

# GRADUATE CATALOG

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The Graduate Catalog is the official listing of the policies governing graduate education at the University of Maryland, College Park.

This Catalog documents policies and procedures set by the Graduate Council and the Graduate School, and is updated each academic semester to reflect changes and updates to policy. Information on admissions policies, academic policies (including degree requirements), registration policies, and financial aid and student support policies are contained in the Catalog. Abstracts and information on academic degree and certificate programs, a list of graduate-level courses by program, and a roster of graduate faculty members are also included in each edition of the Catalog.

The University of Maryland, the flagship institution of the University System of Maryland, originated in 1856 as the Maryland Agricultural College and became one of the country's first land-grant institutions in 1867. The state assumed authority over the College in 1920 and formed the University of Maryland by joining the College with long-established professional schools in Baltimore. In 1988, the General Assembly of Maryland designated the College Park campus as the flagship institution for the University System of Maryland, which comprises 13 institutions across the state. The College Park campus is built around a central mall, anchored by McKeldin Library and the Main Administration Building. Fanning out from the mall are thirteen academic colleges. The University's mission is to provide graduate and undergraduate education of the highest quality, to pursue advanced research, and to serve the needs of the State of Maryland.

The University of Maryland and its surrounding area provide boundless opportunities for conducting research. The University's dynamic research environment allows students from all disciplines to undertake scholarly exploration of their special interests and to gain valuable practical experience. It also enables faculty members to advance their own areas of expertise and bring their research insights into the classroom. On campus, special facilities and a number of organized research centers, bureaus, and institutes promote the acquisition and analysis of new knowledge in the arts, sciences, and applied fields.

Steve Fetter  
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