

# Coatings & Polymeric Materials

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## Department Information

- **Department Chair:**  
Dean C. Webster, Ph.D.
- **Department Location:**  
Research I, Research Park
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-7633
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/cpm/](http://www.ndsu.edu/cpm/) (<http://www.ndsu.edu/cpm/>)
- **Application Deadline:**  
April 15 is the priority deadline for fall consideration. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D., M.S.
- **Test Requirement:**  
GRE: Required for international applicants (unless the applicant has earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited university within the United States); Recommended for all applicants
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL ibt 79; IELTS 6.5; Duolingo 105

The Master of Science program requires the completion of 16 credits of letter-graded course work with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. The Ph.D. program requires the completion of 27 credits of letter-graded course work with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better. Each student must choose a thesis (research) adviser within three to six months of beginning graduate school. After two semesters, the student must also select a supervisory committee. This committee advises the student and administers oral examinations. Candidates for the M.S. program normally satisfy course requirements within one year of study. Ph.D. candidates typically take about two years to complete courses, leaving later years for full-time dissertation research.

Candidacy qualifying examinations are administered twice annually. All Ph.D. candidates are required to pass the qualifying exam and defend an original written research proposal at least eight months prior to the final dissertation examination. The proposal topic must be approved by the student's research adviser, and the supervisory committee administers the oral exam. Lastly, following completion of dissertation research and the presentation of an acceptable written dissertation, the candidate defends it before the supervisory committee.

## Accelerated M.S. Program

An accelerated M.S. degree program is available for students enrolled in a major at NDSU and the Coatings and Polymeric Materials minor program. This program will allow qualified students to complete a B.S. plus M.S. degree in as little as five years. Students should declare their intent to enroll in the accelerated M.S. program during their sophomore year. Contact the department for more information on the requirements for the program.