

Approved on 12/5/16

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE**

Meeting #1
October 31, 2016
217 Varner Hall

MINUTES

Present: S. Dykstra, A. Hitt, L. Jiang, W. Matthews, B. McDaniel, M. McDonald, P. Piskulich, H. Qu

1. Committee approved Minutes #6, February 15, 2016.
2. Committee approved the request from the Department of Biological Sciences to **add** the following *new course*:

BIO 537/5540 Virology (4)
Fundamentals of virology, including classification of bacteriophages, replication strategies, virus-host interactions and pathogenesis.
3. Committee deferred the request from the Department of Biological Sciences to **add** the following *new course*:

BIO 586/5012 Experimental Design and Analysis (4)
Design and analysis of manipulative and natural experiments, emphasizing the practical use of statistics for analyzing common types of data in the biological sciences. Topics will include generalized linear models, model selection, mixed models, survival analysis and randomization tests.
4. Committee deferred the request from the Department of Communication and Journalism to make the following changes to the Master of Arts in Communication program:
 - a. Remove the three tracks (interpersonal communication, media studies, and critical cultural communication) and offer a general MA in Communication. The core courses of COM 500, COM 503, and COM 622 or COM 652 are retained, but the elective courses, currently segregated by track, are combined as one general set of electives.
 - b. Require an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher to select the thesis or creative program exit option.
 - d. Substitute the current exit exam option with a new option titled “Advisor approved elective plus final competency exam (4 credits).
 - e. Change GPA requirement from “GPA of 3.0 or higher in the major” to “GPA of 3.0 or higher.”

5. Committee approved the request from the Department of Linguistics to **add** the following *new course*:

ALS 589 Special Education and Second Language Acquisition (4)

Comprehensive information about the process of determining whether a struggling English learner has an underlying disability or if difficulties are due to lack of language proficiency. Overview of accommodations and interventions that address the needs of at-risk non-native English speakers.

6. Committee approved the request from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to **add** the following new course

APM 5347 Mathematics of Cryptology (4)

Classical cryptosystems (Hill, Vigenere, one-time pad), divisibility, modular arithmetic and efficient operations on large integers; practical cryptosystems (AES, RSA, DES), algebra of prime fields, prime factorization, discrete log problem, complexity theory, hash functions, birthday attacks. Modern and future cryptosystems, zero-knowledge proofs, quantum key exchange.

7. Committee approved the request from the Department of Political Science to request of Graduate Study to modify the Proposed Program Requirements of Combined Bachelor/Master Degree Programs as follows:

Requirements for a combined Bachelor/Master program

- a. There must be specific requirements for admission to the combined degree program that defines the expected academic performance of the students to be admitted. Students accepted for the combined program must have a minimum overall undergraduate GPA of 3.2 and meet the admission requirements to the graduate degree portion of the program. Individual graduate programs may have a higher standard.
- b. The combined program should be designed not to delay the students' receipt of their bachelor's degrees. Enrollment in graduate credits should not unduly limit the breadth of the student's undergraduate experience by way of a premature focus or specialization.
- c. Students may apply to a combined bachelor/master degree program and be offered deferred admission to the *graduate combined* program *either at the end of the junior year and may begin enrollment in graduate courses during the first semester of the senior year. Students who apply must also have after they have* completed at least half of the departmental credits required for the major *or at the end of the junior year*. Formal admission to the graduate program requires completion of all requirements for the bachelor's degree.