Although Thomas Jefferson’s original plan for the University contemplated graduate instruction, the first such department in the modern sense was not instituted until 1859-60 by Professor Basil Gildersleeve in the School of Greek. Shortly after the Civil War, a similar department was announced for the School of Latin. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy was offered initially by the University as early as 1880 and was first awarded in 1885. No formal departmental organization for graduate study existed, however, until 1904. In that year, the Graduate School was established under regulations corresponding to the requirements of the Association of American Universities, in which the University of Virginia was the first southern university to hold membership. The administrative offices of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences are as follows: Admissions Office, 437 Cabell Hall (434-924-7184); Enrolled Student Office, 438 Cabell Hall (434-924-7183); and Dean’s Office, 419 Cabell Hall (434-924-3389). The mailing address is University of Virginia, P.O. Box 400775, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4775.
directors is composed of the presidents of all institutions of higher education which hold membership in the consortium and the Director of the State Council of Higher Education.

Institutions of higher education which offer a graduate program in marine science are eligible for membership in the consortium. As of January 1986, memberships were held by Old Dominion University, the University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and the College of William and Mary.

To achieve its goals, the consortium has established the position of director who is responsible to the board of directors. Primary among the duties of the director are the organization and coordination of the Virginia Sea Grant College Program, which receives funding for research, education, and advisory service activities related to the development and use of marine and coastal resources. In this capacity the director is ultimately responsible for all Sea Grant activities in the commonwealth, including proposal preparation and review, fiscal management, liaison with the National Sea Grant College Program, NOAA, and the conduct of individual Sea Grant projects. The office is located at Madison House, 170 Rugby Road; Dr. William L. Rickards serves as the Director, and Dr. Eugene Olmi is the Assistant Director.

**Center for Advanced Studies** This center was established to help certain departments in the University move from a position of strength to a position of academic excellence. The center serves to stimulate research and instruction within the University while at the same time attracting outstanding professors to the University and recognizing the achievements of those already here.

Eminent scholars in disciplines encompassed by participating departments are appointed to the center to enable them to further their scholarly interests and to become permanent members of the faculty once the term of their appointments to the center are over. Center members may also have an opportunity to participate in the academic programs of the department through classroom teaching, seminars, and research.

Participating departments in the sciences are astronomy, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, environmental sciences, mathematics, medicine, pharmacology, physics, and psychology; in engineering: chemical engineering, electrical engineering, nuclear engineering, materials science, and systems engineering; in the humanities and social sciences: anthropology, art, economics, English language and literature, French language and literature, Germanic languages and literatures, government and foreign affairs, history, law, philosophy, religious studies, Slavic languages and literatures, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese languages and literatures, and sociology.

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**Admission Information**

**Admission Procedure**

Application for admission must be made upon forms available either at [http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/grad/admission](http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/grad/admission) or from the Graduate School Office. On-line applications are preferred as paper copies take considerably longer to process. The application must be supported by official transcripts of the applicant’s entire academic record, including records of any advanced work which may have been done in another institution. Official results of the Graduate Record Examination (General Test and for some departments one Subject Test), and two letters of recommendation from professors, preferably those who taught in the field of the major subject, are required in further support of the application. All supporting documents must be submitted to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 437 Cabell Hall,
The non-refundable application fee of $60 is payable at the time of application. Since the application fee is non-refundable, applicants are urged to read carefully the admission requirements before submitting an application.

Since most decisions for admission are made by April 15, applicants are urged to submit their materials early for adequate consideration. Deadlines for individual departments vary: please see http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/grad/index.php for further information. In order to be considered for a Jefferson Graduate Fellowship, Presidential Award or other College-wide financial aid, applications must be received by December 1. Departmental financial assistance awards are distributed at later dates.

Admission Requirements

All applicants must take the GRE General Test and for some departments the Subject Test in the proposed field of specialization. Inquiries concerning this testing program and application to take the tests should be addressed to the Graduate Record Examinations, Educational Testing Service, www.gre.org or call 1-800-GRE-CALL.

The applicant must have a bachelor’s degree in arts or in science from a collegiate institution of recognized rank. Holders of the degree of Doctor of Medicine may be considered for admission as students in the Medical Science group.

The applicant should have a B average for the last two sessions of the undergraduate course, or the equivalent in terms of credit standards of the college from which the applicant comes, as estimated by the Dean of the Graduate School. Certain departments in this University, because of the large number of well qualified applicants, require a general grade average of B or higher.

Academic credits, undergraduate or graduate, earned more than 10 sessions, or 10 calendar years before the date of application for admission will ordinarily be considered no longer valid and therefore will not form a basis for admission to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. At the discretion of the department in which the student proposes to work, such credits may be validated by an examination or examinations given at the University of Virginia.

Financial Assistance

The University offers financial assistance to students in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences through a variety of programs: fellowships, assistantships, work-study plans, and loans. Each of these programs are administered by a separate office and a student interested in applying for one of them should read the sections below to find the office to contact. Most superior students can expect to receive aid of some kind throughout their graduate careers.

Fellowships

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences has a number of merit fellowships supported