

Graduate Policy Committee
January 23, 2013
10:00 – 11:30, MH 243

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and call to order
- 2) H/P/F grading – update from the Faculty Senate ad hoc Committee
- 3) Grading scale for research courses (referred from the Curriculum Cmt)
- 4) Graduate Certificate Policies - GPA calculation
- 5) Adjournment

Policy Committee:

Cheryl Cabrera, CAH, School of Visual Arts and Design

Yoon Choi, CBA, Finance

Kevin Coffey, CECS, Materials Science and Engineering

Juli Dixon, CED, School of Teaching, Learning and Leadership

Steven Ebert, COM, Biomedical Sciences

Jim Moharam, Chair, COP, Optics and Photonics

Gerald Smith, COHPA, Health Professions

Jeffrey Bedwell, COS, Psychology

Linda Colding, Libraries, Reference

Loretta Forlaw, CON, Nursing

Cheyenne Ro, RCHM, Hospitality Services

Ross Hinkle, CoGS, *ex officio*

Michael Stern, CoGS, liaison

Research Grading Scales

Clarification: 13-4.2.10

See 2012-2013 Graduate Catalog: Policies /General Graduate Policies

http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5700#Course_Requirements

Thesis, Research Report, and Dissertation Grades

~~For thesis (XXX 6971 or 6973), doctoral dissertation (XXX 7980), and research report (XXX 6909) courses, satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) grades are used to reflect student progress in these courses. Should a student in a given term be given an incomplete (I), then this grade should be changed to an S or U, upon completion of the work. Other grades may not be assigned in these courses. Students who do not maintain satisfactory progress in their research, as determined by their thesis or dissertation advisory committee, may be placed on probation or dismissed should unsatisfactory progress continue.~~

http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/content/policies.aspx?id=5700#Course_Category_Definitions

Course Category Definitions

(Please see specific policies under Master's degree and Doctoral degree program requirements for the proper use of hours that can be applied to degrees.)

In an effort to establish a balance among the essential components of graduate degrees, the 2008-2009 Policy Committee of the Graduate Council categorized the wide variety of graduate courses offered at UCF into the three essential components of graduate education: (1) formal course work; (2) research and independent scholarly work; and (3) disciplinary training. While many courses offer a combination of these elements of graduate education, most can be classified as predominantly addressing one of these components. The following definitions were established to help establish a common vocabulary for this categorization.

- **"Courses"** – All enrollment hours with an official class number.
- **Core/Required courses** – Courses that cover a certain body of knowledge that is central to a program of study. These courses must be taken to fulfill degree requirements, and may only be substituted by equivalent course work.
- **Elective courses** – Courses that cover a certain body of knowledge that is important, but optional for a program of study.

Formal Course Work

- **Formal courses** – Existing UCF courses that involve standard class instruction of a defined body of disciplinary knowledge. These courses involve interactions between a formal course instructor and the students that make up the class, and can be traditional, face-to-face courses, web courses, and media-enhanced courses. Such classes include both core/required courses as well as elective courses, seminar courses and independent study courses (XXX 6908), but are distinguished from the various categories of individualized research and scholarly courses.
- **Independent Study (XXX 6908)** – A course of study created outside of the standard-format formal courses offered by the university. Independent Study must have a formally defined core of knowledge to be learned by the student(s). The core of knowledge to be learned by the

student(s) must be specified in written form and approved by the student(s), the instructor, and the program coordinator prior to enrollment in Independent Study.

Research and Scholarly Work

- **Directed Research (XXX 6918)** – Graduate-level research/scholarly work. Research hours taken at the graduate level. These can include laboratory rotations in addition to standard research and scholarly endeavors directed toward completion of a project.
- **Doctoral Research (XXX 7919)** – Doctoral-level research/scholarly work. Research hours at the doctoral level taken prior to passing candidacy. These can include laboratory rotations, preparation for candidacy exams, or standard research and scholarly endeavors directed toward completion of a project or a dissertation.
- **Doctoral Dissertation (XXX 7980)** – Research or scholarly hours taken after advancement to candidacy and directed toward completion of a dissertation.
- **Thesis (XXX 6971)** – Research hours directed toward completion of a thesis.
- **Research Report (XXX 6909)**

Satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) grades are used to reflect student progress in these research and scholarly work courses. Other grades may not be assigned in these courses. Should a student in a given term be given an incomplete (I), then this grade should be changed to an S or U upon completion of the work. Students who do not maintain satisfactory progress in their research, as determined by their thesis or dissertation advisory committee, may be placed on probation or dismissed should unsatisfactory progress continue.

Disciplinary Training

- **Internships (XXX 6946)** – Courses that provide training experiences for students in their discipline. It is not a “formal course,” but may be a required element of some programs.
- **Practica and Clinical Practice (XXX 5944 or XXX 6946)**

Graduate programs may select the grading scale for these disciplinary training courses to be either on an A – F or Satisfactory (S)/unsatisfactory (U) scale, but not both.