



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY

APPROVAL FORM FOR

**ACCELERATED PROGRAMS
(BACHELOR'S/MASTER'S COMBINED DEGREE)**

Proposal for adding an Accelerated Program, i.e. Bachelor's/Master's combined degree program. This proposal should be completed in its entirety and support letters attached before submitting to the Office of the Graduate School, Mail Stop 9703, 617 Allen Hall, Phone: 662-325-7400.

College: _____

Department: _____

Major: _____

Concentration: _____

Contact Person: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail Stop: _____

Date Initiated: _____

Effective Date: _____

PROPOSED Accelerated Degree Description

1. Department Information:

Department Head: _____

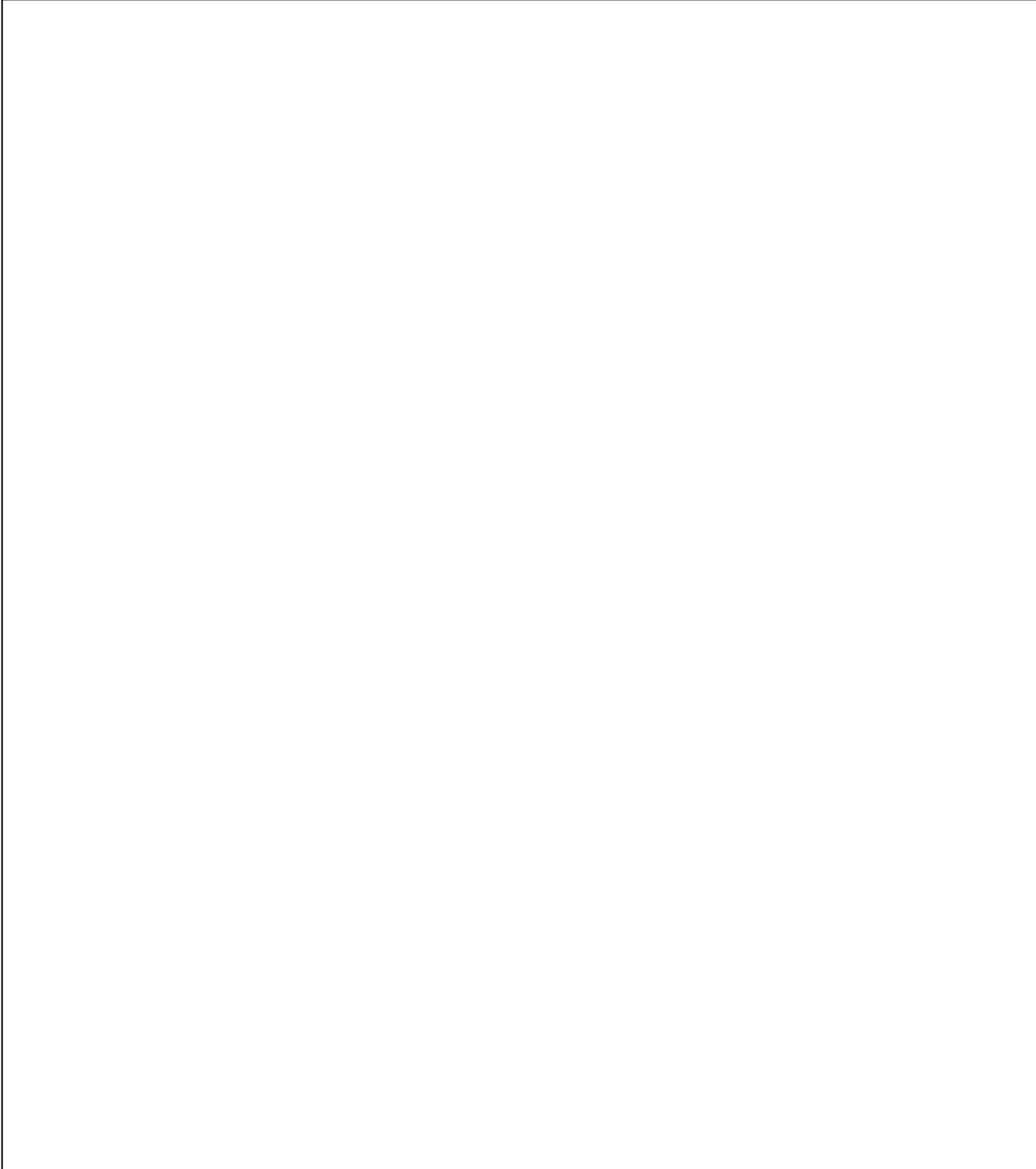
Graduate Coordinator: _____

Department contact information: _____

2. Graduate Catalog Accelerated Degree Description:

e.g. Highly qualified undergraduates in the Department of XXX are encouraged to consider applying to the Accelerated Program. This program permits students to earn up to X hours of graduate level coursework during their final year of undergraduate studies. Student take graduate level courses and earn both

undergraduate credit and graduate credit simultaneously. Students need to consult with a potential graduate advisor to ensure graduate credit could be applied to a Program of Study for the graduate degree. Application to this program may be made as early as the end of the junior year (i.e., after completion of 90 or more hours of graded undergraduate courses). Student interested in applying to the Accelerated Program should contact the Department's Graduate Coordinator, Dr. XXX for more details.



3. Departmental requirements for entrance to the accelerated program:

This section should state Departmental Requirements (if any) that are above and beyond the University minimum requirements which are

- ***a GPA of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 system for all undergraduate work, and***
- ***a minimum of 60 hours toward a Bachelor's degree.***

Example Departmental Requirements

- ***completion of course XXX***
- ***a statement of professional interests and goals from the applicant***

If the department has no additional requirements beyond the University minimum, simply state "no requirements beyond University requirements" in this section.

4. Standard guidelines from the Graduate Council to be included in the catalog (not to be altered by the proposing department):

For students enrolled in an Accelerated Program (i.e. Bachelor's/Master's combined degree program), the MSU Graduate Council has established these guidelines in cooperation with the Registrar's office:

Once the student is accepted into the accelerated program, the student and the advisor may select up to nine hours that will satisfy both undergraduate and graduate requirements. These courses may be split level (i.e. split 4000-6000 level) or 8000 level classes. The student should take the courses for graduate credit (i.e. 6000-level or higher). The combination of undergraduate and graduate credit hours may not exceed 13 hours within a semester.

The student should use the *Undergraduate Enrollment in Accelerated Degree Program* form to (i) receive from the Office of the Graduate School a level override that enables the student's enrollment in the graduate course(s) and (ii) activate a process with the Registrar's office to obtain both undergraduate and graduate credit for the course. After successfully completing the graduate-level class(s), the Registrar will grant credit for the undergraduate course and give the same grade as received for the graduate course. For the case of a split-level class, the transcript will show credit for both 4000-and 6000-level on the transcript. In the case of an 8000 level class, a special topics undergraduate course of the same title will be entered on the transcript to allow dual credit.

Students are permitted to opt out of the accelerated program at any time, at which point they would complete only the undergraduate portion of the program. No additional dual counting of courses would occur after the student opted out of the accelerated degree program.

Students are expected to apply to the graduate degree program during the last semester in which they are enrolled in the Bachelor's program. Application to the graduate degree program would be made through the standard application process via the Office of the Graduate School. Students will receive the Bachelor's degree once the requirements for the Bachelor's degree are met. Students will be required to complete all of the requirements for both the Bachelor's and graduate degrees in order to receive both degrees and those requirements will be identical to the requirements for students enrolled in traditional Bachelor's and graduate degree programs. Students will be classified as undergraduates until they fulfill all the requirements for the undergraduate degree. At that time, upon admission to graduate school, they will be classified as graduate students and will be subject to all the guidelines pertaining to the graduate degree.

5. Support letters required (Please attach)

- a. Department curriculum committee
- b. Department head/chair

Approved:

Date:

Department Head

Dean of College or School

Chair, Graduate Council

Dean of the Graduate School

Provost
