

***Admission from Non-Accredited or Non-Equivalent Institutions***

A student who is a graduate of a non-accredited institution or an institution whose degree is not considered equivalent to a baccalaureate degree or a master's degree at Prairie View A&M University may not be admitted directly to post-baccalaureate or doctoral status. Instead, he/she may be considered for admission as an undergraduate student or master's candidate. Upon completion of the baccalaureate or master's degree, the student may then apply and be considered for admission to the desired degree program.

**Academic Information and Regulations**

***Academic Advising, Registration, and Degree Plans***

Graduate students are assigned to one or more faculty advisors during the first semester in which they are enrolled at the university. New students are required to meet with an advisor before enrolling in classes for the purpose of planning and obtaining approval of plans of study. Continuing students should confer with their faculty advisor at least once per semester to discuss objectives, course selection and sequencing, and other degree/program related matters. Consultation on all academic concerns should begin with the major advisor.

**Class Schedule**

The class schedule is available in advance of registration each semester on the website at <http://panthertracks.pvamu.edu/>.

An official class schedule, prepared each semester by the University, includes the registration schedule, procedures for registration, fees, classes offered by hours and instructors, and other pertinent registration information. The schedule is available several weeks in advance of registration each semester and may be obtained from the Office of the University Registrar.

**Concurrent Study for Two Different Degrees**

A student pursuing a graduate degree program at Prairie View A&M University may not simultaneously enroll and complete course work for the purpose of meeting requirements for any other degree offered by this institution. Each degree must be completed in its entirety before work may be taken for the purpose of meeting requirements for a new degree. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Dean of the Graduate School.

**Tentative Degree Plans and Admission to Candidacy**

The student should file a degree plan within the first semester of matriculation in the university. Degree plan forms may be obtained from the major advisor. The major advisor, department head, dean of the college and graduate dean review and approve the degree plan.

*Admission to Candidacy:* The graduate student admitted to full degree status does not automatically become a candidate for the master's degree. To become a candidate, the student must complete the following minimum requirements:

1. Achieve a satisfactory score on the GRE or GMAT as stipulated by the department and college.
2. Prepare and submit an official Application for Admission to Candidacy Form showing the applicant's successful completion of 12 semester hours of required graduate courses with an average of "B" or better.
3. Submit the application, when approved by the department head and college/school dean, to the Graduate Dean for final approval.

Advancement to candidacy for doctoral programs is governed by the procedures of the program. Information for the specific program is found in this catalog under the degree description.

#### **Time Limit on Work for Master's Degree and Revalidation of Courses**

A student must complete requirements for the degree within six consecutive years after the first date of enrollment in the Graduate School. Credit for individual courses completed in residence between six and seven years before all requirements for the master's degree are completed may be revalidated by special examination given by the department concerned. Courses completed in extension or at another institution beyond the time limit cannot be revalidated. A course in which a grade of "C" was earned cannot be revalidated. A revalidated course is valid as credit toward the master's degree only during the term in which it is revalidated.

### *Academic Progress Standards*

#### **General Standards**

In order to show satisfactory progress toward an advanced degree, a student must maintain an average grade of "B". A course in which a grade below "C" was earned cannot be counted toward graduation requirements. A student who, in any two consecutive semesters or summer terms, has a cumulative grade point average below 3.00 is subject to academic dismissal. The work of a graduate student performed in connection with the thesis is reported as a regular grade.