

# The Master's Program

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Middle Tennessee State University offers a total of 55 graduate degrees and certificate programs encompassing over 70 areas of study. These include the Master of Arts (M.A.), the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.), the Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), the Master of Business Education (M.B.E.), the Master of Criminal Justice (M.C.J.), the Master of Education (M.Ed.), the Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.), the Master of Science (M.S.), the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.), the Master of Science in Teaching (M.S.T.), the Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.), and the Master of Social Work (M.S.W.).

## Common Requirements for all Master's Degree Programs

All master's candidates must

1. satisfactorily complete the undergraduate prerequisites.
2. complete a minimum of 30 (or more) semester hours of graduate coursework. No more than 30 percent of the total degree hours may be dually listed as undergraduate/graduate hours. No undergraduate courses may apply toward the graduate program requirements. If a thesis is required, normally no more than three hours will apply toward the 30 (or more) semester hour program requirement. However, additional semester hours of thesis research (6640) may be taken and will appear on the student's transcript.
3. file a degree plan with the College of Graduate Studies prior to the completion of 21 credit hours.
4. successfully complete a written (and/or oral) comprehensive examination; the examination may be taken no more than twice.
5. complete all specific graduate program requirements.

### Programs Leading to the M.A. Degree

There are six departments offering programs leading to the Master of Arts degree. They are Economics and Finance, English, History, Music, Psychology, and Sociology and Anthropology.

Normally, the Master of Arts degree requires a thesis; however, graduate programs in English, Economics and Finance, and Music include a non-thesis option requiring more than 30 semester hours. (Specific program requirements may be found under the appropriate department.)

### Program Leading to the M.A.T. Degree

The Master of Arts in Teaching degree is offered in Foreign Languages. The degree should be pursued by those individuals interested in teaching. Admission is open to licensed teach-

ers as well as those seeking initial licensure. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

#### **Program Leading to the M.B.A. Degree**

The Master of Business Administration program includes courses in the following six areas of business: accounting, economics, finance, management, marketing, and information systems. Specific degree requirements are found under Business Administration.

#### **Program Leading to the M.B.E. Degree**

A Master of Business Education (M.B.E.) degree program is offered by the Department of Business Communication and Entrepreneurship in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Business Communication and Entrepreneurship.

#### **Program Leading to the M.C.J. Degree**

The Master of Criminal Justice degree program is a joint program with Tennessee State University. Students may seek professional employment in the operational agencies in the field of criminal justice or pursue relevant research or teaching positions. Eighteen semester hours credit from each university is required. Applicants must complete a special application specifically for this degree program. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Criminal Justice Administration.

#### **Programs Leading to the M.Ed. Degree**

There are three departments offering programs leading to the Master of Education degree. The M.Ed. degree provides programs of study in Administration and Supervision, Curriculum and Instruction, Professional Counseling, Reading, and Special Education. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Aerospace, Womack Family Educational Leadership Department, and Department of Elementary and Special Education.

#### **Program Leading to the M.F.A. Degree**

The Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) with a major in Recording Arts and Technologies is offered by the Department of Recording Industry to prepare practitioners in the field of audio and music recording and production for advanced work in an integrated electronic media environment. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Recording Industry.

#### **Program Leading to the M.P.S. Degree**

MTSU offers in collaboration with other Tennessee Board of Regents institutions the Master of Professional Studies for individuals seeking interdisciplinary training within the social sciences and their current profession. Information regarding this degree is available through the University College.

#### **Programs Leading to the M.S. Degree**

The University offers the Master of Science degree in the areas of Accounting/Information Systems; Aviation Administration; Biology; Chemistry; Computer Science; Horse Sciences; Exercise Science; Health, Physical Education, Recreation; Human Sciences, Engineering Technology; Mass Communication; Mathematics; and Professional Science. Specific degree requirements are found under the applicable department.

Normally, the Master of Science degree requires a thesis; however, graduate programs in Computer Science; Exercise Science; Health, Physical Education, Recreation; Engineering Technology; Mass Communication; Professional Science; Horse Science and Mathematics include a nonthesis option requiring more than 30 semester hours. (Specific program requirements may be found under the appropriate department.)

#### **Program Leading to the M.S.N. Degree**

The Master of Science in Nursing Degree (M.S.N.) is offered through the Regent's Online Degree Program (RODP), and is delivered following the standard protocol established for the delivery of RODP courses and programs. Information regarding this degree is available through the School of Nursing.

#### **Program Leading to the M.S.T. Degree**

The Master of Science in Teaching degree is offered by the Department of Mathematical Sciences. The degree should be pursued by those individuals interested in teaching. Admission is open to licensed teachers as well as those seeking initial licensure. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Mathematical Sciences.

#### **Program Leading to the M.S.W. Degree**

The Master of Social Work degree program is a collaborative program with Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee State University, and Austin Peay State University. Specific degree requirements are found under the Department of Social Work.

### **Second Master's Degree from MTSU**

An individual who has received one master's degree from MTSU may obtain a second master's degree with a minimum of 24 additional semester hours of coursework earned at MTSU if approved in advance by the director of graduate studies and the graduate dean. No transfer coursework is accepted towards the second master's degree. All specific course requirements must be met for the second degree, including the written comprehensive examinations and thesis (if relevant). All semester hours to be applied toward the second degree must be earned after the first master's degree has been conferred.