**Title of Issue (a short descriptive title by which the issue may be referenced):**

Linked Programs

**Description of Issue:**

The Graduate Administrators’ Council (GAC) recommended changes to the Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Linked Undergraduate to Graduate Degree Programs that would change the name from "linked" to "accelerated" to reflect reduction in the credit hours required for pathway. Specifically, GAC proposes to reduce the pathway by 12 hours, and noted the changes in minimum credit hours required for the undergraduate and graduate degrees associated with that acceleration. Another minor edit inserted the School of Data Science for its relevant accelerated program.

**Rational for Submission:**

The change allows ODU to be more competitive in attracting talented undergraduates who would benefit from begin able to earn two degrees for 12 credits fewer.

**Name:** Robert Wojtowicz  
**Department:** Academic Affairs / Graduate School / Graduate Administrators Council  
**Date:**  
**Signature:**

[Signature]

02/10/2023

**For Faculty Senate Use Only**

**Assigned to Committee:**

**Date Assigned:**
Graduate Credit for Old Dominion University Undergraduates

Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Accelerated Undergraduate to Graduate Degree Programs

Old Dominion University hosts a number of accelerated undergraduate to graduate programs, including bachelor’s to master’s programs and bachelor’s to doctoral programs, that may permit undergraduate students to shorten their pathway toward an advanced degree by 12 hours and by beginning graduate study as early as the junior year. For accelerated bachelor’s to master’s programs, students must earn a minimum of 138 credit hours (108 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree, 30 discrete credit hours for the master’s degree). For accelerated bachelor’s to doctoral programs, students must earn a minimum of 186 credit hours (108 discrete credit hours for the undergraduate degree, 78 discrete credit hours for the doctoral degree).

Undergraduate students enrolled in accelerated graduate degree programs at Old Dominion University may take up to 21 hours of graduate credit that can be applied toward their undergraduate degrees. Of these 21 hours of graduate credit, up to 12 can be applied toward both the undergraduate and graduate degrees. This option is available only to those students who have satisfied all admission and continuation requirements of the specific accelerated programs. All graduate hours applied to the undergraduate degree will be counted in the undergraduate grade point average, will appear on the undergraduate transcript, and will be used to determine graduation with honors. Undergraduate students accepted into accelerated graduate degree programs will be formally admitted to the graduate program following receipt of the bachelor's degree.

Approved accelerated bachelor’s to master’s degree programs are as follows:

**College of Arts and Letters**

- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Business Administration
- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in English to Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics
- Bachelor of Arts in Art History to Master of Arts in Humanities
- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Communication to Master of Arts in Humanities
- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Communication to Master of Arts in Lifespan and Digital Communication
- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Geography to Master of Arts in Humanities
- Bachelor of Arts in History to Master of Arts in History
- Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies (Individualized Integrative Studies) to Master of Arts in Humanities
- Bachelor of Arts in International Studies to Master of Arts in International Studies
• Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy to Master of Arts in Humanities
• Bachelor of Arts in Visual Studies to Master of Arts in Humanities
• Bachelor of Arts in Women’s Studies to Master of Arts in Humanities
• Bachelor of Fine Arts (Art) to Master of Arts in Humanities

Strome College of Business

• Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (various majors in other colleges) to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (various majors in other colleges) to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Science in Accounting

Darden College of Education and Professional Studies

• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Public Administration

Batten College of Engineering and Technology

• Bachelor's to Medical Doctor (in cooperation with Eastern Virginia Medical School)
• Bachelor’s in Engineering or Engineering Technology to Master's programs in Engineering

College of Health Sciences

• Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene to Master of Science in Dental Hygiene
• Bachelor of Science in Public Health to Master of Public Health

College of Sciences

• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Medical Doctor (in cooperation with the Eastern Virginia Medical School)
• Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry to Master of Science in Chemistry
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry to Master of Science in Chemistry
• Bachelor of Science in Computer Science to Master of Science in Computer Science
• Bachelor of Science in Computer Science to Master of Science in Data Science and Analytics
• Bachelor of Science in Mathematics to Master of Science in Computational and Applied Mathematics
School of Cybersecurity

- Master of Science in Cybersecurity (may be available in various BA and BS programs)

- School of Data Science Master of Science in Data Science and Analytics (may be available in various BA and BS programs)

Approved accelerated bachelor's to doctoral degree programs are as follows:

College of Engineering and Technology

- Bachelor's in Engineering or Engineering Technology to Ph.D. in Engineering

Undergraduate Students with Senior Standing but not Enrolled in Programs with a Accelerated Graduate Degree Option

An Old Dominion University undergraduate degree-seeking student with senior standing and a 3.30 or better grade point average in the major field of study may be allowed to take up to 12 hours of graduate course work for graduate credit, upon approval of the instructor of the graduate course, the chair and graduate program director of the department offering the graduate course, and the chair or chief departmental advisor of the student’s undergraduate major department. Up to six hours of graduate credit taken prior to completing the undergraduate degree may be applied toward the undergraduate degree. The graduate credit may be used as a substitution for required undergraduate courses only with the approval of the department chair or chief departmental advisor of the student’s undergraduate major department. All graduate hours applied to the undergraduate degree will be counted in the undergraduate grade point average, will appear on the undergraduate transcript, and will be used to determine graduation with honors. The combined undergraduate and graduate hours taken during any semester must not exceed 18. The proper request form, Request of Old Dominion University Undergraduate to Take Graduate Courses, is available in the Office of the University Registrar. This option is available only to degree-seeking undergraduate students at Old Dominion University.

Students who apply graduate credit to their undergraduate degree and continue in a graduate program at Old Dominion University in the same area must earn a minimum of 30 discrete credit hours for a master's degree and 78 discrete credit hours for a doctoral degree.
Graduate Credit for Old Dominion University
Undergraduates

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- Bachelor of Arts in International Studies to Master of Arts in International Studies
• Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy to Master of Arts in Humanities
• Bachelor of Arts in Visual Studies to Master of Arts in Humanities
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Strome College of Business
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• Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (various majors in other colleges) to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science in Business Administration to Master of Science in Accounting

Darden College of Education and Professional Studies
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Public Administration

Batten College of Engineering and Technology
• Bachelor's to Medical Doctor (in cooperation with Eastern Virginia Medical School)
• Bachelor’s in Engineering or Engineering Technology to Master's programs in Engineering

College of Health Sciences
• Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene to Master of Science in Dental Hygiene
• Bachelor of Science in Public Health to Master of Public Health

College of Sciences
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Business Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Master of Public Administration
• Bachelor of Science (various majors) to Medical Doctor (in cooperation with the Eastern Virginia Medical School)
• Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry to Master of Science in Chemistry
• Bachelor of Science in Chemistry to Master of Science in Chemistry
• Bachelor of Science in Computer Science to Master of Science in Computer Science
• Bachelor of Science in Computer Science to Master of Science in Data Science and Analytics
• Bachelor of Science in Mathematics to Master of Science in Computational and Applied Mathematics
School of Cybersecurity

- Master of Science in Cybersecurity (may be available in various BA and BS programs)
- **School of Data Science** Master of Science in Data Science and Analytics (may be available in various BA and BS programs)

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