### Degree Requirements

In order to earn a Master of Arts degree in African-American Studies, a student must complete 36 credit hours of graduate coursework:

1. Students must complete twelve (12) hours of core requirements:
   - AAS 6000 Proseminar in African-American Studies (3)
   - AAS 6005 Theories in African-American Studies (3)
   - AAS 6007 Black Feminist Thought (3)
   - AAS 6010 Research Methods in African-American Studies (3)

2. Students must complete twelve (12) credit hours of coursework in one of two areas of concentrations: Community Empowerment or Culture and Aesthetics:

#### Community Empowerment: (12 credit hours)

Students who select the Community Empowerment concentration must complete at least twelve (12) credit hours of designated Community Empowerment coursework:

- AAS 6020 African-American Social Movements (3)
- AAS 6025 Seminar in African-American History
- AAS 6026 Seminar in African-American Women’s History
- AAS 6027 Seminar in Southern Modern Civil Rights Movement
- AAS 6029 African-American Political Participation (3)
- AAS 6030 Dynamics of the African American Family (3)
- AAS 6032 African American Masculinity (3)
- AAS 6034 African-American Women in the U.S. (3)
- AAS 6040 African American Community Empowerment (3)
- AAS 6042 Ethnicity and Aging (3)
- AAS 6044 African-American Anthropology (3)
- AAS 6050 African Social Movements (3)
- AAS 6052 Africana Women and Social Political Change (3)
- AAS 6055 African Politics (3)
- AAS 6056 Geography of Africa (3)

### Justification

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES**

African-American Studies has created a new Master’s degree, which will appear for the first time in the graduate catalog as following.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</strong></th>
<th><strong>Justification</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Culture and Aesthetics: (12 credit hours)</strong></td>
<td>Students who select the Culture and Aesthetics concentration must complete at least twelve (12) credit hours of designated Culture and Aesthetics coursework:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6060 African Art (3)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 6062 Contemporary African Art (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6063 Art of Egypt, Nubia &amp; Maghrib (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6070 African American Literary Theory (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6073 19th Century African American Literature (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6075 20th Century African American Literature (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6079 African American Language (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6080 The Black Arts Movements (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6082 African-American Art (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 6090 African-American Religion (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Students must complete six (6) credit hours of elective coursework. A student may select either African-American Studies or affiliated coursework. Non-designated African-American Studies coursework requires prior approval from the graduate director.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Students must complete at least six (6) credit hours of AAS 8999 Thesis Research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Students must submit an approved thesis.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Degree Requirements</strong></th>
<th><strong>Justification</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Program</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thesis Option (33 hours)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Thesis Practicum Option (36 hours)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Internship Option (36 hours)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following courses are required:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Anth 6620 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 6630 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 8000 Anthropological Theory and Praxis (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 8040 Seminar in Anthropology (3) or Anth 8050 Seminar in Applied Anthropology (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Biological Anthropology.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One course at the 6000 or 8000 level in Archaeology.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. One of the following methods courses (as relevant to the student’s MA concentration):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 6670 Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology (3) or Anth 8010 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 6360 Methods and Theories in Biological Anthropology (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anth 6590 Archaeological Methods (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to six hours of graduate courses may be taken outside the anthropology program.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Additional 6000/8000-level anthropology courses in area of specialization to achieve a total of 33 semester hours for thesis option and 36 semester hours for non-thesis practicum and internship options. Up to six hours of graduate courses may be taken outside the anthropology program.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Proficiency in a foreign language or approved research skill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. A general written and oral examination must be passed on or near the completion of coursework requirements.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Six semester credit hours of Anth 8999, Thesis Research (thesis option only) and Thesis defense (thesis option only).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## ANTHROPOLOGY

**Rationale for suggested curriculum changes:**

Anthropology is a four-field discipline spanning sociocultural anthropology, biological anthropology, archaeology, and linguistic anthropology. Most graduate anthropology programs in the US require students to do coursework in all of the subfields. Currently, courses in three of these subfields are offered at GSU, and, up to now, students in archaeology and biological anthropology have been formally required (and informally encouraged) to take classes in the other subfields as well. Sociocultural anthropology students, however, were not required to take courses in archaeology and biological anthropology—and, in fact, most did not.

The purposes of the changes we are suggesting are as follows:

a. provide all of our students a more complete understanding of the discipline;

b. conform to nationwide standards for anthropology curricula.

Additionally, students will be required to take a methods class in their subfield. Up to now, all archaeology and biological students were required to take two sociocultural methods classes, but there was no requirement to take a methods course in their own subfield. The purpose of the suggested changes is to ensure that students are properly trained in the methods of their own subfield. Also, since the consensus among the anthropology faculty is that two sociocultural methods courses are redundant, from now on sociocultural students will be required to take only one methods course in their subfield.

Last but not least, the consensus among the anthropology faculty is that the distinction between the “general” and the “applied” program should be removed. It would be more appropriate to have one basic curriculum with three options (thesis, practicum, and internship). Students may
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. Completion Three credit hours of Anth 8990, Research Practicum (3) <strong>(non-thesis practicum option only)</strong>.</td>
<td>select to conduct basic or applied research in consultation with their primary advisor and in line with career aspirations. However, applied anthropology students ought not to be limited to the internship option, and general anthropology students should be able to conduct an internship if this is relevant to their MA research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Three credit hours of Anth 8910, Internship (internship option only).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Applied Program**
- **Thesis Option (33 hours)**
- **Non-Thesis Option (36 hours)**

The following courses are required:

1. Anth 6620 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology (4)
2. Anth 6630 Qualitative Methods in Anthropology (3)
3. Anth 8000 Anthropological Theory and Praxis (3)
4. Anth 8050 Seminar in Applied Anthropology (3)

2. Up to six hours of graduate courses may be taken outside the anthropology program
3. Additional 6000/8000 level anthropology courses in area of specialization to achieve total of 24 semester hours for thesis option and 33 semester hours for non-thesis option.
4. Proficiency in a foreign language or approved research skill.
5. A general written and oral examination must be passed on or near the completion of coursework requirements.
6. Anth 8910 Internship (3)
7. Six semester hours of Anth 8999, Thesis Research (thesis option only)
8. Thesis defense (thesis option only).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ph.D. Program in Applied Linguistics</strong></td>
<td><strong>APPLIED LINGUISTICS AND ESL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ph.D. program in applied linguistics consists of five main components and requirements:</td>
<td>We felt the need to raise the bar for the PhD program and to make our expectations clear to our PhD students, i.e., that more than the minimum 3.0 GPA university requirement for graduate degrees is expected of PhD students in our department. More specifically, what we want to add to the catalog, as you’ll see in red in the attachment, is a GPA requirement of 3.5 or higher for PhD students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Required and elective coursework, with a GPA of 3.5 or higher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Language requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Master of Fine Arts, Drawing and Painting (60 hours)</strong></th>
<th><strong>ART AND DESIGN</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Twenty-four to thirty hours of DP 8500/8100 Graduate Seminar</td>
<td>Changes to the Drawing, Painting and Printmaking description within the Graduate Catalogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar must be taken each semester the student is enrolled in this program.</td>
<td>The current MFA description for the Drawing, Painting and Printmaking area is generic and not altogether in sync with current requirements for the area. You will note that each area within the School of Art and Design offering an MA degree offers a very specific description of their program, while the description of the MFA is limited to a description attempting to define all of the studio areas generically. It would be of great help to incoming DPP graduate students if a more accurate and specific description of the Drawing, Painting and Printmaking program were offered within the catalogue. Compare the current description below to the proposed new, more accurate and specific description proposed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Nine hours of Art History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Six to twelve hours of Electives. Must be 6000-level courses or above.</td>
<td>Changes from the current generic description are as follows:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Up to six hours of DP/PRT 8980 Independent Study</td>
<td>1. DPP Graduate Students are required to attend Graduate Seminar for each semester they are enrolled within the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Twelve hours of DP 8999 Thesis Research</td>
<td>2. Nine rather than twelve credits of Art History are required, though students can now utilize their electives to allow for a total of up to 18 credits of Art History.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Graduate students may now take up to 12 credits as Electives (6000 level).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No more than 6 Thesis Research hours may be taken during any one semester.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. A written thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. A graduate thesis exhibition, presentation or screening.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Each student must pass a review after completing 24 hours of coursework. A list of required and recommended courses for each concentration is available from either the Office of the Welch School of Art and Design or the Director of Graduate Studies.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| No more than 6 Thesis Research hours may be taken during any one semester.  
6. A written thesis  
7. A graduate thesis exhibition, presentation or screening. | 4. The requirement for Independent Study is dropped, but may be taken as an elective. |
| Each student must pass a review after completing 24 hours of coursework. A list of required and recommended courses for each concentration is available from either the Office of the Welch School of Art and Design or the Director of Graduate Studies. | |

| Current Catalogue Description: |
| Master of Fine Arts, Studio (60 hours) |
| 1. Thirty hours of coursework in a studio concentration.  
2. Twelve hours of coursework in art history.  
3. Six hours of non-art electives or art electives from outside the area of concentration.  
4. Twelve hours of thesis research in the appropriate studio area.  
5. A written thesis.  
6. A graduate thesis exhibition, presentation or screening. |
| Each student must pass a review after completing 24 hours of coursework. A list of required and recommended courses for each concentration is available from either the Office of the Welch School of Art and Design or the Director of Graduate Studies. |

| M.S. in Biology with a concentration in Biotechnology |
| Non-Thesis Option (40 hours): |
| 3. Laboratory Practica (15):  
   Biol 8800 Research (15)  
   Biol 6440 Practica in Biotechnology (15)  
   (Minimester; 5 credit hours each time taken) |

| Thesis Option (40 hours): |
| 3. Laboratory Practica (15):  
   Biol 8800 Research (15)  
   Biol 6440 Practica in Biotechnology (15)  
   (Minimester; 5 credit hours each time taken) |

| Requirements for Biology M.S. Program with |
| BIOLOGY |
| Laboratory Practica: |
| The Laboratory Practica section is an integral part of the Biotechnology MS degree program, which is supposed to be a laboratory-based, techniques-based degree. The Practica in Biotechnology course (Biol 6440) had not yet been approved as a new course by the College Curriculum Committee at the time that the Biotechnology concentration was initially developed. Therefore, students who undertook the concentration were advised to enroll in Biol 8800 (research) to fulfill the terms of the practica, and this was incorporated into the course catalog until such time as Biol 6440 received approval. Biol 6440 has been on the books for a couple of years, but no one changed the Biotechnology concentration requirements to reflect this until now. |
Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009

### Interdisciplinary Emphasis in Bioinformatics

e. Twelve hours of interdisciplinary coursework to be selected from among the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6310</td>
<td>Parallel and Distributed Computing (4)</td>
<td>Prerequisites: *CSc 7350 (Java) and *CSc 7351 (C++) (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)] (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6350</td>
<td>Software Engineering (4)</td>
<td>Prerequisites: CSc 6999 (Data Structures), CSc 7350 and 7351 are prerequisites for CSc 6999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Prerequisites: CSC 7352 (Data Structures for Bioinformatics); CSc 7351 is a prerequisite for CSc 7352]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6710</td>
<td>Database Systems (4)</td>
<td>Prerequisites: CSc 6999 (Data Structures), CSc 7350 and 7351 are prerequisites for CSc 6999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Prerequisites: CSC 7352 (Data Structures for Bioinformatics); CSc 7351 is a prerequisite for CSc 7352]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6730</td>
<td>Scientific Visualization (4)</td>
<td>Prerequisites: *CSc 7350 (Java) and *CSc 7351 (C++) (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 8710</td>
<td>Deductive Databases and Logic Programming (4)</td>
<td>[Prerequisite: CSc 6710]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6544</td>
<td>Biostatistics (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6548</td>
<td>Methods of Regression and Analysis of Variance (3)</td>
<td>[Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stat 8050</td>
<td>Statistics for Bioinformatics (3)</td>
<td>[Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stat 8540</td>
<td>Advanced Methodologies in Biostatistics (3)</td>
<td>[Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics); Math 6752 (Mathematical Statistics II)]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Course counts towards degree requirements.

### Requirements for Biology (MGB) Ph.D. Program with Interdisciplinary Specialization in Bioinformatics

Departmental Requirements (4 hours; may be used to meet Elective requirement)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biol 6640</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Bioinformatics (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Changes associated with the Interdisciplinary emphasis in Bioinformatics:

The changes reflect the new course titles for the Computer Science courses (CSc 7350, CSc 7351, and CSc 7352) and correct the prerequisites previously listed for the required courses.
## Interdisciplinary Requirements (12 hours)

Courses in Bioinformatics offered by the Mathematics and Statistics and/or Computer Science Departments (specified prerequisites may be used to satisfy the 12 hour requirement). In consultation with the Major adviser, the student will submit a course plan to meet these requirements for approval by the MGB Graduate Director.

Interdisciplinary courses include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6544</td>
<td>Biostatistics (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6548</td>
<td>Methods of Regression and Analysis of Variance (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stat 8050</td>
<td>Statistics for Bioinformatics (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stat 8540</td>
<td>Advanced Methodologies in Biostatistics (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6310</td>
<td>Parallel and Distributed Computing (4) [Prerequisites: *CSc 7350 (Java) and *CSc 7351 (C++) (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)]</td>
<td>[Prerequisites: Csc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)] (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6350</td>
<td>Software Engineering (4) [Prerequisites: Csc 6999 (Data Structures), CSc 7350 and 7351 are prerequisites for CSc 6999 [Prerequisites: CSC 7352 (Data Structures for Bioinformatics); CSc 7351 is a prerequisite for CSc 7352]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6710</td>
<td>Database Systems (4) [Prerequisites: CSc 6999 (Data Structures), CSc 7350 and 7351 are prerequisites for CSc 6999 [Prerequisites: CSC 7352 (Data Structures for Bioinformatics); CSc 7351 is a prerequisite for CSc 7352]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6730</td>
<td>Scientific Visualization (4) [Prerequisites: Csc 7350 (Java) and CSc 7351 (C++) (these two programming courses provide credits toward the Bioinformatics degree.)]</td>
<td>[Prerequisites: Csc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 8630</td>
<td>Advanced Bioinformatics (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSc 8710</td>
<td>Deductive Databases and Logic Programming (4) [Prerequisite: CSc 6710]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Chemistry M.S. Program with Interdisciplinary Emphasis in Bioinformatics

Math and computer science classes at the 7000 level that serve as prerequisites for 6000 and 8000-level interdisciplinary classes may be applied toward interdisciplinary coursework requirement. At least one course in biochemistry (Chem 6600 or above) and Chem 8630 or equivalent must be included in requirement 1 above. In addition, 12 hours of interdisciplinary coursework may be applied toward the degree selected from the following partial listing:

- **Biol 6500**  Human Genetics (4) [Prerequisite: Biol 3900 (Genetics)]
- **Biol 6564**  Advanced Genetics (4) [Prerequisite: Biol 3900 (Genetics)]
- **CSc 6310**  Parallel and Distributed Computing (4) [Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Java) and CSc 7351 (C++)]
  - [Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)]
- **CSc 6730**  Scientific Visualization (4) [Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Java) and CSc 7351 (C++)]
  - [Prerequisites: CSc 7350 (Programming for Bioinformatics I) and CSc 7351 (Programming for Bioinformatics II)]
- **Math 6548**  Methods of Regression and Analysis of Variance (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]
- **Stat 8050**  Statistics for Bioinformatics (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]
- **Stat 8540**  Advanced Methodology in Biostatistics (3) [Prerequisite: Math 6544 or Biol 6744 (Biostatistics)]
- **Biol 6744/Math 6544** (Biostatistics) (3) is required to fulfill the research skill requirement.

### Doctor of Philosophy

#### Biochemistry

- **Core courses (9 hours)** - To be selected from Chem 6600, 6610, 6840, 6630, 8360, 8370, or approved substitutes;

#### Analytical Chemistry

- **Core courses (9 hours)** - Chem 6015, 6850, and 6870 (Chem 6860) Chem 6850; and two of the following: Chem 6860, 6871 or 6015, or approved substitutes;

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### Justification

#### CHEMISTRY

**Changes associated with the Interdisciplinary emphasis in Bioinformatics:**

The changes reflect the new course titles for the Computer Science courses (CSc 7350, CSc 7351, and CSc 7352) and correct the prerequisites previously listed for the required courses.

**Changes associated with the Doctor of Philosophy emphasis in Biochemistry and Analytical Chemistry:**

Chem 6630 (Enzymology) was added to the Core Courses for the Biochemistry concentration of the PhD program and Chem 6840 (Bioenergetics) was deleted.

This addition will allow those students that have taken biochemistry I and II (Chem 4600/6600 and 4610/6610) as undergraduates to select 9 hours of core course without having to repeat any coursework.

The Analytical Core coursework was narrowed down to just analytical courses instead of options from organic and biochemistry. This will allow for a more focused program while still allowing the students to take organic and biochem coursework within the area electives.
**Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009**

### Master of Arts, Concentration in Literary Studies

This program requires completion of **27** (9-10 courses), plus **6** hours of thesis credit, and a critical thesis (40-60 pages excluding notes and reference material) approved by a thesis committee consisting of a director and two other faculty members.

#### Coursework

In the interests of facilitating broad historical and disciplinary coverage across the areas of language, literature, and culture, the following courses are required:

1. Engl 8000 Bibliography and Research Methods (should be taken in the first semester);
2. Engl 8001 M.A. Proseminar (should be taken in the second semester);

### Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

The requirements for completion of the M.F.A. in Creative Writing are more demanding than for the M.A. in English, Concentration in Creative Writing. The Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing is a terminal degree that prepares students to write and to teach. It is also the degree that provides students an excellent foundation if they choose to continue their graduate work at the doctoral level. Upon attaining the M.F.A. degree, students will have acquired a productive specific knowledge of their chosen genre/area of specialization (either poetry or fiction).

#### Coursework

The M.F.A. student must complete satisfactorily at least **48** hours of graduate coursework. Any student who receives more than one C during his or her program will be dropped from the M.F.A. program. The coursework must include the following:

**Fiction Writers:**

- The M.F.A. student must complete satisfactorily at least **48** hours of graduate coursework. Any student who receives more than one C during his or her program will be dropped from the M.F.A. program. The coursework must include the following:
  1. 15 to 21 hours of Engl 8020 (Poetry Writing) or 8030 (Fiction Writing);
  2. 15 to 21 hours of English and American literature and/or folklore;
  3. **36 hours are required for Areas 1 and 2 combined.**
  4. 3 hours of English 8160 (Form and Theory of Literary Craft) in the student’s chosen genre fiction;
  5. 3 hours of English 8201 (Contemporary Poetry) or English 8202

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**ENGLISH**

**Engl 8001:**

This course is a continuation of Eng 8000 that aims to develop students' practical research and writing skills. Where the emphasis of Eng 8000 is on bibliographic methods, this course begins by focusing on trends in contemporary literary theory and criticism from a practical angle: examining how literary theory is embodied in applied criticism with a view toward helping students shape and focus their own individual research. Students will use this knowledge to help define a topic and methodological approach for their M.A. thesis. With the benefit of class discussion, guest speakers, and several workshop sessions, they will hone the research agenda that will carry them through the completion of the M.A. program in English. The course is designed to facilitate students' compilation of an M.A. thesis prospectus. Several class sessions in the second half of the course will be devoted to workshopping this prospectus.

**Engl 8203 and Engl 8204:**

The creative writing faculty would like to add two courses, Engl 8203, 20th-Century American and British Poetry Craft I, and Engl 8204, 20th-Century American and British Poetry Craft II. Although creative writing students are expected to be familiar with the complete tradition of poetry in English, the close study of poetry published during the last one hundred years will be most valuable to them in allowing them to find their own poetic voices, in other words in preparing them to enter the current dialogue that contemporary American poetry represents. The study of American poetry is specifically essential in this enterprise, given that the students are American poets and must be knowledgeable about the tradition of which they wish to become a part. For this reason, the poets selected for study will be primarily American. These two courses, which will be required for MFA and Ph.D. students in creative writing/poetry, will insure that the student poets have a full exposure, from a poet’s perspective, to the great poetry of this period. In this regard, the courses should serve as perfect complements to Engl
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students who enter the M.F.A. program with an M.A. in English or creative writing must satisfy a different set of course requirements totaling 36 hours:</td>
<td>8201, Contemporary Poetry. In terms of staffing concerns, Dr. Gylys and Dr. Stokesbury have for the last ten years been teaching, on alternate years, sections of Engl 8810, 20th-Century American Poetry. They will simply fit these new courses, which more precisely meet the needs of the creative writing program, into their schedules instead of the sections of Engl 8810 they have been teaching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Fifteen to eighteen hours of English 8020 (Poetry Writing) or 8030 (Fiction Writing);</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Six to nine hours of English and American literature and/or folklore;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Three hours of English 8160 (Form and Theory of Literary Craft) in the student’s chosen genre fiction;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Three hours of English 8201 (Contemporary Poetry) or English 8202 (Contemporary Fiction Craft); and</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Six hours of English 8999 (Thesis Research).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Poets:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The M.F.A. student must complete satisfactorily at least 48 hours of graduate coursework. Any student who receives more than one C during his or her program will be dropped from the M.F.A. program. The coursework must include the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Fifteen to twenty-one hours of English 8020 (Poetry Writing);</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Nine to fifteen hours of English and American literature and/or folklore;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Three hours of English 8203 (20th-Century American &amp; British Poetry Craft I);</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Three hours of English 8204 (20th-Century American &amp; British Poetry Craft II);</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>36 hours are required for Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4 combined.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Three hours of English 8160 (Form and Theory of Literary Craft) in poetry;</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Three hours of English 8201 (Contemporary Poetry);</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Six hours of 8999 (Thesis Research).</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students who enter the M.F.A. program with an M.A. in English or creative writing must satisfy a different set of course requirements totaling 36 hours:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Fifteen hours of English 8020 (Poetry Writing);</td>
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<td>2. Three hours of English and American literature and/or folklore;</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Three hours of English 8203 (20th-Century American &amp; British Poetry Craft I);</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Three hours of English 8204 (20th-Century American &amp; British Poetry Craft II);</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</td>
<td>Justification</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Three hours of English 8160 (Form and Theory of Literary Craft) in poetry;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Three hours of English 8201 (Contemporary Poetry);</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Six hours of 8999 (Thesis Research).</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Particular Requirements of Individual Ph.D. Plans:**

**Plan 3: Creative Writing**

**Poets**

1. Twelve hours of workshop in poetry;
2. Three hours of Form and Theory in poetry;
3. Three hours of Contemporary Poetry;
4. Three hours of 20\textsuperscript{th}-Century American & British Poetry Craft I;
5. Three hours of 20\textsuperscript{th}-Century American & British Poetry Craft II;
6. Nine hours of courses in or strongly related to area of secondary examination specialty, including 3 hours of Form and Theory in fiction;
7. Three hours of language study, unless satisfied at M.A. level;
8. Three hours of theory, unless satisfied at the M.A. level.

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**Master of Arts**

**C. French Studies Option** (30 hours):

1. Basic Requirements:
   a. Twenty-four to thirty hours in language, culture, and literature, of which six hours may be chosen in related fields as indicated.
   b. A written exit examination
   c. An oral exit examination
   d. Proficiency in a foreign language other than the student’s major

2a. Thesis Option:
   a. A written thesis proposal
   b. Six hours of thesis research
   c. A thesis

2b. Non-Thesis Option:
   a. Six hours of additional graduate coursework in the student’s major field
   b. A research paper.

**Master of Arts in Spanish**

**B. Language, Pedagogy, and Applied Linguistics Option** (30 hours):

Basic Requirements:

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**MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES**

**French Studies Concentration:**

The graduate faculty in the French section realized over the last several years that neither of our existing concentrations responded to the needs of certain of our current and many of our potential graduate students. For our students who are already teaching (mostly in high schools), the "Applied Linguistics" concentration repeats to some degree material that they have learned earlier while obtaining their teaching certificates. For some of our students who do not intend to pursue the doctorate, the "Literature" concentration requires a few more literature courses, and a more focused exam, than they want.

We have created the "French Studies" concentration to meet the needs of this third group of students: current (or even future) teachers who for various reasons do not want to take many pedagogy courses as part of their MA program; and students who want the chance to take more
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Eighteen hours of coursework in Literature, Language, and Culture in the student’s major field</td>
<td>courses in civilization and applied French, with the exit exam reflecting those choices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Twelve hours of coursework in Applied Linguistics and Pedagogy</td>
<td>We cannot yet say how many of the new students will choose this concentration, but interest so far has been encouraging. The French MA program has begun to grow again after a period of leveled enrollments; we think that this concentration will allow it to continue to expand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A written examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. An oral examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>5a. Thesis Option:</td>
<td>Spanish Linguistics:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. A written thesis proposal</td>
<td>The department added an MA Thesis option to give students the opportunity to work and conduct research on a topic of their interest in the field of linguistics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Six hours of thesis research</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. A thesis</td>
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<tr>
<td>5b. Non-Thesis Option:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Six hours of additional graduate coursework in the student’s major field</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. A research paper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</td>
<td>Justification</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Master of Science in Mathematics (with thesis)</strong></td>
<td><strong>MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concentration in Bioinformatics (with thesis)</strong></td>
<td><strong>M.S. with Concentration in Bioinformatics:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Requirements</strong></td>
<td>Stat 8660 is being inactivated. As such, Stat 8670 is no longer an option among two courses, but one of the four required courses in the statistics core of the concentration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. A minimum of 27 hours of graduate-level courses (exclusive of 8820 and 8999 courses). The required courses must come from all of the three core groups.</td>
<td><strong>Ph.D. program in Mathematics and Statistics:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics Core:</td>
<td>The department of Mathematics and Statistics has created a new PhD. program, which will appear for the first time in the graduate catalog as following.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The following courses are required:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stat 8050 Statistics for Bioinformatics (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stat 8540 Advanced Methods in Biostatistics (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stat 8561 Linear Statistical Analysis I (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Either:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stat 8660 Statistical Analysis of Directions, Shapes and Images (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stat 8670 Computational Methods in Statistics (3)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics and Statistics | |
| Admissions Requirements | |
| In addition to the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Mathematics and Statistics has the following requirements for students who wish to enter into the Ph.D. program, regardless of concentration: | |
| 1. A baccalaureate degree in mathematics, statistics, or a related field with a grade point average of 3.0 out of 4.0. Students with a grade point average of 2.75 will be considered for conditional admission. | |
| 2. Three letters of reference, | |
| 3. Recent GRE scores, | |
| 4. A statement describing study plans. | |
| 5. Applicants from non-English speaking countries must achieve a satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). | |

| Degree Requirements | |
| Students must have completed courses in mathematics equivalent to the following with a grade of B or higher: | |
| Math 4435/6435 Linear Algebra | |
| Math 4661/6661 Analysis I | |
| Math 4662/6662 Analysis II | |
Each of the concentrations requires 54 hours of coursework and 30 hours of dissertation research.

1. Students must take four of the five following common core courses (12 credit hours):
   - Math 8110 Real Analysis I
   - Math 8200 Advanced Matrix Analysis
   - Stat 8600 Probability Theory
   - Stat 8561 Linear Statistical Analysis I
   - Math 9116 Teaching College Math Sciences

### Concentration in Bioinformatics

2. The following courses are required (12 credit hours):
   - Math 8515 Mathematical Neuroscience
   - Math 8510 Applied Mathematics
   - Stat 8050 Statistics for Bioinformatics
   - Stat 8581 Statistical Theory I

3. Students must take at least 9 credit hours selected from the list below (9 credit hours).
   - Math 6010 Mathematical Biology
   - Math 6275 Applied Dynamical Systems
   - Math 8520 Applied Combinatorics & Graph Theory
   - Math 8540 Advanced Topics in ODEs and Dynamical Systems
   - Stat 8561 Linear Statistical Analysis I
   - Stat 8582 Statistical Theory II
   - Stat 8610 Time Series Analysis

4. Students must take at least 21 credit hours that should be selected from other graduate level courses in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and courses from other departments listed below. The total number of required hours of coursework is 54; if Stat 8561 is taken as part of the core and used to also satisfy the 9 required hours above, a student must take additional coursework in Mathematics and Statistics or from the list below.
   - Biol 6564 Advanced Genetics
   - Biol 7900 Genetics
   - Biol 8220 Molecular Cell Biology
   - Biol 8010 Neurobiology I, Cellular Neurobiology
   - Biol 8020 Neurobiology II, Integrative Neurobiology
   - Biol 8610 Physiology and Genetics of Prokaryotes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biol 8410 Advanced Microbiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chem 6450 Molecular Modeling Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chem 8360 Protein Structure and Function</td>
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<td>Chem 8370 Nucleic Acid Structure and Function</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chem 8510 Biophysical Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chem 8620 Advanced Topics in Biochemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8630 Bioinformatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8711 Database on the web</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8510 Theory of Computation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5. Dissertation Research (30 hours of Math 9999 or Stat 9999)

**Concentration in Biostatistics**

2. The following two courses should be included if they are not selected in the core courses:
   - Stat 8600 Probability Theory
   - Stat 8561 Linear Statistical Analysis I

3. The following courses (27 credit hours) are required:
   - Stat 8440 Survival Analysis
   - Stat 8540 Advance Methodologies in Biostatistics
   - Stat 8562 Linear Statistical Analysis II
   - Stat 8581 Statistical Theory I
   - Stat 8582 Statistical Theory II
   - Stat 8678 SAS programming
   - Stat 8700 Categorical Data Analysis
   - Stat 8800 Statistical Consulting
   - Ph 7011 Epidemiology for Public Health

4. At least 15 credit hours should be selected from other graduate level courses in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and courses from other departments listed as follows:
   - Biol 6564 Advanced Genetics
   - Biol 7800 Molecular Cell Biology
   - Biol 7900 Genetics
   - Biol 8010 Neurobiology I: Cellular
   - Biol 8220 Molecular Cell Biology
   - Biol 8630 Bioinformatics
   - CSc 6520 Design & Analysis-Algorithms
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSc 6810 Artificial Intelligence</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8220 Advanced Computer Networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8221 Optical/Wireless Networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8530 Parallel Algorithms</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8710 Deductv Dats/Logic Prog</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8711 Databases and the Web</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSc 8810 Computational Intelligence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ph 7010 Found of Pub Hlth Admin &amp; Pol</td>
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<td>Ph 7011 Epidemiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ph 7170 Research in Health Policy</td>
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<td>Ph 7270 Int Epidemiologic Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ph 7300 Urban Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ph 7530 Prevn Effect &amp; Econ Evaluation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

5. Dissertation Research (30 hours of Math 9999 or Stat 9999)

**Concentration in Mathematics**

2. The mathematics concentration requires that a student chooses three of the following five areas as subjects for the qualifying exam and take the two required courses for the topic if they were not taken as part of the common core. The qualifying exam is comprised of three separate written exams on each of the three chosen areas. The exam is administered by the department.

- **Analysis**: Math 8110 Real Analysis I and Math 8120 Real Analysis II
- **Matrix Theory**: Math 8200 Advanced Matrix Analysis and Math 8620 Numerical Linear Algebra
- **Algebra**: Math 8220 Abstract Algebra and Math 8221 Abstract Algebra II
- **Discrete Mathematics**: Math 8420 Advanced Graph Theory and Math 8440 Combinatorics
- **Applied Mathematics**: Math 8150 Applied Mathematics and Math 8610 Advanced Numerical Analysis

3. For breadth and specialization a student following the concentration in mathematics will take at least 8 additional courses (24 hours) chosen from the following. At least three but no more than four should be 8000-level courses within the student’s chosen area of specialization. Students are not permitted to take 6000-level courses in an area in which they have taken a qualifying exam. Topics courses can be taken more than once if the topic is different. The total number of hours of coursework should not be less than 54 hours. If
there is overlap between courses taken for the qualifying exam and the common core, then additional courses from the following list should be taken to meet the requirement for 54 hours. Two of the 8000-level courses within the student’s specialty will be chosen by the student as the basis for the candidacy exam.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analysis</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6250 Complex Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6258 Vector Calculus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6265 Partial Differential Equations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6661 Analysis I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6662 Analysis II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8310 Theory of Functions of a Complex Variable</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matrix Theory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6435 Linear Algebra</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8210 Topics in Applied Matrix Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8201 Combinatorial Matrix Theory</td>
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<tr>
<th>Algebra</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6441 Modern Algebra I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6442 Modern Algebra II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6444 Polynomials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6450 Theory of Numbers</td>
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<td>Math 6455 Error Correcting Codes</td>
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<td>Math 6460 Cryptography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8230 Topics in Algebra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8240 Introduction to Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Geometry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8250 Commutative Ring Theory</td>
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<tr>
<th>Discrete Mathematics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6420 Graph Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8520 Applied Combinatorics and Graph Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 8450 Probabilistic Method in Combinatorics</td>
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<tr>
<th>Applied Mathematics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6010 Mathematical Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math 6211 Optimization</td>
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</table>
### Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 6253</td>
<td>Introduction to Operations Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6275</td>
<td>Applied Dynamical Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6610</td>
<td>Numerical Analysis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6620</td>
<td>Numerical Analysis II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6650</td>
<td>Inverse and Ill-posed Problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 6671</td>
<td>Transforms in Applied Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 8530</td>
<td>Topics in Applied Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 8540</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Ordinary Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. In addition to the above courses, students may satisfy the breadth requirement by taking the following.
   - Math 6381 General Topology
   - Math 8515 Mathematical Neuroscience

5. Dissertation Research (30 hours of Math 9999 or Stat 9999)

**Transfer credit hours:** Students can transfer at most 24 semester credit hours to the program with the approval of the appropriate Graduate Director of the Department. Petition documents include the transcript, the course syllabus, exams and course notes or the textbook.

**Qualifying exam:** Students must pass a qualifying exam set by the appropriate graduate committee in accordance with any further requirements specified in the previously described concentrations. Students who fail the exam on the first attempt may take it only one more time. Students must pass the qualifying exam within two calendar years of admission.

**Candidacy exam:** Students must pass an oral candidacy exam before a committee that includes at least two final members of the student's dissertation committee. The candidacy exam is set by the committee and covers course material within the student’s area of specialization or a proposed topic of thesis research. The details are determined by the committee in a manner consistent with any guidelines stated above for the student's concentration. A student must advance to candidacy by the fourth year. The candidacy exam can be taken only twice.

**Dissertation Committee:** The student and his/her dissertation advisor shall form a dissertation committee. The committee should consist of at least four faculty members.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For students in the bioinformatics and biostatistics concentrations, one committee member should be from another department such as the Institute of Public Health, the Department of Biology or another institution.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final dissertation defense:</strong> Upon completion of the research, the student must defend his/her dissertation publicly.</td>
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</table>
# Program Changes Graduate Catalog 2008-2009

## Degree Requirements

The Masters of Religious Studies offers two tracks: a thesis track and a non-thesis track. Students declare which track they intend to pursue at the end of the first year of study. The requirements are as follows:

**Track 2 (Non-Thesis track)**

In order to receive the Masters of Religious Studies, a student must complete 36 hours of coursework. These courses must include:

1. Thirty-six hours of non-thesis course work. As part of these thirty-six hours, a student successfully must complete:
   a. One course in approaches to the study of religion:
      - RelS 6220 Theories of Religion (3)
      - RelS 6260 Religion and Literature (3)
      - RelS 6630 Comparative Study of Mysticism (3)
      - RelS 6650 Religion and Ethics (3)
   b. One course in comparative themes in religion:
      - RelS 6240 Death and the Afterlife (3)
      - RelS 6270 Women and Religion (3)
      - RelS 6290 Pilgrimage (3)
      - RelS 6670 Church and State (3)
      - RelS 6680 War, Peace and Religion (3)
   c. At least one course from each of the following areas (6):
      - Western Religious Traditions: RelS 6040, RelS 6200, RelS 6210, RelS 6215, RelS 6250, RelS 6280, RelS 6450, RelS 6460, RelS 6480, RelS 6490, RelS 6570, RelS 6580
      - Eastern Religious Traditions: RelS 6610, RelS 6612, RelS 6615, RelS 6620, RelS 6625, RelS 6628
   d. RelS 8210 Seminar in Religious Studies (3)
   e. Additional electives from either Religious Studies or affiliated courses (see below) to bring the total to twenty-four hours. Because the interests and goals of each student are distinct, students are highly encouraged to consult their academic adviser when selecting courses to complete the program of study.

Students who intend to pursue additional graduate work after the Masters of Religious Studies at Georgia State University are required to pursue the thesis track option.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### Adding a Non-Thesis track:

In 2005 Religious Studies, formerly a program within the Philosophy department, was established as an independent department. That same year Religious Studies began to offer a Masters Degree in Religious Studies, requiring all Masters level students to write a Masters thesis. Since that time it has become clear that Religious Studies attracts a number of applicants who simply want to expand their knowledge of religious traditions. For instance, in its first class the program enrolled a working journalist who wished to learn more about world religions to better inform his reporting. Such students (who do not intend to pursue higher graduate degrees) would benefit from additional coursework that broadens their knowledge base more than from a focused, in-depth research project. In recognition of the needs of such students, the Religious Studies department proposes to institute a non-thesis track that replaces the thesis project (a minimum of 6 credit hours of work spread over two semesters) with 12 credit hours of coursework. The department feels that the 12 hours of additional coursework is roughly equivalent to the amount of work entailed in completing and defending a Masters thesis in the program.