

**Graduate Policy Committee
April 14, 2010
3:30-5:00 P.M., MH 327**

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and call to order; review of minutes; announcements
- 2) Substitution of research hours policy
- 3) Draft policies for part-time thesis/dissertation hours
- 4) Adjournment

Substitution of Research Hours

Draft Policy: 10-16.1.1

Master's

See 2009-2010 Graduate Catalog:

http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5708#Course_Requirements

Course Requirements

The program requirements for a master's degree may include core and elective courses, seminars, independent study, clinical courses, directed research, and thesis research.

- A minimum of 30 semester hours of postbaccalaureate, graduate work (5000-level or higher) is required and must be taken as part of an approved graduate program of study. Some programs require more than the minimum of 30 hours because of the nature of the discipline and the standards of the associated profession.
- At least half of the credit hours used to meet program requirements must be at the 6000 level.
- Only graduate-level work with a grade of "C-" or higher may be used to satisfy degree requirements.
- For the master's degree, at least 24 semester hours of core and elective courses must be earned exclusive of thesis and research.
- In no case will the number of thesis hours in excess of the amount required by a program be counted toward degree completion.
- At least 50 percent of the credits offered for the degree must be in a single field of concentration.
- A research report, capstone course, comprehensive exam, or other culminating experience that demonstrates that graduate students have engaged in independent learning is required in a nonthesis option master's program. An explanation of how the culminating experience promotes independent learning is required in each program's curricular description.
- A thesis hour requirement may only be satisfied by enrollment in thesis hours. Thesis hours (or dissertation hours) may be used to substitute for other research hours.

Doctoral

See 2009-2010 Graduate Catalog:

http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5696#Course_Requirements

Course Requirements

The primary objective of doctoral study is to educate students to a point of excellence in conducting, disseminating, and applying scholarly research, with the explicit goal of making original, substantive contributions to their degree discipline. The advanced nature of doctoral education requires student participation, debate, evaluation, and discussion of diverse ideas and approaches. Careful analysis, independent research, and greater understanding and application of ideas are also expected.

The doctoral degree program requirements will consist of core and elective courses, seminars, directed and doctoral research, independent study, and dissertation research.

- Each doctoral program of study will include a minimum of 72 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the baccalaureate degree or a minimum of 42 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the master's degree; these graduate credits must be taken as part of an approved graduate program of study. Some programs require considerably more than the minimum of 72 hours because of the nature of the discipline and the standards of the associated profession.
- All graduate credit in a doctoral program must be at 5000 level or higher.
- At least one-half of the credit hours used to meet program requirements must be in 6000-level or 7000-level courses, including the allowed number of research and dissertation hours.
- Only graduate-level credit with a grade of "C-" or higher may be used to satisfy degree requirements.
- A university-wide minimum of at least 27 hours of formal course work exclusive of Independent Study (XXX 6908) is required for all doctoral programs; some programs require a greater number of formal course work hours.
- A university-wide minimum of at least 15 hours of dissertation credits is required for all doctoral programs, although some programs require a greater number of dissertation hours.
- The dissertation hour requirement may only be satisfied by enrollment in dissertation hours.
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Part-time Thesis/Dissertation Hours

Draft: 10-15.1.1

See 2009-2010 Graduate Catalog: Policies/Doctoral Program Policies/Dissertation Requirements
http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5700#Course_Requirements

Dissertation Requirements

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Enrollment in Dissertation Hours

The university requires all doctoral students to take a minimum of 15 credit hours of doctoral dissertation hours; however, specific programs may require more than this minimum. Dissertation research is considered to be a full-time effort, and post-candidacy enrollment in at least three doctoral dissertation (XXX 7980) credit hours constitutes full-time graduate status. Doctoral students who have passed candidacy and have begun taking doctoral dissertation hours (XXX 7980) must enroll in at least three dissertation hours each semester (including summers, without skipping a semester) and continue doing so until they complete the dissertation and graduate. Part-time hours are allowed as a one-time exception only for the case of Sstudents who have completed their dissertation and only need to complete their defensewishing to enroll in part-time hours should consult with their adviser.

See 2009-2010 Graduate Catalog: Policies/Master's Program Policies/Thesis Requirements
http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5708#Thesis_Requirements

Thesis Enrollment Requirement

After completion of regular core and elective courses, master's level students may be considered full-time if they enroll in at least three semester credit hours of thesis each semester continuously (including summers) and until successful defense and graduation. This requirement does not negate other regulations regarding full-time enrollment or the requirement that all graduate students be enrolled in the term in which they graduate. Part-time hours are allowed as a one-time exception only for the case of students who have completed their thesis and only need to complete their defense.Students who wish to enroll in part-time hours should consult their adviser. See Full-time Enrollment Requirements in the General Graduate Policies for more information.

Part-time Thesis/Dissertation Hours

Draft: 10-15.1.1**b**

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Draft: 10-15.1.1c

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Draft: 10-15.1.1d

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