ACADEMIC SENATE

February 18, 2014
3:00-5:00 PM

Student Center Theater

Graduate Curriculum Committee
Action Items and Minutes for Approval
Committee Chair & Vice Chair

Dr. Jeff Jagoda, AE, Chair
Dr. Benjy Flowers, ARCH, Vice-Chair
Action Items from the January 16, 2014 Minutes

Responsible Conduct of Research Advisory Committee

RCR Academic Policy for Master’s Students

Background

The responsible conduct of research (RCR) is an increasingly significant component of the education and training of researchers. In 2011, the Georgia Institute of Technology implemented the RCR Academic Policy for Doctoral Students which requires all doctoral students admitted Fall 2011 or later to complete RCR training. The Policy contained a stipulation that such training would extend to the Master’s student population by Fall 2012. A deferral for the MS initiative was requested until Fall 2014 due to the broad diversity of MS programs on campus and the logistics of serving a significantly larger graduate student population to implement the requirement. IGCC approved the deferral on September 13, 2012.
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Responsible Conduct of Research Advisory Committee

Proposal
Beginning Fall 2014, all master’s students who register for thesis hours (courses numbered 7000) will be required to complete responsible conduct of research (RCR) education. Applicable students must select at least one of the following options:

First Option - Complete an online CITI RCR course.

OR

Second Option - Successfully complete an RCR course that has already been approved to satisfy the in-person RCR training requirement for doctoral students.
**Third Option** - Receive at least 4 contact hours of RCR education during a course that is a required part of the curriculum for the particular type of master’s degree (see approval process below).

Applicable students will be informed of the RCR requirement when they first enroll for master’s thesis hours and each semester thereafter until the requirement is met. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the requirement prior to conducting research. Documentation of completion of the RCR training must be submitted with the “Request for Approval of Master’s Thesis Topic” Form to Graduate Studies.

A master’s student who intends to pursue a doctoral degree is strongly encouraged to complete both the First and the Second Options.

**Relevance to Compliance**
This Policy addresses an academic requirement established by the Institute. Adherence to this Policy does not necessarily fulfill the compliance requirements of every funding source.
Approval for the Third Option
A master’s program that plans to implement the Third Option must receive approval in advance by the RCR Advisory Committee. The proposed approach must include at least 4 hours of RCR content that is relevant to the program’s focus. The course that contains the RCR content must have a unique course number; it may not be a course with a special topics number. The program must identify, in the training plan that is submitted to the RCR Advisory Committee, at least four of the RCR topics (listed here: [www.rcr.gatech.edu/topics/](http://www.rcr.gatech.edu/topics/)) that will be covered.

Implementation Plan
Upon approval of this Policy, the RCR Advisory Committee will contact graduate program directors and ask them to respond to this Policy by a specified deadline prior to the start of the 2014-15 academic year. The RCR staff will work with the Office of Graduate Studies in order to develop the necessary reports for identifying applicable students and to make associated changes to the “Request for Approval of Master’s Thesis Topic” form.
School of Literature, Media, Communications

• **New Courses:**
  - All the LCC courses are changing to a new subject code of LMC.
  - The complete list of courses is included in the Minutes.

• **Degree Modification Correction**
  - The School of LMC in the Ivan Allen College has offered this Ph.D. degree since 2004 in addition to its Digital Media MS program. The current proposal reflects changes to the Ph.D. degree requirements that adjust the curriculum to reflect the changes made to MS program (approved in 2012) and to improve the flexibility for incoming students.
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School of Literature, Media, Communications

- The changes were submitted and approved last year to implement them May 2014 but errors were made in listing the current and proposed curriculum. The main mistake was that one course (LCC 6800) was not listed in the proposal and this made the current and modified curriculum appear as 30 hours instead of 36. Thus, this proposal is to rectify those errors prior to the new curriculum being implemented. Apart from error correction, no substantial new change is proposed.

- These changes were already submitted and accepted by the committee but the proposal contained errors: one course was not listed (LCC 6800) and two courses were partially wrong labeled (LCC 8000 and LCC 8001). This new proposal is meant to correct these errors. It does not add any other changes.
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School of Literature, Media, Communications

• Degree subject code change with no actual curriculum changes.

• Master of Science in Digital Media

  • All the LCC courses are changing to LMC subject codes effective May 2014.
  • The curriculum of the MSDM program will reflect these new changes but will have no actual curriculum changes.
School of City and Regional Planning

- **New Certificate**
  - *Certificate in Geographic Information Systems*

- The Certificate in Geographic Information Systems is intended to address the needs of two groups of students.
  - First, Master of City and Regional Planning students have requested that specialized certification be offered in the area of geographic information systems, a skillset in high demand amongst a range of employers in the area of planning.
  - Second, many non-MCRP graduate students drawn from around the Institute regularly enroll in one of several GIS courses offered by the School of City and Regional Planning, some of whom are expected to complete the Certificate in GIS outside of the MCRP program. The certificate will be structured around three sets of courses, including a foundational course in GIS, three skills related courses, and one policy context course.
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School of Building Construction

New Course:

BC 6575: Real Estate Production Finance 3-0-3
School of Psychology

• Degree Modification

  • Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Psychology

Three major changes:
- requiring three core courses instead of four, and adding new courses to the list of core classes
- changes in the requirements of individual areas
- deletion of the two courses falling under the previous rubric of professional requirements
School of Psychology

- Degree Modification, Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Psychology

  - **These changes have three goals:**
    - Requiring three core courses instead of four and deletion of the two courses falling under the previous rubric of professional requirements reduces the course load for graduate students, thus freeing more time for research-based activities and potentially improving speed of graduation.
    - Changes under (b) reflect changes in the respective fields.
    - Adding new core courses offers students more flexibility in optimizing their own curriculum.

  Reducing course load was a recommendation of the external APR review, as well as an internal review by the curriculum committee.

Changes in area-specific courses and adding new core classes were prompted both by the internal and external evaluations, as well as by reflection within areas on the changing state in the field, and the perception that psychology graduate programs elsewhere are likewise moving towards streamlined curricula that emphasize individualized programs of study and a stronger emphasis on an apprenticeship model.

Depending on the area, course load is reduced by 3-12 credit hours. Three fewer core hours are required.
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College of Engineering, College of Computing, Scheller College of Business

• New Degree

• Master of Science in Analytics
  • Georgia Tech proposes to create a nationally elite interdisciplinary analytics degree program. Analytics is defined as “the scientific process of transforming data into insight for making better decisions,” and sits at the intersection of big data/computing, statistics/operations research, and business. As databases grow rapidly and computing capacity and advanced statistical and operations research algorithms make data analysis ever more powerful, the perspective and skills of analytics are in high demand in a wide range of industries.
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College of Engineering, College of Computing, Scheller College of Business, New Degree, Master of Science in Analytics

- Georgia Tech’s interdisciplinary MS Analytics program is designed to both give graduates the computing, business, and statistics/operations research skills to identify, analyze, and solve analytics problems; and to integrate those skills in an interdisciplinary way that other, single-discipline-oriented analytics degrees might not.

- In addition to an integrated breadth of study covering the core areas of analytics, students will satisfy one of the specialized tracks to give them depth in an analytics area of specialization, either computational data analytics, analytical tools, or business analytics.
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College of Engineering, College of Computing, Scheller College of Business, New Degree, Master of Science in Analytics

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MS ANALYTICS

The following set of requirements is the complete set of requirements for all MS Analytics students.

- 2 Statistics courses (6 hours)
- 1 Operations research course (3 hours)
- 1 Computing course (3 hours)
- 1 Business course (3 hours)
- 5 Elective/core courses (15 hours; includes 3 introductory analytics courses in computing, business, and statistics/OR areas, each of which may be waived depending on individual student backgrounds; most students are expected to need 2, leaving 3 remaining elective course slots)
- 6 hours of practicum, or an analytics internship (unpaid internship students can earn 6 credit hours, paid internship students will need 6 more elective hours)
- Each student’s course choices must satisfy the requirements of at least one of the defined tracks (initially Analytical Tools, Business Analytics, and Computational Data Analytics).

TOTAL: 36 hours
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- Elimination of Undesignated Master of Science Degrees:

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*These degrees were discontinued, but the records were not updated until now.
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• In addition to the undesignated MS degrees listed below, we are also requesting the elimination of the following degrees that were discontinued locally years ago. This action will serve to help cleanse these degrees that are already defunct from the DMA degree table.

  • MSPTFE 14280101 Master of Science in Polymer, Textile and Fiber Engineering
  • MSTFCH 40059901 Master of Science in Textile and Fiber Chemistry
Minutes for Approval

• January 16, 2014
• February 6, 2014

• MOTION to approve Action Items and Minutes.