

# Proposal for Graduate Curriculum under Semesters

April 27, 2011

## I. Graduate School Rules

[For fuller details on Graduate School Rules, Plans, see:

[http://gradsch.osu.edu/Depo/PDF/GRAD\\_ASSOCIATES\\_AND\\_SEMESTERS.pdf](http://gradsch.osu.edu/Depo/PDF/GRAD_ASSOCIATES_AND_SEMESTERS.pdf) ]

- MA students required to complete (minimum) 30 credit hours
- PhD students required to complete (minimum) 80 credit hours (50 beyond the MA)
- GTA: Minimum number of credit hours per semester to be considered full time = 8 ch (semesters), 4 (summer), 3 (May term)
- Fellowship: Minimum number of credit hours per semester to be considered full time = 12 ch (semesters), 4 (summer), 3 (May term)
- Maximum credit hours: 16 (semester), 4 (May), 8 (summer)
- Post-candidacy students required to take a minimum/"maximum" of 3 credit hours Au and Sp until graduation. (When students enroll for 3 credit hours in Sp, their tuition fees cover the fees for their 3 credit hours during the May session). [Note: this requires us to front load our credit hours in order to meet the 80 credit hours for Phd] Note: Students are permitted to take more than 3 credit hours post-candidacy but it costs the department (or them if they are paying) more per credit hour. Thus, we include a "maximum" as a guideline.

## II. Proposals for Credit hours, Course patterns, and Degree Requirements under Semesters:

\* Denotes an item more fully explained at the end of this document

### A. Credit Hours and Course Patterns

1. All in-class graduate-level courses will be 3 semester credit hours.
  - a. Exception = independent studies and thesis writing courses such as 8999, 6999, 6193, and 7193. These will not be restricted to 3 ch and can be variable course credit (1-6) depending on need.
2. We propose that all graduate courses during in Au and Sp semesters be 14 week courses. We see 7-week courses as viable for graduate students only during the summer.
3. Pre-Candidacy: GTAs take 3 courses per semester (9 ch total); Fellows 4 courses (12 ch total)
4. Post-Candidacy: Students will sign up for three credit hours per semester. These hours might be made up of 8999 Dissertation writing hours, or could involve taking an 8000-level seminar or another course as needed.
5. So that they move toward degree in a timely fashion, all Pre-Candidacy and most Post-Candidacy students should sign up for at least 3 credit hours during each May term and 4 credit hours during summer term [6 credit hours in summer for students on Fellowship, and up to 8 credit hours for military students]. These credit hours will likely be mostly 8999 or 6999 or 6193 or 7193

(independent studies, thesis writing courses), although on occasion in-class courses in History or other departments might be available depending on offerings.

- a. Full-time students enrolled for Spring Quarter receive up to 3 credit hours in May.
- b. Students with GTA and Fellowship positions will be offered a fee waiver to take classes in summer.

## **B. MA**

6. It is anticipated that students who enter with a BA will complete their MA by the end of the Autumn Semester of their second year.
7. Requirements for MA
  - a. 30 credit hours
  - b. We propose that students entering with a BA generally take a non-thesis option in order to facilitate completing the program while they still enjoy guaranteed funding from the department. Students/Advisors might consider the MA thesis option if the student/advisor feels it would be in the best interest of the student to have the learning experience of writing a full thesis
  - c. Pedagogy & Professional Development (7905) \* [Students may petition for exemption]
    - i. Usually taken during Autumn semester of first year of graduate school (or, perhaps for students with a Fellowship, in the second year when they first begin to teach).
    - ii. Military students going on to teach at one of the military Academies, and who will not teach at OSU, can choose not to take this course because they will be given pedagogical training prior to beginning their teaching posts.
    - iii. International students who enroll in the university's English-language seminars concerning pedagogy (EDUTL) may petition for exemption from 7905.
  - d. Historiography (7900) [Students may petition for exemption]
    - i. Usually taken in Spring semester of first year of graduate school
  - e. Proficiency in one Foreign Language
  - f. Two 7000 reading seminars: 1 reading seminar in 2 of the fields in which the student wishes to specialize.
  - g. One 8000 seminar, which would yield a paper of substantial length (30-40 pp). This paper would rely on research in language of field.
  - h. Further graduate courses, resulting in at least 30 credits total
    - i. Many students will take five additional 7000/8000 history courses
    - ii. With adviser permission, students may enroll in no more than three 8999/6999/6193/7193 courses that will be counted toward MA credit, unless they receive permission from the graduate chair to take more than this number
    - iii. With adviser permission, students may enroll in a total of three graduate courses outside the history department (such as language courses) that will be counted toward MA credit

- i. MA Examination: 1 hour exam with advisor and an additional History Department faculty member chosen by adviser in consultation with the student, in which the student, advisor, and faculty member discuss student's coursework and general progress.

### **C. Candidacy Exams**

8. It is anticipated that students who enter with a BA will complete their candidacy exams by the end of their third year. It is anticipated that students entering with an MA will complete their candidacy exams by the end of their second year
9. Requirements for Candidacy
  - a. Students entering with a BA must take at least 50 semester credit hours prior to candidacy. Students entering with an MA must take 20 hours prior to candidacy.
  - b. One 7000 readings course in third field of specialization
  - c. Prospectus & Professional Development Course\* (7910) [Students may petition for exemption]
    - i. Taken prior to Candidacy
    - ii. Offered in Fall or Spring semesters.
    - iii. For students coming with a BA, this course will likely be taken in their second or third years
    - iv. For students coming with MA, this course will likely be taken in their second year.

### **D. Further Requirements for PhD**

10. Other Requirements for PhD
  - a. Students entering with a BA must take a minimum of two 8000 level courses.
    - i. One 8000-level course will be taken before the MA
    - ii. One additional 8000-level course will be taken either before or after candidacy
    - iii. Students are welcome to take more than the two required 8000-level courses.
  - b. Students coming in with an MA must take the following courses (in addition to the requirements for candidacy listed above):
    - i. 7900 and 7905 [Students may petition for exemption]
    - ii. One 8000-level course to be taken before or after candidacy
    - iii. Students are welcome to take more than the one required 8000-level courses.
  - c. Electives: The remainder of the courses needed to reach the required hours for PhD will be made up of electives from the 5000-8000 level, as discussed and chosen with advisor.
  - d. Proficiency in second foreign language, as determined by field.
  - e. Successful completion of Dissertation thesis and oral defense.

## **E. 8000-Level Courses**

### 11. 8000 level courses:

- a. 8000 level courses are one semester in length.
- b. However, there will be the option to bundle two 8000s taught during the same academic year of the same title/course number (2 of the following: Autumn 8000, Spring 8000, and May 8000). For registrar purposes, these courses will not be treated as connected as they are now. Instead, students will sign up for 2 separate versions of the same number course and will receive a final grade at the end of each semester/session. It will be possible to give an S/U option for the first segment and then a letter grade for the final; or to give a letter grade for both parts. If a student enrolls in a bundled 8000 course, he/she will only receive credit toward the MA or PhD upon completion of both portions of the course.
- c. If a faculty member wishes to teach an 8000 over the course of 2 semesters/terms/sessions, they may do this but the combined 2 semesters will only count as one course for workload accounting.
- d. An 8000 course that runs for more than one semester will count as only one 8000 course towards the required minimum of two 8000-level courses.

## **F. Courses Outside the Department**

12. Students will be allowed to count up to 6 courses from outside the department for the PhD, with the right to petition for more. These courses might include language (or other professional skills) training from another department. These courses might also include thematic and other topical offerings from other departments.
  - a. Since language training can delay the progress of grad students through the requirements of the program, and since language courses offered below the 4000 level do not count towards the number of graduate credit hours needed for degree, one possibility would be for students to sign up for Reading hours (or perhaps independent study hours) at 7000 level to allow them to take these language courses and also to maintain credit-hour progress through the system.

### **\* Proposed Pedagogy & Professional Development course (3 ch)      7905**

- We propose including a required course in teaching/professional development (with the option to petition out) that would be offered each Autumn Semester, and that students would take in either their first or second year.
- This course would be a version of what Rich Ugland and Phil Brown currently teach (795.01 focused on pedagogy, 795.02 focused on grant-writing).

- It would include pedagogical training that was directly tied to the work in the classroom that these first-time GTAs are doing. It would also have a component that examines teaching through technology and distance learning, as well as training in how to lead discussion sections, how to grade, how to build a syllabus, how to lecture, etc. etc.
- It would include the professional development skills now covered in 795.02 (locating funding sources, components of grant writing, building a resume, etc.)
- GTAs would take the course in their first year in order to aid them in transitioning to University-level teaching. Fellows might take the course either in their first or second year—here these would be individual choices in consultation with advisor that would balance the camaraderie of a shared first year class with the benefits of taking the course while actually teaching and where the discussions of pedagogy would be most real and helpful.
- The exact contents TBD.

**\*\* Proposed Prospectus and Professional Development Course (3 ch)                      7910**

- We propose Developing a Prospectus writing and Professional Development Course that all graduate students will be required to take (with the option to petition out).
- This course would be offered in Autumn or Spring and students could take the course at the time that is right for them in their professional development (in consultation with advisor), but would need to take this course before they complete their candidacy exams (likely taken in spring of 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year for those entering with BA; 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year for those entering with MA).
- The course would offer a structured environment in which students would research and write their dissertation proposals (including reading secondary materials, investigating primary source options, and working on methodological and comparative work) and learn how to write a prospectus. This would also help the department to set clearer expectations for Prospectus writing and content.
- It would review some of the professional development skills covered in 7905.