelerated degree program will also provide an opportunity for students involved in undergraduate research to build on that research and develop it into a masters thesis. In both cases, the accelerated program allows students to achieve these accomplishments with only an additional one year and summer beyond the bachelor's degree. The availability of an accelerated degree program will also be useful in recruiting highly motivated high school students. (Include a concise, yet adequate rationale for the proposal of the accelerated program -- citing such factors as market need, student demand, etc.)

11. Application Process:
Students will apply for the program after completion of GEOG 1010, 2010, 2020, and 3810 which should be taken by the end of fall term of their junior year. Applications will consist of plans of study for both the Bachelor of Geography and Master of Arts/Science in Geography degrees and will be due by February 1. Students accepted into the program must have a GPA of at least 3.4 and have earned at least a B in the course listed above. Upon approval by the Program Director and Department Chair, students will apply to the Graduate School, so that accepted students can register in 6000-level courses beginning in Fall in their senior year. (Outline the process for acceptance into the accelerated program; include all necessary departmental, college, and other approvals that will be necessary)

12. Program Matriculation:
Students will matriculate in the accelerated program during Fall of the senior year of their undergraduate degree program. According to the model schedule, students will complete the Bachelor of Geography in the first Spring following matriculation into the program, which would be their last semester in the normal bachelor's degree program. The Master of Science/Arts in Geography would be completed in August of the second year in advanced degree program (i.e. 2 years after matriculation into the accelerated program or 15 months after completion of bachelor's degree). (Provide a brief narration of the program, as it will be taken by students; include estimated timeframes for application to the graduate portion of the program, completion of the undergraduate portion of the program, and any internships/field experience)

13. Academic Advising:
All undergraduates students in Geography must meet with the academic advisor each semester to obtain their registration PIN and this practice will apply to students in the accelerated program too. Graduate students will have a major professor directing their thesis research. In addition, the Geography academic advisor is available as needed. (Address how academic advising for the student will be handled, from undergraduate program admission through completion of the accelerated program)

14. Withdrawal Process:
Students may withdraw voluntarily from the program by notifying the Geology and Geography Graduate Program officer. (Outline both the process for withdrawing from the accelerated program, as well as the implications on matriculation and earning of undergraduate and graduate degrees)

15. Additional Information:
(Include any additional information regarding the accelerated program that may be pertinent to its review and approval)
Curriculum Models

(Please attach the proposed curriculum models for both the undergraduate and graduate components of the accelerated degree program; a current model for each may be provided as well, for comparative purposes)
### Bachelor of Geography Curriculum Model

#### Senior Year for Students in Accelerated Degree Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 5820: Remote Sensing</td>
<td>GEOG 6700: Quantitative Methods and Spatial Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 6XXX: GEOG Elective*</td>
<td>GEOG 6800: Geographic Thought</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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The courses indicated in boldface type would be used by students enrolled in the Accelerated Master’s program to meet nine undergraduate hours in Geography Electives during their senior year and nine graduate credit hours (including two courses required of all MS Geography students and a graduate Geography Elective) during their first year of the graduate program. All courses at the 6000-level are also offered at the 5000-level; however, those at the graduate level have additional requirements and higher expectations.
*CURRENT COURSES ACCEPTED AS GEOG 6XXX Electives
(subject to additions with the hiring of additional faculty)

GEOG 6010: Urban Geography (3)
GEOG 6210: Climatology (3)
GEOG 6220: Geomorphology (3)
GEOG 6350: Economic Geography (3)
GEOG 6400: Geography of Natural Hazards (3)
GEOG 6600: Global Resources and the Environment (3)
GEOG 6820: Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing (4) – if not taken as GEOG 5820
GEOG 6830: Geographic Information Systems (4) – if not taken as GEOG 5830
GEOG 6870: Advanced Remote Sensing (3)
GEOG 6880: Advanced Geographic Information Systems (3)
GEOG 6970: Seminar in Geography (3)
Accelerated Master of Science in Geography Curriculum Model

The M.S. degree in Geography only has two required courses (GEOG 6700 and GEOG 6800) with the remainder of the coursework comprised of 18 graduate-level credit hours (12 of which must come from Geography). Students also complete 6 credit hours of research and thesis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hour Summary</th>
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<td>Coursework counted for Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coursework counted for Master’s Degree alone</td>
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<td>Research and Thesis</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<th>FIRST YEAR GRADUATE</th>
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<th>SPRING</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 6XXX: GEOG Elective*</td>
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<td>GEOG 6700: Quantitative Methods and Spatial Analysis</td>
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<td>GEOG 6800: Geographic Thought</td>
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<td>GEOG 7990: Research and Thesis</td>
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