EARLY MASTER’S DEGREE ADMISSION/FIVE-YEAR PROGRAMS

Outstanding Fordham undergraduate students are invited to apply for early admission to master’s degree study offered by Fordham’s Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Students submit their application materials by the April deadline in the spring of their junior year and begin the program during the fall of their senior year. Depending on the specific program, undergraduate students admitted to a master’s program under the early admissions policy take between two and three graduate courses during their senior year with the approval of the program director. These courses and credits will count toward the bachelor’s degree and are accepted for the master’s degree program. Students should also seek the approval of their undergraduate adviser before registering for their courses. Students following this option typically complete the masters degree requirements within a year after completing their bachelor’s if they study full time. This policy applies to FCLC, FCRH, and PCS.

Advantages for prospective undergraduates include: The application fee and the GRE are waived for admission to the master’s program; courses on the graduate level begin before completing the bachelor’s degree, enriching the undergraduate experience and strengthening the undergraduate transcripts; and students admitted early benefit financially by including part of the master’s degree tuition within their senior year, cutting their master’s tuition bill by 20 to 30 percent. Students interested in applying for additional financial aid after they obtain their bachelor’s must take the GRE.

The early admissions policy is available for the following programs:

- Master of Science in Applied Psychological Methods
- Master of Science in Biology
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Master of Arts in Economics
- Master of Arts in Elections and Campaign Management (Department of Political Science)
- Master of Arts in English
- Master of Arts in Ethics and Society
- Master of Arts in History
- Master of Arts in Philosophy
- Master of Arts in Theology
- Master of Arts in Urban Studies

In some programs the early admissions option is available by invitation only. Students should obtain specific information on eligibility from the graduate chair or the director of graduate studies in the department.

Applying for Early Admission to a GSAS Masters Program

An applicant can access his/her application as often as he/she wishes and submit the application to the Office of Admissions only when it is complete. Please note that you can submit your application before all of your recommenders have submitted their letters of recommendation.

In the application you will be asked if you are applying for early admission. Be sure to answer the question so that the Office of Admissions can process your application materials properly. Along with the application other application requirements include:

1. Statement of intent
2. Five to seven page writing sample
3. Curriculum vitae or resume
4. Two letters of recommendation (not three as normally required without early admission option)
5. Official Fordham transcript (may be requested from Enrollment Services, Thebaud Hall)

The Office of Admissions of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is located in Keating Hall Room 216 and can be reached at 718-817-4416 or fuga@fordham.edu. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact them.