Academic Master’s Program (BASc/MASc)

The University of Waterloo offers an Accelerated Master’s programs at the undergraduate level for University of Waterloo Undergraduates only. Such programs are offered in response to a variety of needs, such as:

- students wishing to pursue careers in research and academia and to initiate the process at the undergraduate level
- recognition of exceptional undergraduate students and provision of an enhanced and accelerated course of study
- creating an opportunity for an introduction to the postgraduate environment for good undergraduate students who might otherwise overlook the opportunity of graduate studies
- relatively seamless transition to graduate-level work; and
- facilitation of timely and possibly early completion of the Master’s degree

Further information regarding this program is available at the Graduate Studies website;

http://gradcalendar.uwaterloo.ca/page/GSO-Accelerated-Masters
http://gradcalendar.uwaterloo.ca/page/FacEng-Accelerated-Masters-Program

The general principles that underlie all UW’s Accelerated Master’s Programs are as follows:

1. Accelerated Master’s Programs are open to undergraduate students who have demonstrated academic excellence and/or research potential. (Usually 80%)
2. Accelerated Master’s Programs will not impact or change the requirements for the regular bachelor’s and master’s degrees.
3. For those students who will be engaged in an Accelerated Master’s Program, the bachelor’s degree will be awarded to them at the normal time (normally after 4B).
4. Students are free to transfer from an Accelerated Master’s Program into the appropriate regular bachelor’s program. Note: A student who decides to complete only the bachelor portion will receive the bachelor’s degree. Similarly, students who are unsuccessful in master’s level-work, but remain otherwise qualified for the bachelor’s degree, will receive the latter degree.
5. Continuation in an Accelerated Master’s program is conditional on the students maintaining a satisfactory level of performance in their undergraduate courses.
6. Admission to an Accelerated Master’s Program will normally take place at the 3A/3B level, with the approval of the department undergraduate and graduate officers.

Admission to the BASc/MASc program is a two-stage process: 1) acceptance to the program by the end of 3B level or sooner, 2) admission to graduate studies.

1) In order to be accepted into the BASc/MASc you must:
   a. find a Professor who is willing to be your supervisor
   b. you are required to forward a memo that you are applying for the accelerated MASc Program;
      i. stating your eligibility for the accelerated program
      ii. the courses you intend to take and transfer to your MASc
      iii. where you will be spending your two work terms
      iv. term/year you will begin your MASc program

   Memo should be signed by yourself and your potential supervisor. The signed memo should be handed in to the Department Graduate Administrator, MASc Program for processing. Once the accelerated program is formally approved at the Department and Faculty levels, confirmation will be emailed to the student, supervisor, Undergrad Advisor/Coordinator, and Undergrad Associate Chairs.

2) In accordance with the department graduate application deadlines, students must formally apply for the MASc program online https://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies/application-admission/apply-online. Students must also email the Department Graduate Administrator, MASc Program to advise MME Grad Office that you were admitted to the Accelerated Master’s Program and that your application to the MASc program has been submitted. Once your MASc application is complete and approved an offer of admission will be issued.

Once in the MASc program, your extra courses taken while in BASc will be transferred to your graduate records.