

# 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

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## Program Description

The Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials offers graduate studies leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in polymers and coatings science, and students in the department may also get a Ph.D. in the Materials and Nanotechnology program. The departmental research bridges between basic and applied research in the field of polymers and coatings. There is a unique atmosphere and opportunities for cross-disciplinary research experience, often accomplished by multi-disciplinary research activities with, for example, chemistry or engineering departments. Advanced research work involves specialized training in the following areas: colloidal and interfacial chemistry of polymers and coatings, polymer synthesis, adhesion, durability, spectroscopy, corrosion, electrochemistry, nanomaterials design and synthesis, computational modeling, life cycle assessment, and rheology. The department has an industrial advisory board consisting of leading industrial scientists and/or former graduates who provide new directions and other feedback to the program.

During the fall semester, the faculty meet with the new students to acquaint them with the research programs in the department. Because students are required to team with a research adviser by the end of the first semester in residence, they are required to discuss research opportunities with all faculty members.

## Research Facilities and Equipment

The Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials is housed in a modern building in the NDSU Research and Technology Park on the northwest corner of the campus. This building consists of nearly 40,000 square feet of space for research and teaching. Modern equipment and instrumentation have profoundly influenced the development of instruction and are the cornerstones of research in the chemical sciences. The Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials possesses extensive instrumentation to characterize polymers and colloids ranging from state-of-the-art spectrometers, thermal analysis systems, advanced electrochemical equipment to study corrosion, and atomic force microscopes, as well as equipment for paint making and testing. Other modern research facilities, including state-of-the-art electron microscopy, high-performance computing and NMR laboratories, are readily available to all researchers on the NDSU campus and in the NDSU Research and Technology Park.