



## FACULTY CREDENTIALS

### - Guidelines -

Standard 6.2.a (*Faculty qualifications*) of the *Principles of Accreditation* reads as follows:

For each of its educational programs, the institution justifies and documents the qualifications of its faculty members.

When an institution defines faculty qualifications using faculty credentials, institutions should use the following as credential guidelines:

- a. Faculty teaching general education courses at the undergraduate level: doctorate or master's degree in the teaching discipline or master's degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- b. Faculty teaching associate degree courses designed for transfer to a baccalaureate degree: doctorate or master's degree in the teaching discipline or master's degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- c. Faculty teaching associate degree courses not designed for transfer to the baccalaureate degree: bachelor's degree in the teaching discipline, or associate's degree and demonstrated competencies in the teaching discipline.
- d. Faculty teaching baccalaureate courses: doctorate or master's degree in the teaching discipline or master's degree with a concentration in the teaching discipline (minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline).
- e. Faculty teaching graduate and post-baccalaureate course work: earned doctorate/terminal degree in the teaching discipline or a related discipline.
- f. Graduate teaching assistants: master's in the teaching discipline or 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline, direct supervision by a faculty member experienced in the teaching discipline, regular in-service training, and planned and periodic evaluations.

*Approved: College Delegate Assembly, December 2006  
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**Georgia Institute of Technology  
Terminal Degrees List**

In most disciplines, the Georgia Institute of Technology defines the terminal degree as a doctorate-level degree (DBA, MD, DCS, DDS, DEA, DED, DEE, DETAT, DIP, DLS, DMA, DSC, DVM, EDD, JD, MD, PHD, PHDAE, PHDARC, PHDCHE, PHDMAT, PHDPHY, PHE, PHS, SCD), as appropriate.

In addition, the following masters-level degrees are considered terminal in their respective disciplines:

MARCH, Master of Architecture (Diploma in Architecture, European equivalent)  
MCP, Master of City Planning  
MCRP, Master of City and Regional Planning  
MFA, Master of Arts  
MHP, Master of Historic Preservation  
MID, Master of Industrial Design  
MLA, Master of Landscape Architecture  
MP, Master of Planning  
MRP, Master of Regional Planning  
MUP, Master of Urban Planning  
MVA, Master of Visual Art

In addition, a Bachelor of Architecture (a five-year professional degree in architecture) combined with a master's degree, such as a Master of Science in Architecture or Master of Design, is considered a terminal degree equivalent.

Several programs rely heavily on practitioners or people with extensive professional experience because of the nature of the discipline or professional expectations. Business, Industrial Design, Architecture, Building Construction, Applied Physiology, and Computer Science are programs in which many of the Instructors of Record have extensive professional or technical experience, oftentimes in addition to the terminal or professional degree.