

FAST TRACK PROGRAM

The Fast Track Program permits undergraduate students to begin work on their master's degree before graduation. Please see the [undergraduate catalog](#) for full details and requirements.

Students interested in the Fast Track program should consult with their AHT academic advisor (and for their AHT for their major if majoring in something outside AHT). They will need to complete an application form. The best time to apply is in the semester before the student begins their last year.

Fast Track Application

Requirements:

- Senior standing at the end of the Spring term (i.e. within 30 hours of graduation)
- Core Complete

Normally, students will have completed:

- At least 12* hours of upper-division major requirements completed or in-progress
- *This equates to one semester of upper-division major coursework. Students as juniors should have at least taken 12 hours of major upper-division courses. Fast Track students must be seniors, having 30 hours of credits to complete in their senior year which could be major courses or electives. Students who do not meet this threshold would still be able to appeal to apply to Fast Track. This rule is naturally met by the students who are already enrolled in Fast Track.
- GPA of 3.5 in the major

Application Supporting Documents:

- Statement of Purpose (approximately 650-1000 words) statement of purpose that addresses their preparation and motivation for graduate study, their specific research interests and future professional goals, and the larger questions that will animate their study and research.
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty from the School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology.
- Unofficial Transcript
- Program-Specific Materials:
 - **MA AHST** - Please also include **one sample of academic writing**. Your writing sample should be in PDF format only and should not exceed 12 MB.
 - **MA VPA** - Applicants from the Visual Arts should include **a link to a portfolio** in their Statement of Purpose.

Admissions Process:

- [AHT Fast Track Application](#) and Supporting Documents
- Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies seeks the consent of the student
- Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies seeks the letters of recommendation
- Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies seeks approval of the following:
 - Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies
 - Graduate Area/Program Head
 - Associate Dean of Graduate Studies

Enrollment – Fast Track & Undergraduate students taking graduate class(es)

The student is directed to meet with Graduate Advising Team for advising. The Graduate Advisor discusses the graduate degree plan, what to expect in a grad course, and suggests courses for them to take in their first semester of Fast Track.

Registration Process (occurs each registration period):

- Student completes online [AHT Graduate Course Registration Form](#)
 - Note: AHT does not process the registration request until open enrollment begins so that graduate students have the first opportunity to enroll
 - On the registration form:
 - Name of Student
 - NetID of Student
 - Undergraduate Major
 - Semester to enroll in the graduate course
 - Type of enrollment (Fast Track or Undergraduate Degree only)*
 - Courses to be enrolled
 - Backup courses to be enrolled (in the event that a graduate course fills while the form is being processed)
 - Undergraduate courses to be dropped (swapped out of for graduate course)
 - Upload a copy of their undergraduate unofficial transcript
- Consent of the student and the following approvals must be obtained:
 - If the student is Fast Track:
 - Undergraduate Advisor
 - Program Head
 - Instructor is notified but approval is not needed
 - If the undergraduate student is not in Fast Track:
 - Undergraduate Advisor
 - Program Head
 - Instructor

*Course type (FT or UG only) will stick through the entire academic career (e.g., a course categorized as UG course only may not be converted to FT - unless appealed).

Matriculation Fast Track student into MA program

In the student's final semester as an undergrad, the UTD matriculation form is completed, signed, and sent to the Registrar.

- As long as Fast Track students get at minimum Bs in all of their Fast Track courses and maintain a 3.5 GPA overall and in the major, then the student will receive automatic admissions into our MA programs.
- Fast Track students can apply to the PhD (not automatic admissions) and if accepted, their Fast Track courses can be used towards their PhD.
- The matriculation form is signed by:
 - Area/Program Head
 - Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies
 - Graduate Advisor
 - Associate Dean of Graduate Studies