

## MASTER'S DEGREES

To be eligible to receive the master's degree at Fresno State a student must have achieved a command of his field of specialization and must have demonstrated competence in independent investigation, analysis, and synthesis beyond the scope of individual courses. *The requirements listed in the following sections are minimums.* For details of specific curricula see the department statements and the *Graduate Bulletin*.

Applicants for all master's degrees gain admittance to graduate standing, construct their programs, and receive advancement to candidacy under standard college-wide policies. Most departments, however, impose additional requirements for admission to specific programs, advancement, and completion.

### CLASSIFIED GRADUATE STANDING

A student who has been admitted to a State University or College campus College under the Unclassified Graduate requirement above may, upon application, be admitted to an authorized graduate degree curriculum if he satisfactorily meets the professional, personal, scholastic, and other standards for admission to the graduate degree curriculum, including qualifying examination, as the appropriate college authorities may prescribe.

A graduate student who expects to have his course work apply toward a master's degree should clearly indicate his master's degree objective on the application for graduate standing which he sends to the Admissions Office. As soon as his admission to the college has been processed, the Dean, School of Graduate Studies, will inform him of the procedures for obtaining admission to the degree program with *classified status*. Minimum criteria for *classified standing* include satisfactory undergraduate scholarship, including demonstrated potential for graduate work in the major field, satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examinations Aptitude Test (or Admission Test for Graduate Study in Business), and other criteria which the department may prescribe. For specific minimum acceptable scores consult the Office of the School of Graduate Studies.

Not more than 10 units (including transfer credit) completed before achieving classified standing at Fresno State may be applied to the master's degree program. Work taken during the semester of classification is considered to be completed in classified standing. In two-year programs the above limitation applies only to the last 30 units.

### ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

Classified graduate standing gives a student permission to work toward qualifying for candidacy. Advancement to candidacy gives a student permission to proceed toward qualifying for the degree. At least 9 units must be completed after advancement. Requirements for advancement to candidacy include the following:

1. Classified graduate standing.
2. Completion of any additional prerequisites which the adviser specifies on the declaration of intent form.
3. Satisfactory completion of the Graduate Record Examination Advanced Test or departmental qualifying examination.
4. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 (both overall and at Fresno State) on all upper division and graduate course work from the date of embarking on the first course of the proposed master's degree program.
5. Satisfactory completion of the foreign language requirement for those programs having such a requirement. (See departmental Foreign Language Requirement.) In making this recommendation, the department takes into account professional and personal standards as well as scholastic achievement as revealed by grades and performance on examinations. The student is responsible for ensuring that the adviser has sufficient information other than grades and scores on which to make this recommendation.
6. Departmental recommendation for advancement to candidacy on a petition form available in the School of Graduate Studies office. On this form the student, in consultation with his adviser, lists the coherent set of courses which will constitute his degree program when approved.
7. Completion at Fresno State of at least 9 units of the proposed program with a 3.0 average on all completed work appearing on the program.
8. Submission to the Office of the Dean, School of Graduate Studies, of the properly signed petition for advancement to candidacy.