DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Undergraduate Catalog and to satisfy all published degree requirements for each major and minor being completed. Failure to do so does not provide a basis for exceptions to academic requirements or policies. It is expected that students will receive assistance from general academic and faculty advisers, but students must assume responsibility for completing published degree requirements by reviewing their “academic requirements” transcript often. It may be viewed through Towson Online Services (https://inside.towson.edu/psLogin): Self Service>Student Center. From the Other Academics menu, select Academic Requirements.

Satisfactory Progress to Graduation

Towson University is committed to fostering conditions that enable a student to complete their degree and providing support to help students achieve this goal. In accordance with Maryland law and University policy and in order to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward completion of a degree, all Towson University students shall:

• Complete ENGL 102 or ENGL 190 (English Composition – Core 2) within their first year at Towson;
• Complete or qualify for a waiver of TSEM 102 (Towson Seminar – Core 1) within their first year at Towson;
• Complete all requirements for developmental course work in mathematics or reading, as determined by the University’s assessment process, within their first year at Towson;
• Complete one course from Mathematics (Core 3) within their first year at Towson; and
• Complete and file a Degree Completion Plan by the point at which they have earned 45 units. For students who have transferred to Towson with more than 45 units, the plan shall be filed by the end of a their first term of enrollment at Towson. This plan must:
  • Include the remaining course requirements and the other standard graduation requirements that a student must complete for a degree;
  • Include a chronological sequence of the courses to be taken; and
  • Be reviewed and approved by an adviser prior to final submission.
• Details regarding how and where to file the Degree Completion Plan will be available to students through their primary academic department.

Bachelor of Science

Students must fulfill the following requirements to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree:

1. Completion of the online graduation application (http://www.towson.edu/registrar/graduation/apply.html)
   a. May graduates file by January 15.
   b. August graduates file by July 4.
   c. December graduates file by August 15.
2. At least 120 earned units
3. A minimum of 43 units of Core Curriculum (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies/core-curriculum) requirements
4. At least 32 units (part of the 120 total units required) of upper-level work (courses numbered 300+ and 400+); courses taken at two-year institutions cannot count as part of the 32 upper-level units required. Courses from four-year institutions will transfer at the numerical level as they were taken at the transfer institution and may not be converted to an equivalent TU number or level.
5. Completion of Writing for a Liberal Education (ENGL 102) or its equivalent with a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher
6. Completion of a major (a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher must be earned in all courses applied toward the major and, if applicable, minor)
7. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.00
8. Completion of at least 15 units after formal matriculation as a degree candidate
9. Completion of the final 30 units in residence at Towson University.

The undergraduate records of all persons receiving a bachelor’s degree are CLOSED 180 days following graduation. Any changes to the permanent record MUST be made within this period of time.

Bachelor of Arts

The requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree mirror those for the Bachelor of Science degree, but Bachelor of Arts candidates must also complete a foreign language through the intermediate (202) level (or the equivalent) with a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher. See the Department of Foreign Languages (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/foreign-languages) section in this catalog.

Bachelor of Fine Arts

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is available only to students who complete the majors in Dance, Acting or Art + Design. The requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree are identical to those for a Bachelor of Science degree, but Bachelor of Fine Arts candidates must also fulfill the performance and/or studio requirements specified by the departments of Dance, Theatre Arts, and Art + Design, Art History and Art Education.

Bachelor of Music

The Bachelor of Music degree is available only to students who complete the major in Music. The requirements for the Bachelor of Music degree are identical to those for a Bachelor of Science degree, but Bachelor of Music candidates must also fulfill the performance and studio requirements specified by the Department of Music.

Bachelor of Technical and Professional Studies

The Bachelor of Technical and Professional Studies (BTP) is available only to students in specifically articulated programs between Towson University and area community colleges. For example, the Allied Health major is a BTP program.

Concurrent Degrees

Students simultaneously pursuing course work in two programs of study may wish to earn two degrees concurrently and receive two diplomas.

For example: If a student is pursuing a B.S. in Mass Communication and Business Administration, two concurrent degrees may be requested.

To receive two degrees and two diplomas, students must:

1. Complete a minimum of 150 units.
2. Complete all requirements in both programs of study.
3. Complete a minimum of 60 units in residence at Towson University.
4. Complete at least half of the units required in each major in residence at Towson University.
5. Have no more than 12 units overlap between each major, including program requirements and program electives.

6. Complete an appropriate advanced writing course for each of the majors, where required.

Students pursuing two majors under different degrees (BFA, BM, BS/BA, or BTP) automatically receive two diplomas and do not have to apply for a concurrent degree.

**Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree**

Towson University offers a number of combined bachelor's and master's degree programs. There are two types: 1) structured plans within or among departments or program units, and 2) individualized student plans that are specific to a student's career interests and goals. Undergraduate students typically are screened into a combined program when they have earned 60-89.5 units ( Junior Standing (https://www.towson.edu/registrar/registration)) by the department chairpersons or designees for the undergraduate and graduate programs; some students may be screened into the combined program during their senior year. Once approved, these undergraduate students may begin taking graduate level courses.

Up to 9 units of graduate work can be counted toward the undergraduate degree and later applied to the graduate degree. The units and GPA for graduate courses taken as part of the combined program will count toward the undergraduate degree. Students must earn a grade of B or higher for these course units to apply to the graduate degree. The GPA for these graduate courses will not count toward the graduate degree.

During the senior year, students approved for the combined bachelor's and master's degree program must apply for formal admission to the graduate program. Once the bachelor's degree is earned and the student is matriculated as a graduate student, the Registrar's Office will apply the graduate courses to the graduate record.

Course requirements for the combined bachelor's and master's programs vary by program; some programs designate specific courses that must be taken to meet undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. Students are to consult with the Academic Departments for course requirements. Students are to abide by the time frame and unit requirements of the specific programs. Students can earn only one master's degree through a combined bachelor's and master's program. Procedures to initiate screening into a combined bachelor's and master's program are posted on the Registrar's website (https://www.towson.edu/registrar).

Students, with senior standing, wishing to take graduate level coursework without being screened into a combined bachelor's to master's program should contact the Registrar's Office to discuss other options.

Graduate tuition and fees are assessed for graduate level courses taken on the undergraduate career and are not covered by undergraduate tuition.

**Dual Career Program**

Students who have already earned a baccalaureate degree and wish to pursue both a master's degree and second bachelor's degree (or undergraduate teaching certificate) at the same time may do so with permission from the Registrar's Office and must adhere to the following:

1. Subject matter for each of the graduate and undergraduate programs must be from different areas of study and not have any overlap between course work.