### Degrees Granted by Stanford

**Stanford IR&D**  
Last updated 3/13/2015

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#### Undergraduate Degree

An Undergraduate Degree is a Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study above the high school level and at or below the level of a Bachelor's Degree (or foreign equivalent).

#### Graduate Degree

A Graduate Degree is a Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study above the level of a Bachelor's Degree (or foreign equivalent).

#### Bachelor's Degree

A Bachelor's Degree is an Undergraduate Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study at the baccalaureate level. At Stanford (and typically, in the U.S.), a Bachelor's Degree requires completing the equivalent of 180 quarter-units of work above the high school level. A Bachelor's Degree typically requires attainment of foundational subject-area knowledge in a chosen degree program, as well as a breadth of knowledge and a range of basic literacies or competencies across subject areas.

#### Master's Degree

A Master's Degree is a Graduate Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study above the Bachelor's Degree level. Master's Degrees may vary widely in terms of units and degree requirements/objectives. At Stanford (and typically, in the U.S.), a Master's Degree typically requires completing the equivalent of 45-90 quarter-units. A program of study leading to a Master's Degree is often course-based and may require a thesis. This program of study generally involves in-depth study of a particular field, increasing students' ability to engage in a profession or conduct scholarship in the field.

#### Doctoral Degree

A Doctoral Degree is a Graduate Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study above the Bachelor's Degree level. At Stanford (and typically, in the U.S.), a Doctoral Degree typically requires the equivalent of 3 or more years of full-time study. Each Doctoral Degree can be categorized as a Professional Degree, which prepares holders to practice a profession at a high level, or an Academic Degree, which typically involves a requirement for substantial original work in the field.

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#### Academic Degree

An Academic Degree is a Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study with a focus on theory and/or research; preparation for practice in a specific profession is generally not emphasized.

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**Note:** This set of degrees (MBA, MD, JD) is commonly categorized as “Professional” in internal reporting. Other sets of degrees may be categorized as “Professional” in other reporting.

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#### Professional Degree

A Professional Degree is a Degree certifying completion of a program of academic study which is intended to prepare the holder for practice in a specific profession.

| MBA | MD | JD |

(none offered at Stanford)

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#### Common reporting groupings, for Stanford degrees

1. Bachelor's Degrees  
2. Academic Master's Degrees  
3. Academic Doctoral Degrees  
4. Academic Graduate Degrees  
5. Graduate Degrees