POLICY STATEMENT

Credit Requirements
Programs leading to a master’s degree require at least 30 semester graduate credit hours of non-thesis work.

Coursework Level
Masters programs normally make use of courses at the 5000 and 6000 levels. No undergraduate courses may count toward meeting the degree requirements of a master’s degree except undergraduate courses taken as part of an accelerated master’s degree program. No course counted toward a student’s undergraduate degree may be included in that student’s master’s degree program excepting those 5000 level courses specifically approved for a combined bachelor/master’s degree pathway.

Examinations
The University has no requirement for candidacy or candidacy examinations at the master’s and specialist’s level. However, individual programs may require comprehensive oral and/or written examinations. If such requirements exist they must be specified in the catalog and the policies and procedures manuals for those programs.

Thesis
If a thesis is required as part of a master’s program, this requirement must be clearly stated in the catalog and the policies and procedures manual for the degree program. In such cases all of the University policies and procedures governing theses shall apply including the requirement that the thesis must be defended publicly at the announced time consistent with University policies.

SCOPE
Faculty, graduate students, and University Graduate School administration.
REASON FOR POLICY
This policy sets forth the University Masters program requirements for credit hours, candidacy examination and thesis defense.

DEFINITIONS

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ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
N/A

RELATED RESOURCES
N/A

CONTACTS
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HISTORY

Initial Effective Date: Originally 3.3.2 REQUIRED CREDIT HOURS: MASTERS DEGREE (effective 3/28/89); 3.4.2 CANDIDACY EXAMINATION: MASTERS DEGREE (effective 3/28/89); 3.5.2 DISSERTATION AND THESIS REQUIREMENTS: MASTERS DEGREE (effective 3/28/89); 7.1 DEFINITION (effective 2/28/89) from Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual.
Review Dates (review performed, no updates): N/A
Revision Dates (updates made to document): March 9, 2023