GENERAL CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

For the most up-to-date catalog information:
www.montana.edu/wwwcat

Catalog and Curriculum

Catalog in Effect

MSU-Bozeman undergraduates may elect to follow the catalog in effect when they began their freshman year at MSU, or any subsequent catalog, if there has not been a break of more than one academic year in their attendance and if they fall within the six-year catalog limitation policy. Undergraduate students transferring from any accredited United States college or university may follow the MSU catalog which was in effect when they first entered the institution from which they transferred, or any subsequent catalog in effect prior to graduation, provided there has been no break in attendance of more than one academic year. The six-year catalog limitation policy applies to transfer students.

MSU undergraduates who change majors may follow the catalog in effect when they began their freshman year at MSU or any subsequent catalog in effect prior to their graduation, provided there has been no break in attendance of more than one academic year. In these instances, too, the six-year catalog limitation policy will apply. In either case (transferring or changing majors) it may be necessary to make course substitutions within the department curricular requirements, due to changes in tabulations from year to year. Students should consult with their academic advisors about this. The department head and college dean make the official check on curricular requirements for graduation. The Registrar provides the final check on courses required, total credits earned, grade points, cumulative grade-point average earned at MSU, as well as University-wide requirements during the last semester prior to graduation. Students must be officially registered in their chosen curriculum for at least two semesters prior to graduation to be eligible for a degree in that curriculum.

OnLine Catalog

Students are encouraged to consult the online version of the MSU-Bozeman catalog for the most current information regarding academic policies and curricular requirements. The online catalog, found at www.montana.edu/wwwcat/, is updated on an ongoing basis as changes are made to programs and courses. It is the responsibility of the student to check with his or her department to confirm any changes in curricula.

Six-Year Catalog Limitation Policy

Each MSU-Bozeman catalog covers a specific time period, usually two years, beginning fall semester of the first year and ending summer session two years later. From the time a student enters Montana State University, he or she has six years to fulfill the curricular requirements stated in the catalog in effect when he or she entered. If a student does not complete the requirements in six years, he or she must select a subsequent catalog. This policy applies to both undergraduates who changed majors as well as to transfer students.

Change of Curriculum

A change of curriculum card may be obtained from the Registrar's Office or the college dean's office. The approval of the new academic adviser is required. A change of curriculum becomes official when the change of curriculum card is filed with the Registrar's Office.

Second Majors and Degrees

Second Major

A student who completes all the degree requirements for a first major may earn a second major by fulfilling the degree requirements for the second major. The student is not required to complete additional core requirements for the second major since these requirements will have been fulfilled in the major area for which the student's undergraduate degree is being awarded.

A student who wishes to earn a second major must so inform, in writing, both the department and college in which he or she earning the degree and the department of the second major. The department of the second major will assign an adviser for the student and will furnish the appropriate form, titled Second Major/Second Degree Declaration form. The catalog in effect at the time a student files the Declaration for a Second Major in the Registrar’s Office is the one that governs the requirements for a second major.

The second major will be posted on the student's transcript at the time of graduation upon verification by the Registrar of completion of the courses listed on the Application for a Second Major, which must be submitted with the student's Application for Baccalaureate Degree. Both forms must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the end of the semester one year prior to the semester the student plans to graduate. Former returning students may do this during the first week of classes.

Second Bachelor's Degree

There are two distinct methods for obtaining more than one bachelor's degree:

A student who has already completed requirements for one bachelor's degree must complete a minimum of thirty additional credits, all course requirements of the second degree curriculum, and two semesters in residence at Montana State University after completing the requirements for the first degree. Nine of the total minimum number of credits required for the second degree must be upper division. All courses listed on the student's transcript at the time the first degree is granted are considered as required for and/or applied toward the first degree. A student may have completed more
credits than the minimum required for the degree, but the completion of the first degree "closes the books," i.e., none of those extra credits will be counted as part of the thirty credits necessary for a second degree. A second degree student will not be required to complete University Core requirements, with the exception of students who have international degrees.

A student may work concurrently toward receipt of two bachelor's degrees. These degrees may be awarded at the same time. In this case, the student must complete the courses required in both curricula and at least 30 credits beyond the larger number of credits required for the two degrees he or she is seeking. Fifty-one credits (forty-two credits for the first degree; nine for the second) of the total minimum number of credits required for both degrees must be upper division. A student working under this option must notify, in writing, the deans of the colleges in which the curricula are offered, the department heads involved, and the Registrar, by submitting the Second Major/Second Degree Declaration form. The application for baccalaureate degree for the second degree must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the end of the semester one year prior to the semester the student plans to graduate. A student may not work concurrently toward the receipt of an undergraduate and a graduate degree. A graduate student may not work toward an undergraduate degree.

All students working for a second bachelor's degree are required to earn a 2.0 average or better on the 4.0 system, only on those courses taken after the first degree. Students working on two bachelor's degrees concurrently must have a total cumulative average of 2.0.

Non-teaching Minors

All applications for a non-teaching minor must be submitted to the Registrar with the Application for Baccalaureate Degree by the end of the semester one year prior to the semester of completion. Former returning students may do this during the first week of classes. The minimum number of credits required for a non-teaching minor is twenty-one, with nine of those being upper-division credits.

Non-teaching Minor Application forms may be obtained from department offices or the Registrar’s Office.

CORE 2.0

Purpose

As a land grant university, MSU-Bozeman is charged, through the Morrill Act of 1862, with providing "liberal and practical education...in the several pursuits and professions of life." In addition, as a member of the Montana University System, MSU is charged with providing programs that "stimulate critical analysis, clear and effective communication, and the creative process." Students should also "broaden their cultural horizons by contact with the creative arts, sciences and the humanities, and achieve an understanding of the political, social, economic and ethical problems of the contemporary world and the relation of their studies to these problems."

To this end, the faculty of MSU have developed a common core curriculum, called CORE 2.0, for all undergraduate students in the belief that it will enable students to reach their intellectual potential, to become contributing members of society, and to compete more successfully in our rapidly changing and increasingly complex world.

The purpose of the CORE 2.0 curriculum is to ensure a wide-ranging general education of consistent and high quality to all Montana State University students regardless of their major or area of study. Core courses allow students to reaffirm their common experiences, redefine their common goals, and confront their common problems. Core courses emphasize communication and techniques of creative inquiry in a variety of disciplines.

One of the goals of the Core is to provide students with the opportunity to develop their creative and intellectual potential. Therefore, Core courses will require students to do the following:

1. Think, speak, and write effectively, and evaluate the oral and written expression of others.

2. Develop learning objectives and the means to reach them, thus developing lifelong patterns of behavior which increase the potential to adapt to and create change.

3. Exercise and expand intellectual curiosity.

4. Think across areas of specialization and integrate ideas from a variety of academic disciplines and applied fields.

5. Use complex knowledge in making decisions and judgments.

6. Make discriminating moral and ethical choices with an awareness of the immediate and long-term effects on our world.

7. Develop a critical appreciation of the ways in which we gain and apply knowledge and understanding of the universe, of society, and of ourselves.

8. Understand the experimental methods of the sciences as well as the creative approaches of the arts.

9. Develop an appreciation of other cultures as well as an understanding of global issues.

Credit Policies

1. University Core requirements cannot be satisfied by the CLEP procedure.

2. Advanced Placement credits (AP), if equivalent to MSU Core courses, can be used to fulfill Core requirements.

3. Credit earned in repeatable Core courses may be applied only once to University Core requirements.

4. Some study abroad programs, upon approval, may satisfy the Diversity requirement.

5. Students in good standing in the University Honors Program may fulfill part of their University Core curriculum requirements with designated honors courses. Specific information is available in the Honors Program Office, Quad D.

Grading Standards

1. College-level competence in all areas of the Core curriculum is necessary for adequate performance in the Core and beyond. A grade of C- or better is required in all University core courses.

2. No University Core course may be taken on a pass/fail basis.
Appeals

Unusual circumstances that warrant an appeal of the established policies and procedures must be initiated by the student and sent through his/her adviser to the Core Equivalency Review Board via the Registrar’s Office.

Accommodation for Students with Math Learning Disabilities

Accommodation to the Quantitative Reasoning (Q) Core Curriculum Requirement may be made for students with math learning problems caused by disabilities. Accommodations, when permitted, apply only to the Core Curriculum Requirement; they do not change requirements in majors, minors, or certificates.

MSU recognizes that some students with specific learning disabilities may experience difficulty completing the Core Quantitative Reasoning requirement. Students with learning disabilities who believe that they need an accommodation to meet the Quantitative Reasoning requirement should contact the office of Disabled Student Services (DSS) to begin the process to certify the disability. Learning Disability documentation must meet established MSU requirements as developed by DSS. This documentation is available from:

Disabled Student Service
P.O. Box 173960
Strand Union, Room 155
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717-3960

Core Curriculum Requirements

Beginning Fall 2004, MSU replaced its core requirements (the "old core") with CORE 2.0. The mission of CORE 2.0 is to enhance students’ use of multiple perspectives in making informed critical and ethical judgments in their personal, public, and professional lives. Continuing and returning students (those entering MSU prior to Fall 2004) may convert to CORE 2.0 or graduate by satisfying the old core requirements. Continuing and returning students should visit www.montana.edu/core2 for more information about these options.

NOTE: Changing faculty staffing, departmental course offerings, and other factors will affect the list of courses available to satisfy Core requirements. Students should consult the latest updates of Core offerings, which will be widely available on campus, including departmental and deans’ offices.

Foundation Courses

University Seminar (US):

The University Seminar provides an introduction to college studies aimed at expanding students’ intellectual interests, improving critical thinking and communication skills, and creating a community of learners. It emphasizes discussion, critical interpretation of important texts, multi-disciplinary perspectives, exploration of diverse perspectives and interpretations, and examination of arguments and evidence.

Students choose from the following:

• AGED 251US - Leadership Development for Agribusiness & Industry Employees
• BUS 101US - First Year Seminar
• CLS 101US - University Seminar
• COM 110US - Introduction to Public Communication
• US 101US - First Year Seminar
• LS 101US - Ways of Knowing
• UH 201US - Texts and Critics: Knowledge
• Any other course with the "US" suffix

College Writing (W):

College Writing focuses on expository (vs. creative or personal) writing with sections organized around topics/themes of the instructor’s choosing. With some variation, typical sections incorporate a wide range of learning components in support of major paper assignments: reading of essays, study of writing instruction texts, short compositions in response to reading, in-class writing, small group workshops, peer review of writing, draft conferences, and class discussion.

Students choose from the following:

• ENGL 121W - College Writing I
• Any other course with the "W" suffix

Quantitative Reasoning:

Every person is inundated daily with numerical information, often in the form of graphical representations, statistical summaries, or projections from mathematical models. Comprehension of the elementary quantitative concepts, development of quantitative reasoning skills, and the ability to reasonably ascertain the implications of quantitative information are goals of Quantitative Reasoning courses.

All courses in this category focus on identified classical mathematical concepts and modern techniques of mathematical thought and critical reasoning. These courses require prerequisite competencies at the level of MATH 103 or higher. One way to demonstrate prerequisite competency is by passing the Mathematics Placement Exam (MPEX) at the appropriate level.

Students choose from the following:

• MATH 131Q: Math for Elementary Teachers II
• MATH 149Q: Secrets of the Infinite
• MATH 150Q: Liberal Arts Mathematics
• MATH 151Q: Language of Math
• MATH 160Q: Precalculus
• MATH 170Q: Survey of Calculus
• MATH 175Q: Calculus for Technology I
• MATH 176Q: Calculus for Technology II (Core implemented Spr 07)
• MATH 181Q: Calculus & Analytic Geometry I
• MATH 182Q: Calculus & Analytic Geometry II
• MATH 191Q: Honors Calculus and Analytic Geometry I
• MATH 192Q: Honors Calculus and Analytic Geometry II
• MATH 224Q: Calculus of Functions of Several Variables
• MATH 234Q: Honors Calculus of Functions of Several Variables
• STAT 216Q: Elementary Statistics
• STAT 217Q: Intermediate Statistical Concepts (Core implemented Spr 07)
• STAT 226Q: Honors Elementary Statistics
• Any other course with the "Q" suffix

Diversity (D):

Graduates of Montana State University face an ever changing and increasingly complex world. An understanding of and sensitivity to other cultural perspectives prepares them to function in the global community and creates a campus climate that is conducive to academic growth for all students. Diversity courses address the study of identities (e.g. race, class, gender, sexual orientation, ability, etc.), societies, nations, or national languages and cultures.
Students choose from the following:

- ANTH 101D - Anthropology & the Human Experience
- AMST 201D - Introduction to American Studies
- EDCI 240D - Multicultural Education
- ENGL 210D - Mythologies
- ENGL 214D - Regional Literature
- GEOG 105D - World Regional Geography
- GEOG 201D - Human Geography
- HHD 205D - Dance as Cultural Expression
- HIST 109D - Modern Asia
- HIST 110D - Latin American History
- HIST 115D - History of the Modern World
- HIST 157D - The American West
- HIST 160D - World History
- HIST 201D - Religion in Latin America
- MGMT 245D - Cultural Dimensions of International Business
- MKTG 242D - Introduction to Global Markets
- MLF 102D - Elementary French II
- MLF 219D - Intermediate French
- MLF 220D - French Language & Culture
- MLG 102D - Elementary German II
- MLG 219D - Intermediate German
- MLG 220D - German Language & Culture
- MLJ 102D - Elementary Japanese II
- MLJ 219D - Intermediate Japanese I
- MLJ 220D - Intermediate Japanese II
- MLS 102D - Elementary Spanish II
- MLS 219D - Intermediate Spanish
- MLS 220D - Spanish Language & Culture
- MTA 218D - International Film and Television
- MTA 377D - Westerns/Maculinity in Cinema
- NAS 100D - Introduction to Native American Studies
- NAS 201D - American Indians in Montana
- NAS 242D - American Indians in Contemporary Society
- PHIL 208D - Philosophy & Culture
- POLS 241D - Introduction to International Relations
- PSY 201D - Contemporary Issues in Human Sexuality
- RELS 105D - Introduction to Religion
- RELS 110D - Religion, Conflicts & Politics
- RELS 201D - Religion in Latin America
- RELS 202D - Asian Religions: Hinduism and Buddhism
- RELS 203D - Asian Religions: Taoism to Zen
- SOC 150D - Social Difference
- UH 400D - Spanish America: Illusions and Reality
- Any other course with the "D" suffix

Contemporary Issues in Science (CS):
Contemporary Issues in Science courses focus on natural science or technology. These courses examine the ways in which science contributes to the study of significant problems in the contemporary world to help individuals and society make informed decisions about these issues.

Students choose from the following:
- ANTH 225CS - Bones, Apes, & Ancestors
- BIOL 103CS - Environmental Science and Society
- BIOL 104CS - Life and Other Big Questions: From Chaos to Consciousness
- BIOL 106CS - Insects and Human Society
- CE 226CS - Civil Engineering and Construction from the Ancient to the Modern
- CHEM 101CS - Applying Chemistry to Society
- ENGR 125CS - Technology, Innovation, and Society
- ECON 112CS - Physical Geography
- GEOG 102CS - Environmental Geology
- HLPN 221CS - Human Nutrition
- HIST 205CS - Science, Technology, and Risk
- HIST 206CS - The Darwinian Revolution: Its History, Science, and Impact
- HIST 207CS - Science and Technology in World History
- LRES 244CS - Introduction to Water Resources
- MB 105CS - Molecules of Life
- MB 110CS - Introduction to Biotechnology
- PHIL 285CS - Science, Pseudo-Science and Subjectivity
- PHIL 286CS - Other Animals
- PSPP 101CS - Intro to Biotechnology
- PSPP 102CS - Plant Sciences, Resources, and the Environment
- TE 250CS - Technology & Society
- UNIV 125CS - Microbes in the Environment
- VTM 101CS - Introduction to Biotechnology
- Any other course with the "CS" suffix

Students in science majors may be able to substitute courses for this requirement. See the Permitted Substitutions at the end of this section.

Ways of Knowing Courses
All students must take at least one (1) Inquiry or one (1) Research & Creative Experience course in each of the following areas:

Arts (IA or RA):
Courses in the Arts explore the production and consumption of meaning and value through forms of expression that communicate, in both logical and emotional terms, the arts.

Students choose from the following:
- ARCH 121IA - Introduction to Design
- ARCH 328IA - Architectural History, World Architecture I
- ARCH 329IA - Architectural History, World Architecture II
- ART 202IA - Ancient-Medieval Art
- ART 203IA - Renaissance-Medieval Art
- CAA 510IA - History of Film Music
- HHD 207IA - Dance Appreciation
- MTA 101IA - Film in America
- MUS 210IA - Masterworks in Music
- MUS 212IA - American Popular Music: A Reflection of Politics & Society
- MUS 214IA - Jazz Literature
- MUS 248IA - Music & Society
- MUS 812IA - World Music
- Any other course with the "IA or RA" suffix

Humanities (IH or RH):
Courses in the Humanities explore ethical and moral, aesthetic and creative, historical and descriptive dimensions of human cultural traditions, emphasizing methods of reaching a conclusion, formulating an interpretation, or making a judgment in the discipline.

Students choose from the following:
- ART 204IH - Exploring Artists on Film
- ENGL 125IH - Introduction to Literary Study
- ENGL 290IH - Theory & Methods in Linguistics
- HIST 105IH - Origins of Western Civilization
- HIST 107IH - Western Civilization 1600-Present
- HIST 155IH - American Peoples
- HIST 156IH - America & the World After 1865
- MLF 902IH - From Reflection to Revolution
- MLG 303IH - Modern German Culture and Society
- MLS 381IH - Travel in Latin American Literature and Film
- PHIL 105IH - Problems of Good and Evil
- PHIL 120IH - Reason & Reality
- RELS 204IH - Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
- RELS 205IH - Introduction to the New Testament
- RELS 206IH - Origins of God
- RELS 207IH - Images of Jesus
- RELS 217IH - Religion & Science
- RELS 220IH - Interpretations of American Religion
- UH 202IH - Texts and Critics: Imagination
- UH 400IH - Origins
- WS 201IH - Introduction to Feminist Theories & Methodologies
- ENGL 431RH - Studies in a Major Author
- ENGL 492RH - Shakespeare
- ENGL 496RH - Capstone: Research Issues in English
- HIST 211RH - Researching Slavery
- HIST 224RH - SETS - Common Experience
- PHIL 250RH - Morality and Society
- PHIL 305RH - History of Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
- PHIL 329RH - State, Community, and Individual
- UH 402RH - Genesis, Madness, and Yearning
- WS 301IH - Integrative Seminar in Women's Studies
- Any other course with the "IH or RH" suffix

Natural Sciences (IN or RN):
Courses in Natural Sciences emphasize a coherent body of scientific principles and the methods scientists use to create knowledge of the natural world.

Students choose from the following:
- BIOL 100IN - Organism Function
- BIOL 101IN - Organismal Biology
- BIOL 294IN - Insect Biology
- CHEM 121IN - Introductory General Chemistry
- ESCI 111IN - Physical Geography
- GEOG 100IN - Dinosaurs!
- LRES 201IN - Soil Resource
- MB 101IN - Microbiology in Today's World
- PHYS 101IN - Mysteries of the Sky
- PHYS 102IN - Mysteries of the Universe
- PHYS 103IN - Our Physical World
- PHYS 201IN - Physics by Inquiry
- UH 400IN - Origins
Students in science majors may be able to substitute courses for this requirement. See the Permitted Substitutions at the end of this section.

Social Sciences (IS or RS):
Courses in the Social Sciences emphasize methods and principles used by social scientists to systematically study human behavior.

Students choose from the following:

- AGEC 210IS - Agribusiness and Farm Management
- ANTH 201IS - Human Prehistory
- ANTH 204IS - Culture & Society
- ANTH 221IS - Mysteries of the Past
- ECON 101IS - The Economic Way of Thinking
- ECON 201IS - Introduction to Microeconomics Theory
- ECON 209IS - Honors Economics
- HDGF 150IS - Lifespan Human Development
- MGMT 231IS - Business Inquiry
- NAS 240IS - Critical Inquiry into Native American Studies Theories & Methods
- POLS 241IS - Principles of Political Science
- PSY 100IS - Introductory Psychology
- SOC 101IS - Sociology Inquiry
- SOC 110IS - Honors Sociological Inquiry
- UH 150IS - The Economics of Life
- AGEC 415IS - Economics of Agricultural Policy
- ANTH 288RS - Undergraduate Research Experience in Anthropology
- UH 403RS - Honors Research Seminar in Social Sciences
- Any other course with the "IS or RS" suffix

Additional Research & Creative Experience Courses:

Important: All students must take at least one (1) approved Research & Creative Experience course or a total of three credits of independent undergraduate research (289R/290R or 489R/490R). Students may take an approved Research & Creative Experience course in one of the Four Ways of Knowing areas or they may take a separate Research & Creative Experience course in any discipline, including the Undergraduate Scholars Program (USP 489R/490R). Any course with the "R" suffix satisfies this requirement.

Permitted Substitutions
1. Completion of at least two of the following courses, normally taken by students in science majors, with a grade of C- or better satisfies the Contemporary Issues in Science (CS) and the Inquiry Natural Science (IN) requirements. Individual substitutions for one requirement or the other are not permissible.
   - ANRH 240
   - BCHM 122
   - BIOL 101,102,207,208,213,214,215,251
   - CHEM 121,131,132,141,212,215
   - ECE 111,112
   - EOL 102,204,210
   - LRUS 201
   - MATH 221
   - MMBH 210
   - PHYS 205,206,211,212,213,221,222
   - PSSP 101, PSPP 102

2. The University Honors course UH 202, with a grade of C- or better, may substitute for the Inquiry Humanities (IH) requirement.

Credits For Degree Completion

Correspondence Credits and Extension Courses

No more than thirty semester credits earned by correspondence, extension, or continuing education from accredited colleges or universities may be counted toward graduation. Normally, correspondence, extension, and continuing education courses are not accepted toward degrees in the College of Engineering. However, special circumstances may warrant consideration, and approval of such courses is on a case-by-case basis.

Special Topics and Individual Problems Courses

No more than twelve credits of Special Topics 280 or 480 combined in each rubric will count toward graduation. No more than six credits of 470 Individual Problems in each rubric will count toward graduation. Some departments have established lower limits than these, and students are responsible for checking course listings to ensure that they do not exceed the allowable number of credits in each category.
The System of General Curricular Requirements

Credits
A candidate for the bachelor's degree must complete the minimum number of credits required for the degree selected. The minimum number of credits must be composed of credits earned for graduation. The required number of credits varies among the four-year curricula leading to the bachelor's degree.

Credits Earned for Graduation
Credits earned for graduation shall mean the total number of credits for which passing grades (A through D, and P) have been received in courses numbered 100 or above. If students repeat courses in which they have passing grades, the most recent grade will be the effective grade for graduation.

A course taken by an undergraduate or a non-degree student may not be repeated and applied toward requirements for a graduate degree.

For further credit-use restrictions, see Special Topics and Individual Problems, or refer to the Course Descriptions for maximum allowable credit limits placed on certain courses.

Upper-Division Credit Requirement
A minimum of forty-two credits for the first degree and at least nine additional credits for the second degree must be earned in courses numbered 300 and above (upper-division courses). As required by the Minimum Competency Requirements, a grade of C- or better is required in all courses that will be counted toward the upper-division credits required in all degrees.

Transfer Student Credit
Requirements at MSU-Bozeman
To graduate from Montana State University, transfer students must complete two full-time semesters of fifteen weeks or more in residence at Montana State University and earn not less than thirty MSU credits and a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, as well as meet the curriculum requirements for a degree.

Except for certain pre-professional curricula (e.g., pre-medicine), twenty-three of the last thirty credits earned to meet the graduation requirement must be MSU credits.

Deficiencies, I, and F Grades
All deficiencies, make-up grades, transfer work, advanced standing, and challenge examinations must be completed and transcripts filed in the Registrar's Office at least one month before the end of the semester of expected graduation.

Graduation Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees
Registration Required
the Semester of Graduation
A student must be registered at Montana State University the semester of his or her graduation. If the student is not required to take any courses at Montana State University during the final semester, he or she must process an "in absentia" registration and pay a registration fee of $30 before the end of the third week of the semester he or she expects to earn a degree. Arrangements for this registration must be made by the student with the Registrar. Registration in Extended Studies courses does not fulfill this requirement. Graduate students must have the written permission of the Graduate Dean to register in absentia.

Notification of Degree Eligibility
Students are expected to submit an Application for Baccalaureate Degree form no later than the 15th class day of the academic semester preceding the semester they plan to graduate. A $30 degree application fee is assessed at the time the Application for Degree form is filed. Returning former students must file the application during the first week of university instruction of the semester of completion. Application for Degree forms can be moved from one semester to the next within the academic year only. If, however, it is necessary to delay graduation beyond the originally scheduled academic year, one must file a new Application for Degree form.

Satisfaction of Financial Obligation
All candidates for degrees must fully satisfy their financial obligations to the University (or make arrangements with Montana State University for doing so) as a condition for completing their degree programs. Candidates failing to comply with this requirement shall not be eligible for graduation, diplomas, degrees, or any transcripts of their records.

Graduation Grade-Point Average
In order to graduate, students must earn a cumulative grade-point average of 2.00, or twice as many grade points as total credits carried, subject to other graduation requirements. Further restrictions may be imposed by the various curricula.

To receive a graduate degree from MSU-Bozeman, students must earn a 3.00 grade-point average or three times as many grade-points as credits required in the major and minor for the degree. Students must also earn 3.00 grade point average or three times as many grade-points as credits taken at MSU-Bozeman which are required in the major and minor.

Graduation with Honors
Graduation with honors or highest honors applies only to baccalaureate degrees.

To receive honors, a student must earn a cumulative grade-point average of 3.25 through 3.69. To receive highest honors, a student must earn a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.70. Cumulative grade point averages are computed at the end of the semester of graduation.

All MSU credits attempted and grades received will be used in computing graduation with honors or highest honors.

Transfer students must meet the cumulative grade-point average requirements stated above and complete a minimum of sixty semester credits at MSU. The credits earned at MSU must compute to minimum grade point averages of 3.25 or 3.70 for graduating with honors or highest honors respectively.

For second degree or subsequent baccalaureate candidates, the grade-point average of the first or subsequent degrees and any transfer work will be included in the determination of honors or highest honors. Transfer credit and grade-point average requirements apply.
Commencement
Students who are unable to be present at commencement must make arrangements with the Registrar to have their diplomas mailed to them.
Diplomas are dated the last day of the semester in which the requirements for the degree are completed. Degrees are conferred once a year at May commencement.

Appeals of Graduation Requirements
The Admission and Graduation Requirements Board (GARC) is composed of the Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education (chairperson), the assistant dean of the college concerned, and the Registrar. This board considers appeals and/or petitions from undergraduate and non-degree students seeking waivers of established requirements in special situations.

Instructions for submitting appeals and petitions are available through the Registrar's Office.
These submissions should be forwarded by letter to the Registrar and should originate with the student in conjunction with the student's adviser.