

Graduate Committee Meeting
September 6th, 2024 (No Meeting)

Members:	College:
Hale Kaynak	Business and Entrepreneurship (new)
Dumitru Caruntu	Engineering and Computer Science
Michelle Abrego	Education and P-16 Integration
Katrina Roush	Fine Arts
Lisa Salinas	Health Professions
Rebecca Hernandez	School of Nursing
VACANT	Liberal Arts, Chair
VACANT	College of Science
VACANT	School of Medicine
Denise Longoria	School of Social Work
VACANT	University Library
Can (John) Saygin	Graduate College, Ex Officio
Laura Saenz	Curriculum & Institutional Assessment Office, Ex Officio

Informational Items

a. Graduate College

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Graduate Curriculum	Update to Policy	<p>Revision: The specific dates listed at the end of the policy were removed. This was a non-substantive change.</p> <p>DISSERTATION AND THESIS REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>Each college and/or department may have its own guidelines for the development</p>	Fall 2024

		<p>and completion of the dissertation or thesis, including the formation of the committee. The student shall choose a dissertation or thesis committee in consultation with their faculty advisor, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A thesis/dissertation committee must be comprised of at least three and no more than six members.• One member may be from outside the department.• One member may be from outside UTRGV.• A majority of the committee members must be full-time faculty members in the department conferring the degree. <p>A master's student considering the thesis option should contact the graduate program director in the first semester of enrollment for specific procedures. A doctoral student should refer to the dissertation requirements and procedures in the program's degree information or contact the doctoral program director.</p> <p>Each college and/or department may determine its own guidelines for scheduling thesis/dissertation oral defenses, as follows:</p> <p>Thesis/dissertation oral defenses cannot be scheduled after the last class day of the semester in which the student intends to graduate. For Fall 2022 the last class day is Thursday, Dec. 9, for Spring 2023 the last</p>	
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		<p>class day is Thursday, May 12, for Summer I 2023 the last class day is Tuesday July 12, and for Summer II 2021 the last class day is Monday Aug. 19.</p> <p>The manual detailing the University requirements for the format and submission of a dissertation or thesis is available on the Graduate College's website.</p>	
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b. College of Science

i. School of Mathematics and Statistical Science

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Mathematics and Statistics with Interdisciplinary Applications (Ph.D.)	Correction to Milestones	<p>Revision: A preliminary exam was described in the milestone section of the catalog. The description of the requirement was inaccurate and did not match what was approved when the program proposals was approved by THECB. The description was updated to match what was approved by THECB and the process implemented by the program. The revised language is below and has been published in the catalog.</p> <p>Comprehensive Exam – Students will be required to pass the Comprehensive Exam by the end of the second year of graduate study. Through close advising, the first-year coursework will be tailored to a student's background and similarly, the comprehensive exam will also be tailored to each student's coursework, background, and research goals. Depending on their background, some students may take the comprehensive exam during their first year</p>	Fall 2024

		while others will take it in the 2nd year. The comprehensive exam will consist of written exams covering topics in each of the eight subjects covered in the core courses. A separate exam in each subject will be offered at the beginning of the fall, spring, and summer semesters. To advance, the student must pass at least three subject exams. An “A” grade in one of the core courses will exempt the student from at most one exam. Students may take each exam up to three times but must pass all the required exams to remain in the program.	
Applied Statistics and Data Science (MS) - Online Program	Addition of Modality	Revision: There is an update to include the online version of this program in the catalog. The program was approved to be implemented face-to-face and online since its inception but was not reflected in the catalog.	Fall 2024

c. College of Business and Entrepreneurship
i. School of Accountancy

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Accountancy (MACC) - Accelerated Online Program	Correction to Leveling Courses	Revision: ACCT 3323 was accidentally omitted from list of level courses in the 22 – 23, 23 – 24, and 24 – 25 catalogs. The course has been added back to the program for all catalog years.	Fall 2024

d. College of Liberal Arts

i. Department of Sociology

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Sociology (MS)	Correction to Elective Courses	Revision: Removal of Disaster Studies (MA) courses: SOCI 6332, SOCI 6333, SOCI 6334, SOCI 6336, and SOCI 6377 from prescribed electives. The courses were permitted for two years through the MDA process but should have been removed for catalog year 2024-2025.	Fall 2024

ii. Department of Literature and Cultural Studies

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
English with a Concentration in Rhetoric, Composition and Literacy (MA)	Correction to Concentration Courses	Revision: Under the thesis option only, the list of concentration courses was missing ENGL 6325. The course was missing from the 23 – 24 and 24 – 25 catalogs.	Fall 2024

e. College of Health Professions

i. Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Dietetics (MS)	Correction to Admissions	Revision: The presentation of the list of prerequisite courses needed for admission was revised by removing the credit hours required and the language regarding equivalents. This change was recommended by the MS Dietetics accrediting body.	Fall 2024
Health Sciences with a Concentration in Nutrition (MS) - Accelerated Online Program	Correction to Admissions	Revision: On the degree program page, admission criteria 5 is incomplete, reading only “3 hours of undergraduate physiology or anatomy and physiology”. The requirement should have had “with a grade of C or higher”.	Fall 2024

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States or a recognized international equivalent in a health-related field OR other Bachelor degree and healthcare work experience. 2. Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 in the last 60 semester credit hours. 3. Two letters of reference. 4. Letter of intent. 5. 3 hours of undergraduate physiology or anatomy and physiology with a grade of C or higher. 	
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f. School of Social Work

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
Social Work with a Specialization in Direct Practice with Latino Individuals, Families and Groups (MSSW) - 63 Hour Program	Correction to Admissions	<p>Revision: The undergraduate GPA required for admission was limited to the GPA in the last 60 semester credit hours. This was an error. A GPA of 3.0 overall is needed for admission. The program pages for the other of social work program are correct.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States or a recognized international equivalent in a similar or related field. Students with a BSW from an accredited program are not eligible to apply to the 63-hour program. 2. Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0. 3. Three letters of recommendation 4. Personal statement detailing professional goals and reasons for pursuing the graduate degree. 	Fall 2024

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Verified successful completion of a course in basic statistics 6. Current Professional Resume 	
Social Work with a Specialization in Direct Practice with Latino Individuals, Families and Groups (MSSW) - 63 Hour Online Program	<p>Correction to Admissions</p>	<p>Revision: The undergraduate GPA required for admission was limited to the GPA in the last 60 semester credit hours. This was an error. A GPA of 3.0 overall is needed for admission. The program pages for the other of social work program are correct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States or a recognized international equivalent in a similar or related field. Students with a BSW from an accredited program are not eligible to apply to the 63-hour program. 2. Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0. 3. Three letters of recommendation 4. Personal statement detailing professional goals and reasons for pursuing the graduate degree. 5. Verified successful completion of a course in basic statistics 6. Current Professional Resume 	Fall 2024