

Graduate Council Summary, 2011 – 2012 Academic Year

Policy Changes

- Thesis and dissertation embargo option: Approved student option to delay release of thesis or dissertation for electronic publication in TRACE (UTK scholarly electronic publication repository) to avoid conflict with intellectual property and scholarly publications.
- Approved 5-Year BA-MA programs in French and German: Permitting 9 hours to be counted towards degree requirements for both BA and MA degrees.
- Graduate Catalogue Policy on Admission Requirements: Permit unofficial transcripts & records to be submitted online to expedite graduate application, evaluation and admission process. Submission of official transcripts & records required following offer of admission. Graduate school reserves the right to revoke admission if any unofficial or official document is found to be fraudulent. Registration prohibited after first semester of enrollment until official copies of transcripts from all institutions previously attended have been submitted.
- Approved policy and catalogue copy on Change of Program and Readmissions: Requires graduate students with an interruption in enrollment (defined in the policy) to file application for readmission. Requires students with no interruption in enrollment to file a change of program application for change of graduate major, concentration or degree objective; change from non-degree to degree seeking or degree seeking to non-degree; transfer to a different graduate program; or transfer from Doctoral to Master's degree within the same major and concentration provided that there is no interruption in enrollment.
- Approved policy and catalogue copy for Concurrent Master's Degree Program: Permits currently enrolled UTK doctoral students to concurrently complete master's degree
- Videoconferencing for Dissertation Defenses: Topic addressed and discussed. No new policy at present. Added to the agenda of the 2012 – 2013 Graduate Council.

Curriculum

- Addition of a major and degree: Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in English, pending THEC approval
- Course changes: 446 changes: 155 course additions, 122 course drops. 169 course revisions
- Reviewed courses not taught in four or more years: Approved dropping 46 courses: Agriculture Science & Natural Resources, 2; Arts & Sciences, 11; Business Administration, 5; Communication and Information, 2; Education, Health and Human Sciences, 9; Engineering, 10; Law, 6; Social Work, 1.
- Adopted new By-Laws for addressing Courses Not Taught in Four or More Years: By-laws amended and informational item inserted into *Guidelines for Curricular*

Submission manual to provide clarity and transparency to affected departments and colleges.

Credentials

- **Approved 43 requests for new and/or continuing approval to direct doctoral dissertation research.**