Transportation and Logistics

Department Information

- **Program Director:** Denver Tolliver, Ph.D.
- **Department Chair:** Joseph Szmerekovsky, Ph.D.
- **Academic Coordinator:** Jody Bohn Baldock
- **Email:** jody.bohn.baldock@ndsu.edu
- **Department Location:** Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, Quentin Burdick Building 448
- **Department Phone:** (701) 231-7767
- **Department Web Site:** www.ndsu.edu/business/departments/tlf/
- **Application Deadline:** See Admission Requirements
- **Credential Offered:** Ph.D.
- **Test Requirement:** GRE (GMAT may be substituted)
- **English Proficiency Requirements:** TOEFL iBT 71, IELTS 6

Program Description

The Department of Transportation, Logistics and Finance offers a Ph.D. degree in Transportation and Logistics (TL). The degree is awarded through the College of Business in collaboration with the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute to provide high-quality graduate programs for students. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to transportation and logistics and attracts students with backgrounds in transportation and logistics, as well as agribusiness, applied economics, civil engineering, construction management, emergency management, finance, geosciences, industrial/manufacturing engineering, and supply chain management.

The TL Ph.D. program offers the following concentration routes:

- Transportation
- Supply Chain
- Transportation Science and Technology
- Transportation Data Science

Admission Requirements

The Transportation and Logistics Ph.D. program is open to qualified graduates of universities and colleges of recognized standing. To be admitted with full standing, the applicant must:

1. Hold a master’s degree (preferred) from an educational institution of recognized learning, baccalaureate degree a minimum.
2. Have adequate preparation in one or more of the disciplines comprising transportation and logistics
3. Have shown the potential to undertake advanced study and research as evidenced by prior academic performance
4. Have earned a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 or equivalent in all courses completed at the highest education level reached
5. Submit a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score at the time of the application. If a student has a recent GMAT score it may be substituted for the GRE.
6. Submit an NDSU Graduate School application consisting of the application, letter of intent, official transcripts, letters of reference, and English proficiency scores (if applicable). Additional documents that may be submitted could include resume and professional vita. Applications for
admission will be submitted via the Graduate School website. Applicants must meet all application requirements of the graduate school and department before being considered for acceptance.

- Domestic applicants requesting funding and all international applicants, the application deadline is April 1 for fall semester and September 1 for spring semester.
- Domestic applicants not requesting funding, the application deadline is July 1 for fall semester and December 1 for spring semester.

Students who do not meet all requirements for admission or have deficiencies in prerequisite course work, but show satisfactory potential for graduate study, may be admitted conditionally. The conditional status may be changed to full graduate standing after the first or second semester of study, based on the student's academic performance.

**Apply for Admission**

To apply for admission, please visit the Admission Information page (https://bulletin.ndsu.edu/graduate/admission-information).

**Financial Assistance**

The number of assistantships vary from year to year, depending on grant availability and the number of students in residence. Applicants are considered on the basis of merit and potential to undertake advanced study and research.

To be considered for an assistantship, an applicant must complete a Graduate School application, be accepted by the department, and identify the desire for an assistantship or financial need in the statement of purpose.

Graduate tuition is waived for students with assistantships, but all fees are the student’s responsibility.

**Degree Requirements**

The Ph.D. program requires the completion of a minimum of 90 credits of graduate study beyond the baccalaureate degree with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher. Each student must develop a plan of study under the guidance of a faculty adviser and a supervisory committee. Twenty-four of the graduate credit hours must consist of the core courses below. A minimum of 9 credit hours must be taken in the student’s area of concentration and 6 credit hours in quantitative methods. A minimum of 30 credit hours must consist of research-based dissertation credits.

Students must take a qualifying examination upon completion of the core courses. The qualifying exam will include two components: (1) core transportation and logistics knowledge and (2) competency in quantitative methods. After passage of the qualifying examination and successful completion of the courses designated in the plan of study, the student may schedule a comprehensive examination. The comprehensive exam includes written and oral components related to the student’s area of concentration. The comprehensive exam also includes a dissertation prospectus examination in which the student must present and defend a plan for undertaking and completing a dissertation. After passage of the comprehensive exam and completion of the dissertation, the doctoral candidate must pass a final examination in which the completed dissertation is presented and defended.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TL 757</td>
<td>Intelligent Transportation Solutions</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>TL 781</td>
<td>Traffic Safety and Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL 782</td>
<td>Highway Planning and Logistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 783</td>
<td>Transportation Systems II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 788</td>
<td>Research in Transportation and Logistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 789</td>
<td>Leadership, Ethics, and Academic Conduct in Transportation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 831</td>
<td>Modeling for Transportation and Logistics Decision Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 885</td>
<td>Geospatial Information Systems for Transportation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>TL 892</td>
<td>Modeling for Transportation and Logistics Decision Analysis</td>
<td>1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 655</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information Systems</td>
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**Quantitative Methods (≥ 6 credits)**

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<tr>
<td>COMM 707</td>
<td>Quantitative Research Methods in Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 885</td>
<td>Structural Equation Modeling Fundamentals</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGR 771</td>
<td>Probabilistic and Deterministic Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>SOC 700</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 701</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Dissertation (≥ 30 credits)**

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<tr>
<td>TL 899</td>
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<td>1-15</td>
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</table>
### Concentration Elective Courses

#### Transportation (≥ 9 credits)
- TL 751: Transportation Cyber-Physical Security 3
- TL 752: Transportation Planning and Environmental Compliance 3
- TL 753: Transportation System Modeling 3
- TL 754: Urban Transportation Systems Analysis 3
- TL 755: Context Sensitive Solutions 3
- TL 756: Transportation and Land Use Integration 3
- TL 758: Spatial Analysis in Transportation 3
- TL 786: Public Transportation 3
- TL 787: Public Transportation II 3

#### Supply Chain (≥ 9 credits)
- TL 715: Introduction to ERP 3
- TL 719: Crisis Analysis and Homeland Security 3
- TL 721: International Logistics Management 3
- TL 725: ERP Configuration 3
- TL 733: Case Studies in Logistics 3
- TL 735: Practical Data Analytics 3
- TL 811: Modeling for Logistics Research 4
- TL 823: Contemporary Supply Chain Research 3
- TL 829: Supply Chain Risk Management 3

#### Transportation Science and Technology (≥ 9 credits)
- TL 711: Logistics Systems 3
- TL 725: ERP Configuration 3
- TL 729: Adaptive Planning in Logistics Systems 3
- TL 731: Logistics Decision Analysis 3
- TL 735: Practical Data Analytics 3
- TL 751: Transportation Cyber-Physical Security 3
- TL 753: Transportation System Modeling 3
- TL 754: Urban Transportation Systems Analysis 3
- TL 756: Transportation and Land Use Integration 3
- TL 785: Spatial Analysis in Transportation 3
- TL 811: Modeling for Logistics Research 4
- TL 823: Contemporary Supply Chain Research 3
- ENGR 770: Quantitative Modeling 3
- ENGR 771: Probabilistic and Deterministic Methods 3
- GEOG 656: Advanced Geographic Information Systems 3

#### Transportation Data Science (≥ 9 credits)
- TL 731: Logistics Decision Analysis 3
- TL 735: Practical Data Analytics 3
- TL 753: Transportation System Modeling 3
- TL 811: Modeling for Logistics Research 4
- GEOG 656: Advanced Geographic Information Systems 3
- STAT 664: Discrete Data Analysis 3
- STAT 670: Statistical SAS Programming 3
- STAT 761: Advanced Regression 3
- STAT 777: Multivariate Theory 3
- STAT 852: Longitudinal Data Analysis 3
- STAT 859: Applied Spatial Statistics 3
- CSCI 679: Introduction to Data Mining 3
- CSCI 736: Advanced Intelligent Systems 3
- CSCI 760: Dynamic Programming 3
CSCI 835  Neural Networks  3
CSCI 862  Network Flows  3
CSCI 879  Advanced Data Mining  3
CSCI 880  Methods of Optimization  3

Faculty

Raj Bridgelall, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2015
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Alan Dybing, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2013
Research Interests: Asset Management, Energy Impacts, Freight Transportation, Agricultural Transportation, Supply Chain Management, Transportation Economics, Spatial Analysis, Transportation Systems Modeling
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Ranjit Godavarthy, Ph.D.
Kansas State University, 2012
Research Interests: Public Transportation in Small Urban and Rural Areas, Demand Response Transit and Paratransit, Bike Share, Roundabouts, Traffic Engineering and Operations, Transportation and Highway Safety
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Jill Hough, Ph.D.
University of California-Davis, 2007
Research Interests: Public Transportation in Rural and Small Urban Locations, Workforce Development, Mobility of the Aging, Transportation Planning and Policy, Intelligent Transportation Systems
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Pan Lu, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2011
Research Interests: Connected and Autonomous Vehicles, Smart Material and Structure Health Monitoring, Big Data Analytics for Transportation, Smart Transportation, Transportation System, Asset Management, Multimodal Transportation, Geospatial Transportation Modeling
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Jeremy Mattson, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2017
Research Interests: Public Transportation, Transportation Economics, Demand Modeling, Travel Behavior, Built Environment
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Diomo Motuba, Ph.D.
North Dakota State University, 2009
Research Interests: Transportation and Land Use Planning, Freight Modeling, Transportation Economics, Connected Automated Vehicles, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Transportation Safety
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Tim O. Peterson, Ph.D.
Texas A&M University, 1988
Research Interests: Managerial Leadership, Application of Information Technology to Organizational Issues, Scholarship of Teaching
Department: Management and Marketing

Fred Riggins, Ph.D.
Carnegie Mellon University, 1994
Research Interests: Economics of Information Systems, Interorganization Systems, Adoption of New Technology, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Internet-of-Things (IoT), Blockchain, Cryptoeconomics, Information and Communication Technology in Microfinance
Department: Accounting and Information Systems

Joseph Szmerekovsky, Ph.D.
Case Western Reserve University, 2003
Research Interests: Project Management and Scheduling, Supply Chain Management and Technology, Energy Supply Chain Management, Healthcare Logistics
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Denver Tolliver, Ph.D.
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1989
Research Interests: Highway Systems Modeling, Multimodal Transportation Planning, Freight Transportation, Energy and Environmental Analysis
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance

Kimberly Vachal, Ph.D.
George Mason University, 2005
Department: Transportation, Logistics and Finance