

The Graduate School •

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

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► THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

CONCEPTS AND PURPOSE

The primary purposes of the Graduate School are:

- to provide students with opportunities for advanced study and specialization,
- to instruct students in methods of independent investigation, and
- to foster the spirit of scholarship and research.

The Graduate School administers more than 130 graduate degree programs offered at LSU. The school was established because the University recognized its obligation to provide an environment for research and free inquiry and to make the results of these activities available to the public.

The LSU Graduate School may be considered the state center of academic research and advanced studies as it carries on a more extended and comprehensive program than any other educational institution in the state.

Doctoral research programs are the essential defining feature of a university; without them, the institution would more properly be called a college. LSU's status as one of the top 70 research universities in the nation, and its classification as Research—Extensive by the Carnegie Foundation depend chiefly on two criteria held to be prime indicators that an institution is a major center for the creation of new knowledge:

- (1) The funding for research and the number of new PhDs produced each year.
- (2) Doctoral education, the training of future generations of scholars, keeps LSU—and helps to keep Louisiana and the nation—on the leading edge of discovery.

LSU offers doctoral programs in 54 major fields of study. These programs offer opportunities for advanced training and research in all areas of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Master's degree programs are offered in 72 major fields. These range from Master of Fine Arts degrees in creative writing, studio art, and theatre to professional degree programs in social work, business administration, and library and information science.

Students seeking the professional degree, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), offered through the School of Veterinary Medicine, study and work in one of the most advanced and well-equipped schools of veterinary medicine in the United States. The School of Veterinary Medicine also offers master's and doctoral degrees through the Graduate School.

Additional information about the degree programs listed below may be found in the *Graduate Bulletin*, which may be accessed through the LSU home page, www.lsu.edu.

Additional information about specific graduate and professional programs is published in catalogs, or brochures that may be obtained from the department or school at addresses listed in this catalog.

HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION

The first graduate degree recorded was a "Civil Engineering" degree awarded in 1869. By 1890, 14 master's degrees had been awarded, and by 1909, a total of 32. In 1909, the Graduate Department was established, with the general supervision of graduate work vested in a Committee on Graduate Courses. During the period from 1909 to 1931, 439 master's degrees were awarded.

In 1931, the Graduate School was established and the first graduate dean, Charles W. Pipkin, was appointed. The former Committee on Graduate Studies was reorganized into a Graduate Council. Doctoral programs were also established in 1931, and the first doctorate was awarded in 1935. From 1931 through spring 2006, 8,379 Doctor of Philosophy degrees, 492 doctorates other than Doctor of Philosophy degrees, and 43,910 master's degrees were awarded. The total number of advanced degrees awarded by LSU thus reached 52,779.

The affairs of the Graduate School are administered by the graduate dean, with the advice and consultation of the Graduate Council. The council is composed of the dean and associate dean of the Graduate School, who serve as *ex officio* members, and 16 faculty members appointed by the Chancellor for rotating terms of five years each. The council considers proposals for new degree programs, recommends membership classifications on the graduate faculty, and makes recommendations to the graduate faculty for changes in Graduate School policy.

► ADMISSION • GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission to the Graduate School is awarded on the basis of evidence of academic achievement and promise. Applications of students who meet Graduate School requirements are forwarded to the appropriate academic units for final approval. Because of their nature, certain programs require higher admission standards than those of the Graduate School.

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL DEGREES		
Department	Major	Degree
Accounting	Accounting	MS, PhD
Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness	Agricultural Economics	MS, PhD
Agriculture	Agriculture*	MAgri
Agronomy & Environmental Management	Agronomy	MS, PhD
Animal Science & Dairy Sciences	Animal and Dairy Sciences*	MS, PhD
Architecture, School of	Architecture	MArch
Art, School of	Art History	MA
	Studio Art	MFA
Biological Sciences	Biochemistry	MS, PhD
	Biological Sciences	MS, PhD
Biological & Agricultural Engineering	Biological and Agricultural Engineering	MS in Biol. & Ag. E.
Business Administration	Business Administration*	MBA
	Business Administration (Finance)*	PhD**
	Business Administration (Information Systems and Decision Sciences)*	PhD**
	Business Administration (Management)*	PhD**
	Business Administration (Marketing)*	PhD**
Chemical Engineering, Gordon A. & Mary Cain Department of	Chemical Engineering	MS in ChE, PhD
Chemistry	Chemistry	MS, PhD
Civil & Environmental Engineering	Civil Engineering	MS in CE, PhD
Communication Sciences & Disorders	Communication Disorders	MA, PhD
Communication Studies	Communication Studies	MA, PhD
Comparative Literature	Comparative Literature*	MA, PhD
Computer Sciences	Systems Science*	MS in Sy. Sc.
	Computer Science	PhD
Construction Management and Industrial Engineering	Industrial Engineering	MS in IE
Educational Theory, Policy and Practice	Education	MA, MEd, EdS***
	Curriculum and Instruction	PhD
	Administration	MEd
	Guidance	MEd
	Educational Leadership and Research	PhD

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL DEGREES		
Department	Major	Degree
	Educational Leadership and Research	PhD
Economics	Economics	MS, PhD
Educational Leadership, Research, & Counseling	Administration	MEd
	Guidance	MEd
	Education	MA, MEd, EdS* **
	Educational Leadership and Research	PhD
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Electrical Engineering	MS in EE, PhD
Engineering	Donald W. Clayton Graduate Program in Engineering Science at LSU*	MS in ES, PhD
English	English	MA, PhD
	Creative Writing	MFA
Entomology	Entomology	MS, PhD
Environmental Studies	Environmental Sciences	MS
Experimental Statistics	Applied Statistics	MApStat
Finance	Finance	MS
Food Science	Food Science	MS, PhD
Foreign Languages & Literatures	Hispanic Studies	MA
French Studies	French	MA, PhD
Geography & Anthropology	Anthropology	MA
	Geography	M., MS, PhD
Geology & Geophysics	Geology	MS, PhD
History	History	MA, PhD
Horticulture	Horticulture	MS, PhD
Human Ecology, School of	Human Ecology	MS, PhD
Human Resource Education & Workforce Development, School of	Human Resource Education	MS, PhD
Kinesiology	Kinesiology	MS, PhD
Landscape Architecture, School of	Landscape Architecture	MLA
Liberal Arts	Liberal Arts*	MALA
Library & Information Science	Library and Information Science	MLIS, CAS
Linguistics	Linguistics*	MA, PhD
Marketing	Marketing	MS
Mass Communication, Manship School of	Mass Communication	MMC, PhD
Mathematics	Mathematics	MS, PhD
Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	MS in ME, PhD

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL DEGREES		
Department	Major	Degree
Music, School of	Music	MM, DMA, PhD
Natural Sciences	Natural Sciences*	MNS
Oceanography & Coastal Sciences	Oceanography and Coastal Sciences	MS, PhD
Petroleum Engineering, Craft & Hawkins Department of	Petroleum Engineering	MS in Pet E, PhD
Philosophy & Religious Studies	Philosophy	MA
Physics & Astronomy	Medical Physics and Health Physics	MS
	Physics	MS, PhD
Plant Pathology & Crop Physiology	Plant Health	MS, PhD
Political Science	Political Science	MA, PhD
Psychology	Psychology	MA, PhD
Public Administration Institute	Public Administration*	MPA
Renewable Natural Resources, School of	Fisheries	MS
	Forestry	MS, PhD
	Wildlife	MS
	Wildlife and Fisheries Science	PhD
Social Work, School of	Social Work	MSW, PhD
Sociology	Sociology	MA, PhD
Theatre	Theatre	MFA, PhD
Veterinary Medicine	Veterinary Medical Sciences*	MS, PhD
	Veterinary Medicine	DVM

Interdepartmental programs are indicated by one asterisk (). The Ph.D. in business administration is available with areas of specialization in finance, management, marketing, and information systems and decision sciences (**). The M.A., M.Ed., and Ed.S. in education are single degrees shared by two departments, Educational Leadership, Research, & Counseling and Curriculum & Instruction(***).*

Because of the high demand for many graduate programs, meeting the minimum requirements of the Graduate School does not guarantee admission into a particular program.

Applicants meeting requirements stated below are normally granted *regular* admission. Applicants failing to meet all requirements may be granted *probationary* admission, provided other substantial evidence of capacity to do satisfactory graduate work, including outstanding performance in post-baccalaureate and/or graduate work, high Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores (Graduate Management Admission Test—GMAT—scores, where appropriate), and other outstanding achievements, is presented.

Applicants with unsatisfactory undergraduate records who have completed a minimum of nine hours of graded graduate course work with at least a 3.33 graduate grade point average (gpa) (“A”=4.00) in graduate course work and who have acceptable GRE scores (or, GMAT where applicable) will be considered for admission.

Applicants who appear admissible on the basis of unofficial and/or incomplete

transcripts of previous work or unofficial test scores, but who are unable to supply the required records prior to registration, may be granted *provisional* admission. Subsequent enrollment will not be permitted until all provisions are met. Provisional admission does not guarantee subsequent regular admission.

Meeting the *minimum* requirements, as outlined in the following sections, does not necessarily ensure acceptance into a specific program, since departments may establish higher standards or require special admission requirements and conditions.

Admission to a Degree Program

Regular Admission • Regular admission is awarded to applicants who intend to pursue a degree and who meet the following requirements:

- a bachelor’s degree from an accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a foreign institution;
- a gpa of at least 3.00 (“A”=4.00) on all undergraduate work (or at least half-degree requirement) and a 3.00 gpa or better on any

graduate work already completed; International applicants must have at least a 3.00 gpa, or equivalent, on all college-level work previously attempted;

- acceptable scores on the Graduate Record Examination or GRE (in some cases, a high GRE may be used to compensate for a low gpa); in place of the GRE, an acceptable score on the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) is required for graduate programs in the E. J. Ourso College of Business, except for the M.P.A., and the M.S. and Ph.D. in economics; and
- acceptance by the graduate faculty in the applicant’s area of study. Applicants who are narrowly trained or who have taken a significant amount of work on a pass-fail basis or in ungraded courses may be required to submit scores on GRE Subject (Advanced) Tests before their applications can be considered. Consult individual departments for additional admission requirements.

Probationary Admission • Applicants who fail to meet one or more of the requirements for regular admission may be

admitted on probation, provided additional evidence of capacity to do satisfactory work is presented. Such evidence might include superior performance in a substantial amount of post-baccalaureate work, high GRE scores (GMAT scores, when appropriate), and other achievements.

Students entering on probation will remain on probation until the completion of nine hours of graduate-level, graded courses ("A," "B," and "C" only) with at least a 3.00 average. Part-time students entering on probation and registering for fewer than nine hours may be dropped from the Graduate School if their semester and/or graduate gpa is less than 3.00 during any semester they are registered.

Provisional Admission • Provisional admission may be considered for applicants who appear to be admissible on the basis of the credentials submitted, but who are unable to supply all of the required official records prior to registration. Students admitted provisionally must submit complete and satisfactory records within 60 days (45 days in summer term) after the first day of registration. If these credentials are not received by the date specified or if they prove to be unsatisfactory, the student will not be permitted to register for the following semester. Provisional admission does not guarantee subsequent regular admission.

Admission of International Students

An applicant who has completed degree requirements outside the U.S. must present the following:

- a complete and accurate chronological outline of all previous college-level education;
- authorized school or university records—transcripts, marksheets, certificates of degrees—showing all courses taken and all grades received, with certified translations if the records are in a language other than English;
- a bachelor's degree or its equivalent, with a gpa equivalent to a "B" or better (3.00 out of a possible 4.00) on all previous undergraduate work (or at least half-degree requirement) from an accredited college or university;
- certification of the availability of sufficient funds to meet all costs while studying at LSU (if an assistantship with a stipend of at least \$10,835 is not offered) before the letter of admission and Form I-20 will be mailed;
- GRE Test scores (GMAT where appropriate); and
- satisfactory score of 550 (paper based), 213 (computer based), or 79 (internet based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), except for applicants from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, certain Caribbean islands, Belize, and the United Kingdom. International students who have received a degree from an accredited institution in the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, certain Caribbean islands, or the United Kingdom are also exempt from taking the TOEFL.

A TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper based), 213 (computer based), or 79 (Internet based) must be received before a student's application is evaluated for admission. Application forms and information about the

TOEFL may be obtained from American embassies and consulates, offices of the U.S. Information Service, or Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, New Jersey, USA 08541-6000.

Application deadlines for international applicants are the same as for all other applicants; however, because transcripts from foreign universities require special evaluation, prospective international students should begin the application process at least 9-12 months prior to the semester in which they plan to enroll. Applications from international students received after the deadline dates will be processed for the following semester or summer term. Also, when sufficient scholastic records and acceptable evidence of English proficiency are not received early enough to determine admissibility for the semester for which application is made, consideration for a subsequent semester will be made only upon the applicant's written request.

Upon arrival on campus and before registration, international applicants (except citizens of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, or the United Kingdom, certain Caribbean islands, and Belize) who have been admitted to Graduate School must take the LSU Comprehensive English Language Test, which consists of the Michigan Test and a writing sample. Students whose tests indicate a deficiency in English will be required to register for appropriate English composition courses with a reduced load of graduate courses.

All international graduate students awarded graduate assistantships must demonstrate proficiency in English by examination or enroll in a Spoken American English course during the first semester of the assistantship. The course will result in a recommendation (or nonrecommendation) to assume teaching duties. Any international teaching assistant who has not received a recommendation from this speech course may not teach in any capacity.

An international applicant who has completed an undergraduate degree at an accredited U.S. institution must meet the regular admission requirements. Before the applicant can be considered, the Graduate School must receive a satisfactory GRE or GMAT score. An international applicant will not be admitted until this information had been received.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

An "Application for Admission to Graduate Degree Program" packet may be obtained from the Graduate School or from the graduate department to which application is being made. All applications for graduate admission must be accompanied by a *nonrefundable \$25 application fee* (check or money order made payable to LSU). Do not send cash through the mail. Checks or money orders must be drawn on U.S. banks. A *late fee of \$25* must be paid if the application is postmarked after the following dates: *May 1 for intersession, May 15 for the fall semester, October 15 for the spring semester, and May 15 for the summer term.* International applications received after the deadline will be processed for the following semester and no late fee will be assessed.

Fall applications must be received before

the January 25 priority date in order to receive full consideration for assistantships, fellowships, or scholarships for which the applicant has applied.

International applicants are encouraged to determine course availability before applying for summer entry and are further encouraged to apply at least 9-12 months in advance of their intended semester of entrance.

Applicants for graduate admission should proceed as follows:

I. Applicants are responsible for submitting the following items to the Graduate School, 114 David Boyd Hall, LSU, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803:

- The completed *Application for Admission to Graduate Degree Program*
- The required application fee and any applicable late fee.
- One set of *official* transcripts of all previous college or university work **from each institution attended.** (An official transcript bears the official seal of the issuing school. Photocopies, facsimiles, or transcripts marked "issued to student" are not official.) Transfer credit posted on the records of other institutions is not accepted in lieu of transcripts from the original institution(s). If the college or university will supply an official transcript in a **sealed and signed envelope**, the student should obtain the transcript in that manner and submit it unopened. If the college or university will not send official transcripts to a student, please request that a transcript be sent to the Graduate School at the address above. Transcripts from LSU-BR need not be submitted. **International applicants:** Include degree statements and an official English translation of each foreign document.
- Financial statement (international students only).

II. The following materials must be submitted to the department the student wishes to enter. Please send them to Graduate Adviser, Department of _____, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

- One set of *official* transcripts of all previous college or university work **from each institution attended.** Transfer credit posted on the records of other institutions is not accepted in lieu of transcripts from the original institution(s). If the college or university will supply an official transcript **in a sealed and signed envelope**, a student is to obtain the transcript in that manner and submit it unopened. If the college or university will not send official transcripts to a student, please request that a transcript be sent to the Graduate Adviser at the address above. Transcripts from LSU-BR need not be submitted. **International applicants:** Include degree statements and an official English translation of each foreign document.
- Three letters of recommendation. Some departments may accept electronically submitted letters.

III. The following is also to be sent to the Graduate School, 114 David Boyd Hall:

- A satisfactory score on the verbal and quantitative portion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). LSU's code for GRE

reporting is R6373-5; also indicate the appropriate department code, so that scores will be forwarded automatically to the department to which application is being made. Test information may be obtained from the Graduate School at LSU, graduate schools at most colleges and universities, or by writing to Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541. Allow at least six weeks for the examination results to reach LSU. Applicants to the Master of Fine Arts programs (studio art and theatre), Master of Music, and programs in business administration are not required to submit GRE scores. Applicants for the Master of Fine Arts in creative writing are required to submit GRE scores.

- The Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) is required of applicants for all degrees in the E. J. Ourso College of Business except for the M.S. and Ph.D. with a major in economics. The Department of Information Systems & Decision Sciences and the M.P.A. Program will accept either the GRE or GMAT score. Application procedures for the GMAT are the same as described above. This examination may also be taken at LSU; the code for GMAT score reporting is also R6373-5.

IV. Applicants may be responsible for submitting additional materials to the departments to which they are applying. Most departments have specific departmental admission requirements. For specifics, consult the individual departments.

Admission is for the semester requested. Those admitted who do not register must make a written request to be reconsidered for admission for a subsequent semester. Application updates are accepted for two subsequent semesters from the original application semester (summer term included). A new application for admission is required when the original application has been on file more than three concurrent semesters. The Graduate School *will not* consider for admission any nonimmigrant who has entered the U.S. on an I-20 issued by another institution until that person has been enrolled for at least one semester at the institution issuing the I-20.

NONDEGREE ADMISSION

A student who holds a baccalaureate degree but who does not desire to enroll in a degree program in the Graduate School may enroll as a graduate *nonmatriculating student*. Course work is taken for academic credit, and all rules and regulations for graduate students apply. A student in this category must register for at least one course numbered 4000 or above each semester to maintain graduate status. Courses numbered below 4000 may be taken concurrently with graduate course work.

Enrollment in courses numbered 6000 and above is limited to a total of six semester hours for graduate students in this classification. However, an unlimited number of courses numbered 5999 and below may be taken.

No more than 12 hours of graduate credit taken as a nonmatriculating student may be applied to the requirement for a master's degree. No more than 12 hours of combined credit transferred from other schools and earned as an LSU extension or nonmatriculating student may be applied toward a master's degree at LSU. (See the section titled Transfer of Credit.)

Students wishing to enroll *only in courses numbered below 4000* should apply for undergraduate admission through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, 110 Thomas Boyd Hall. *Students classified as extension students are ineligible to enroll in on-campus courses.*

Applications for graduate nondegree admission may be obtained from the Graduate School. Students applying for graduate nondegree admission must submit one official transcript from the highest degree-granting institution and from each institution where graduate credit was earned or attempted. Transcripts must indicate that the applicant has a 2.50 or better gpa on all undergraduate work completed and a 3.00 or better gpa on all graduate work completed. In addition, international applicants must submit scores of 550 (paper based), 213 (computer based), or 79 (internet based) or better on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), except for applicants from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, certain Caribbean islands, Belize, and the United Kingdom. International

students who have received a degree from an accredited institution in the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, certain Caribbean islands, Belize, and the United Kingdom are also exempt from taking the TOEFL.

A nonrefundable application fee of \$25 must be submitted with the application.

Students not regularly admitted to the University may attend classes as auditors, provided they meet all previously mentioned requirements for admission, have written permission from the individual course instructor(s), and have made the necessary arrangements and paid the required fees. Prospective auditors should initiate registration by obtaining an "audit only" form from the Office of the University Registrar.

Regularly enrolled graduate students may also audit courses with consent of the individual instructors. Auditors will not receive degree credit and will not be permitted to take a credit examination on audited course work. However, previously audited courses may be taken for credit. Audited courses do not count in total course loads and are not recorded on official transcripts.

READMISSION

Readmission to Original Program

Previously enrolled graduate students who fail to enroll for three or more consecutive semesters (summer terms included) must file an "Application for Readmission" form with the Graduate School. Applications for reentry will be subject to reevaluation under current admission criteria; readmission is not guaranteed.

Official transcripts must be submitted if work has been taken at another institution since the student was last enrolled at LSU. The application deadlines for admission also apply for readmission, as do application fees and late fees.

Readmission with a Change of Program

A student wishing to pursue a degree or program other than the one originally sought—who has not enrolled for three or more semesters (summer term included), must complete application procedures as described above, and comply with the requirements for the new program. Acceptance into one program does not guarantee admission into another. The admission decision ultimately rests with the admission committee of the department or interdepartmental program concerned.

