

# REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE

## For students admitted to the Department of Educational Studies

### For Students Admitted Summer 2012 and later

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Master's degree programs give students the opportunity to gain additional knowledge and necessary skills in a field in order to engage in research and other scholarly activities, to teach and to become practitioners. At Ohio State, Master's degree programs consist of a coherent pattern of courses and other educational experiences, a Master's examination and, in many cases, a thesis or its equivalent.

The Graduate Studies Handbook is available online at <http://ehe.osu.edu/educational-studies/students/degree-information>. Section VI specifically deals with Master's degrees although other sections are also important for successful completion of your graduate degree.

#### I. Program of Study

You are expected to complete an approved program of study for the specialization to which you have been admitted. The program must include an approved foundations course, an approved multicultural course, an approved research course, a reasonable concentration in a single area or in related academic areas, must be approved by your advisor, and must be within the rules of the Graduate Studies Committee. (ref. Graduate School Handbook, Section II.5.1). Students completing a thesis must also complete a minimum of 3 hours of thesis research (e.g. 7999)

Students must receive a Degree Program and Annual Review form at orientation or during their first meeting with their advisors. It must be signed by you and your advisor and it should be turned into the Student Services Office during your first semester. An updated copy will be turned in to the Student Services Offices immediately following each annual review. Additionally, a completed and signed form (or signed degree audit) must be turned in prior to applying to graduate.

#### II. Foundations of Education Requirement:

A minimum of three semester hours of graduate credit is required. A list of approved foundations courses is available in the Student Services Office (122 Ramseyer Hall; [EdStudies@osu.edu](mailto:EdStudies@osu.edu)) or online at <http://ehe.osu.edu/educational-studies/students/degree-information#Master>. Be sure to choose the list appropriate for your date of admission to your current Master's degree program.

#### III. Multicultural Education Requirement:

A minimum of three semester hours of graduate credit is required. A list of courses approved to meet the multicultural education requirement is from the Student Services Office (122 Ramseyer Hall; [EdStudies@osu.edu](mailto:EdStudies@osu.edu)) or online at <http://ehe.osu.edu/educational-studies/students/degree-information#Master>. Be sure to choose the list appropriate for your date of admission to your current Master's degree program.

#### IV. Research Requirement:

All MA students must complete a minimum of three semester hours of graduate credit hours in courses related to educational research design and data analysis. Students are strongly encouraged to take research methodology coursework from Quantitative Research, Evaluation and Measurement and/or from Qualitative Inquiry.

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V. Program Coursework:

Students must complete all required coursework for their degree and specialization. A maximum of three substitutions to approved coursework can be made with the advisor's approval. Additional substitutions must be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee.

VI. Thesis Option: (Minimum of 33 graduate credit hours)

Students must submit a complete typed thesis draft approved by the student's Master's Examination Committee before being examined over the thesis. The Master's Examination Committee is composed of at least two Graduate Faculty members, including the student's faculty advisor. The thesis must conform to Graduate School Format Requirements as described in the Graduate school Guidelines for Preparing Theses, Dissertations, and D.M.A documents (<http://www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu/Depo/PDF/Guidelines.pdf>).

VII. Non-Thesis Option: (Minimum of 30 graduate credit hours)

Students must take and satisfactorily pass a minimum four-hour examination that has been constructed and evaluated by the student's Master's Examination Committee during the final semester of the student's program. Included in the Non-Thesis Option is the Action Research Project Option to be developed in consultation with the student's advisor or the Case Study Exam option.

VIII. Time Limit: For students admitted to the MA program Autumn 2014 and later: Requirements for the Master of Arts of degree should be completed within a six year period, however, courses taken more than four years earlier are subject to review by the advisor and may no longer be acceptable to advisors and advisory committees.

All students admitted to the School of Educational Policy and Leadership prior to Summer 2012 must complete their degree within 6 years of admission.

All students admitted to the School of Physical Activities and Educational Services prior to Summer 2012, must complete their degrees within the time limit published by their specialization area at the time of admission.

