Graduate Council  
Mississippi State University  

Number: 2  
Date: September 23, 2011  


Absent: M. Binkley, A. Bourgeois, J. Gilbert  

Guest: D. Eakin  

1. Dr. Juan Silva asked for a motion to approve the Graduate Council minutes of April 29, 2011.  

Dr. David Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. David Monts. Dr. Monts pointed out a spelling error on page 2. Graduate Council approved the April 29, 2011 minutes with the noted correction.  

2. Dr. Juan Silva asked for a motion to approve the Graduate Council minutes of August 26, 2011.  

Dr. David Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. David Monts. Graduate Council approved the August 26, 2011 minutes.  

3. University Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC)  

   No Report  

4. Report from the Office of the Graduate School (OGS)  

   Dr. Louis D’Abramo, Dean of the Graduate School, presented the following report:  

   - **Applications, Admissions, Enrollment**  
     For spring 2011, applications were up by 6.2 % and admissions increased by 0.9%. Of those who applied 56.7 % were admitted. Of those who were admitted, 54.6 % enrolled. For the fall 2011 semester, applications were down 2.6 % and admissions decreased by 2.7 %. Of those who applied, 45.4 % were admitted and of those 59.6 % enrolled. The number of new graduate students who enrolled for the fall 2011 semester was 861 in comparison to 921 students who enrolled in fall 2010. The ratio of those who are admitted to those who enroll remains approximately 0.3.
Revisions to the online application are planned and should be incorporated by the end of October.

- **Assistantships**
  The total number of assistantships awarded for the fall 2011 semester (revised from last month) is 1,167, a slight increase over the 1,154 offered during the fall 2010 semester.

  The protocol for the selection of Graduate Work-Study assistantships has been revised and will be added to the OGS website by the end of the month.

- **Programs/Grants**
  The OGS began accepting applications from graduate students for **Travel Assistance Grants for Graduate Students (TAGGS)** program on August 16, 2010. The TAGGS program, inaugurated in fall 2009, provides funding up to $1,500 to the graduate students, preferably Ph.D.s, selected as award recipients who will give a paper/poster presentation at national or international meetings. Applicants will be informed within one week after all application materials have been received. Requests will be accepted and reviewed until all available funds have been awarded for this TAGGS funding cycle.

  The Office of the Graduate School and the Learning Center will be co-sponsoring a **GRE Prep Workshop** on Saturday, October 1, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. The fee is $60.00 and the workshop will be held in 246-Allen Hall Lab. The Workshop Leaders are Ms. Lauren Holifield and Ms. Nita Wyman. This workshop does not provide academic credit and MSU enrollment is not required.

  A **NSF-GRFP Workshop** was held on August 31. A two-way video meeting was led by two NSF program officers. Nineteen students attended the workshop. Dr. Lakiesha Williams from the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, a reviewer of GRFP applications, attended and answered student questions.

  Interim Associate Dean Karen Coats and Dr. Vicki Gier from the Meridian campus are currently writing a proposal to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education seeking funding for a **Ronald McNair Program** on our campuses. The purpose of the McNair Program is to mentor under-represented minority and first generation/low income college students toward pursuit of the doctorate. Drs. Coats and Gier recruited faculty from the Starkville and Meridian campuses who are willing to be included in the proposal as potential research or academic mentors. To date, 26 faculty have responded positively and enthusiastically to this request. The proposal will be submitted in early spring.

- **Preparing Future Faculty**
  A luncheon was held for the 2011-2012 class of graduate students who have been selected to participate in the Preparing Future Faculty program. This is the second year of the program and there are 22 participants, 50% more than last year. At the luncheon, students were provided an overview of the program and expectations were outlined.

- **Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) Orientation; Classroom Certification**
The Graduate Teaching Assistantship Orientation is scheduled for January 4, 2012 and the Classroom Certification is scheduled for January 5, 2012. New graduate student orientation is scheduled for January 6, 2012.

- Fulbright Graduate Students - Luncheon
  A luncheon was held in honor of the University’s 5 international Fulbright students on campus. The Office of Academic Affairs awards out of state tuition increment to these international scholars.

- Recruiting Activities
  Ms. Shlynn Morris, AGEM Program Coordinator, will be visiting Mississippi University for Women on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 and Interim Associate Dean Dr. Karen Coats will be visiting Tuskegee University on Thursday, October 23, 2011 to attend their annual Graduate and Professional School Fairs. Ms. Morris Ms. Vemitra White, AGEM Graduate Research Assistant, visited with 15 students at the Graduate Recruitment Fair at Rust College on Monday, September 12, 2011 and Dr. Coats visited with 44 students at Mississippi Valley State University on Tuesday, September 13th. Contact information was collected on most of these students, and follow-up correspondence with them is underway.

A call for proposals for Graduate Recruitment Assistance Grants (GRAGs) was sent out this week on September 19, 2011. The deadline for submission will be October 28, 2011. A total of $15,000 of funds is available ($1,500 to $2,000 per grant) and strategies that involve departmental cost sharing are preferred. For 2009-2010, funding amounted to $32,000, and faculty within 21 departments in 6 colleges received awards. For those funded activities that specifically addressed student contact, a total of 450 prospective graduate students (80 minority students) received information, 63 applied to study at MSU, 56 were admitted, and 46 enrolled. The Office of the Graduate School is very proud of the exceptional outcomes that have been realized through this funding program and we encourage faculty to take advantage of this opportunity.

- Bulletin of the Graduate School
  The 2011/2012 Bulletin of the Graduate School will soon be available online in PDF format. Print and CD copies should be available around October 1. Delays have been caused by unexpected long term absences of staff and sickness.

- Other activities
  Three finalists have been selected from five nominations and will soon be submitted as OGS nominations for the Council of Southern Graduate Schools Master’s Theses awards.

5. Report from Graduate Student Association (GSA)

GSA Vice President Vemitra White presented the following report:
The first GSA meeting was held on August 29, 2011. Drs. Gilbert and Coats served as guest speakers. Officers were elected during the meeting. The next GSA meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2011 at 5:30 p.m./ at 126 McCool. Dr. Deborah Lee from the Library will be the guest speaker. The meeting will conclude with a social.

1. Old Business

   a) Subcommittee Report Dual Degree Status/Sharing of Hours (Monts – Handout)

      Subcommittee Chair Dr. Monts explained that he did not expect Graduate Council to vote on the handout developed by his subcommittee which also includes Drs. Ed Allen and Rafael Hernandez. He stated that he expected to receive more input and a thorough discussion by Graduate Council.

      Discussion followed. Dr. Monts reiterated that departments and/or graduate committees will always have the right to approve or disapprove the sharing of hours for any of their students. Dr. Ryan suggested that a survey of policies at peer institutions be conducted and reviewed before any decisions are made.

2. New Business

   a) Thesis and Non-Thesis Master’s Degree Names (Silva)

      Dr. Silva asked Graduate Council to consider whether there should be a distinction in the name of a master’s degree with a thesis versus one that is non-thesis.

      Ms. Karin Lee pointed out that all master’s degrees in the College of Education are master of science degrees but very rarely have a student doing a thesis. Not all programs offer a thesis option.

Meeting adjourned at 2:06p.m.

The date for the next Graduate Council meeting has been set for Friday, October 28, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. in 611 Allen Hall.
At the August 26, 2011 Graduate Council meeting, a subcommittee was formed to consider the sharing of graduate course credit between graduate programs. The current MSU graduate policy is explicit for the case of two master’s degree programs, but does not address other situations.

The subcommittee’s recommendation can be summarized as:

“A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can count on the Programs of Study of no more than two graduate degrees, both degrees granted by MSU, or one degree granted by MSU and the other degree granted by another institution.”

During our discussions, the subcommittee learned that currently the use of the Program of Study Attachment Sheet is not described in the MSU Graduate Bulletin. Since our recommendation deals only with which courses can be listed on the Program of Study form, the subcommittee believes that it would be useful to include a description of the usage of this form so that degree programs have the flexibility to address their specific needs within a university-wide rule.

Specifically, the subcommittee recommends the following changes to the following sections of the MSU Graduate Bulletin:

1. Programs of Study for General Graduate School Requirements section, pp. 51-59 (BGS 2010-2011):

“A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can count on the Programs of Study of no more than two graduate degrees, both degrees granted by MSU, or one degree granted by MSU and the other degree granted by another institution.”

2. For Master Degree section, pp. 59-62 (BGS 2010-2011):

“A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit that were earned prior to admission to an MSU master degree program can count on that degree's Program of Study.”

“For master degree programs requiring 40 hours or less, a maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree's Program of Study and the student's transcript.”

“For master degree programs requiring more than 40 hours, up to 30% of graduate course credit requirements can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree's Program of Study and the student's transcript.”
3. For Educational Specialist section, pp. 63-65 (BGS 2010-2011):

“A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit taken prior to admission to an MSU Educational Specialist degree program can count on that degree's Program of Study.”

“For Educational Specialist degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements but not listed on the Program of Study, provided that a minimum of 30 hours of coursework after the master’s degree is listed on the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is submitted to the Graduate School with the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study.”

4. For Doctoral sections, pp. 65-69 and 69-71 (BGS 2010-2011):

“For doctoral degrees, up to one-half of graduate course credit requirements can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree's Program of Study and the student's transcript.”

“For doctoral degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements but not listed on the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is not considered part of the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is submitted to the Graduate School with the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study. Examples include relevant graduate course credit: (1) earned for another degree; (2) earned prior to admission to the doctoral degree program; and (3) other graduate course credit relevant to degree program requirements.”
Graduate School requirements as well as the program. See the specific degree section for year when she/he was admitted to the program outlined in the Graduate Bulletin for the academic year when she/he was admitted to the degree program. See the specific degree section for Graduate School requirements as well as the requirements. The student follows the program his/her graduate Program of Study.

Dual Degrees—An applicant may apply and be admitted to more than one degree program. This requires prior approval of each department. If the student is approved to pursue two master’s degrees, no more than nine hours of coursework from one MSU master’s degree program may be applied toward meeting the Program of Study requirements for the second MSU master’s degree.

Minor—A minor is a current block of coursework completed at Mississippi State University in a program or approved concentration other than the major department program and must be approved for master’s, educational specialist, or doctoral programs as listed in this publication (per Graduate Council, March 2005). If a minor is chosen, the student’s graduate committee must include a representative from the minor field and the graduate coordinator from the minor field must sign approval of coursework. The minimum number of credit hours required for a master’s minor is 9. The minimum number of credit hours required for a doctoral minor is 12. The minor appears on the student’s transcript along with the program name and the degree awarded. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (9 hours required for minor at the master’s or educational specialist level and 12 hours required at the doctoral level) may be transferred to Mississippi State University. Hours transferred toward a minor must be current (no more than 8 years old for a master’s or educational specialist degree. A maximum of 9 hours of graduate credit that were earned prior to admission to an MSU master’s degree program can count on that degree’s Program of Study. For a doctor’s degree transfer credit can be accepted for courses that are academically relevant to the program at completion of the degree and fall within the time-limit requirements for coursework (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010).

Program of Study
The student must establish, in conjunction with his/her graduate committee, a program of study consisting of all courses required for degree completion according to the University-approved requirements. The student follows the program outlined in the Graduate Bulletin for the academic year when she/he was admitted to the degree program. See the specific degree section for Graduate School requirements as well as the Department/program requirements. A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can count on the Program of Study of no more than two graduate degrees, both degrees granted by MSU, or one degree granted by MSU and the other degree granted by another institution. For Educational Specialist and doctoral degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements, but not listed on the Program of Study. For the Educational Specialist degree, a minimum of 30 hours of graduate coursework after the master’s degree must be listed on the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is not considered part of the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study. Examples include relevant graduate course credit: (1) earned for another degree; (2) earned prior to admission to the doctoral degree program; and (3) other graduate course credit relevant to degree program requirements.

The student and the committee also identify research skill requirements and any other activities that must be completed satisfactorily to earn the desired degree. A student earns no grade, quality points, or credit hours for an audited course; therefore, an audited course cannot be listed on a graduate program of study.

Any change to a program of study requires submission of a change of program of study form signed by the major professor, full committee, graduate coordinator, and the student. This form should be processed immediately upon a program change.

Transfer Credit
Transfer credit hours from other domestic universities, international universities, or military educational programs may be used to fulfill requirements for graduate degrees at MSU provided they meet the following criteria: 1) where appropriate, credit hours were earned in programs fully accredited by the appropriate regional and national accrediting bodies; 2) credit hours contribute to the current program of graduate study; and 3) credit hours were taken within the appropriate time limit for the current program at completion of the degree (reference General Degree Requirements under Master’s, Educational Specialist, Doctor of Philosophy, or Doctor of Education). Only courses in which grades of B or higher were earned may be accepted for transfer. Courses with grades of Pass/Fail or S/U are generally not eligible for transfer. In all cases, the decision to accept and designate transfer work begins with the student’s graduate advisor or committee. Once it is determined that the course meets the above criteria, the student must submit a Transfer Approval Form bearing required committee signatures and an official transcript to the Office of the Graduate School (see Transfer Approval Form on the Office of the Graduate School Web site).
Transfer courses may be given the name that appears on the original transcript but with a designation of Special Topic (6990/8990) or may be retitled using the name, symbol, and number of the equivalent MSU course. A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can count on the Programs of Study of no more than two graduate degrees, both degrees granted by MSU, or one degree granted by MSU and the other degree by another institution.

Transfer credit may not be used to satisfy provisional admission requirements. Graduate credit is not awarded in correspondence study programs. See the Transfer Credit section under each degree.

**Transfer of Domestic Credit**—A student seeking to transfer courses from domestic universities are responsible for submitting transcripts, as well as course descriptions and syllabi as required by the graduate advisor or committee for review. The committee will determine which courses are appropriate for transfer based on assessment of course content. Credits transferred from domestic universities will be included in the calculation of the student’s final grade point average.

**Transfer of International Credit**—A student seeking to transfer courses from universities outside the US is responsible for submitting transcripts, course descriptions, and syllabi in English for committee review. The committee will determine appropriate courses for transfer based on assessment of course content and will work with the Office of the Graduate School to ensure that the equivalent of a grade of B or higher was earned. The Office of the Registrar will note such courses on the MSU transcript followed by an S. These grades will not affect the calculation of the student’s final grade point average.

**Transfer of Military Credit**—A student seeking to transfer courses from military educational programs is responsible for submitting transcripts, course descriptions, and syllabi for committee review. The committee will determine which courses are appropriate for transfer based on assessment of course content. Credits transferred from military educational programs will work with the Office of the Graduate School to ensure that the equivalent of a grade of B or higher was earned. The Office of the Registrar will note such courses on the MSU transcript followed by an S. These grades will not affect the calculation of the student’s final grade point average.

**Transfer of Military Credit**—A student seeking to transfer courses from military educational programs is responsible for submitting transcripts, course descriptions, and syllabi for committee review. The committee will determine which courses are appropriate for transfer based on assessment of course content. Credits transferred from military educational programs will work with the Office of the Graduate School to ensure that the equivalent of a grade of B or higher was earned. The Office of the Registrar will note such courses on the MSU transcript followed by an S. These grades will not affect the calculation of the student’s final grade point average.

**Minor**

A minor is a block of current coursework completed at Mississippi State University in a program or approved concentration other than the major program and must be approved for a master’s, educational specialist, or doctoral program (per Graduate Council, March 2005). The option of a minor is at the sole discretion of the major area in which the program is offered and must be designated on the student’s program of study. A minor may be obtained only in an established area of graduate study at MSU.

A minor in a master’s program requires 1) at least 9 hours of graduate coursework; 2) approval of the student’s major professor; 3) a MSU faculty member from the minor area serving on the student’s graduate committee; 4) approval of the graduate coordinator from the minor area; and 5) any additional requirements as specified by the major and minor areas. Up to one-third of the required hours toward a minor may be transferred to Mississippi State University. Hours transferred toward a minor must be relevant in content to the graduate program when the degree is awarded and must fit within the time-limit requirements for the specific degree (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010). A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can count on the Programs of Study of no more than two graduate degrees, both degrees granted by MSU, or one degree granted by MSU and the other degree granted by another institution.

A minor in a doctoral program requires: 1) at least 12 hours of graduate coursework; 2) approval of the student’s major professor; 3) approval of the graduate coordinator from the minor area; 4) a member from the minor area on the student’s graduate committee; and 5) any additional requirements as specified by the major and minor areas.

p. 60 (General Masters Requirements):

**Minor**

A student is required to complete the minimum number of hours required on the program (Summary Graduate Council 2001-02) and may be permitted to enroll in a minor area to satisfy the remaining credit hours. If a minor is taken, at least 9 hours of current graduate coursework in a program or approved concentration other than the major department are required on the student’s program of study with approval of the student’s major professor, the minor professor, and the graduate coordinator from the minor area (per Graduate Council, March 2005). Any additional requirements specified by the major and minor areas must also be shown on the program of study. A minor may be obtained only in an established area of graduate study. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (9 hours required for a minor at the master’s level) may be transferred to Mississippi State University. The hours must be current (no more than eight years old) at the time the degree is awarded (per Graduate Council, September 2005) and must fit within the time-limit requirements for the specific degree.
Transfer Credit

Transfer credit hours from other domestic universities, international universities or military educational programs may be used to fulfill requirements for master’s degrees at MSU provided they meet the criteria established in the General Requirements of the Graduate School. At the master’s level, transfer credit may constitute up to 9 semester hours of coursework except for programs requiring more than 40 hours, in which case transfer credits may constitute up to 30 percent of the total credit hours. Degree programs requiring 40 hours or less, a maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree’s Program of Study and the student’s transcript. For master’s degree programs requiring more than 40 hours, up to 30 percent of graduate course credit requirements can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree’s Program of Study and the student’s transcript. For the master’s thesis option, all thesis research credit hours must be taken at MSU. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (9 hours at the master’s level) may be transferred to MSU. Only courses in which grades of B or higher were earned may be accepted for transfer. Transfer credit can be accepted for those courses that are relevant in content at completion of the degree and fall within the eight-year time limit for the current program (per Graduate Council September 2005 and March 2010).

Minor

A student is required to complete the minimum number of hours required on the program (Summary Graduate Council 2001-02) and may be permitted to enroll in another area, a minor, to satisfy the remaining credit hours. If a minor is taken, at least 9 hours of current graduate coursework in a program or approved concentration other than the major department are required on the student’s program of study with approval of the student’s major professor, the minor professor, and the graduate coordinator from the minor area (per Graduate Council, March 2005). Any additional requirements specified by the major and minor areas must also be shown on the program of study. A minor may be obtained only in an established area of graduate study. Up to onethird of the required hours for a minor (9 hours required for a minor at the educational specialist level) may be transferred to Mississippi State University. The hours must be current (no more than eight years old) at the time the degree is awarded (per Graduate Council, September 2005). See Transfer Credit. A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit taken prior to admission to an MSU Educational Specialist degree program can count on that degree’s Program of Study. For Educational Specialist degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements, but not listed on the Program of Study. For the Educational Specialist degree, a minimum of 30 hours of graduate coursework after the master’s degree must be listed on the Program of Study form. The Attachment Sheet is submitted to the Graduate School with the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study.

Transfer Credit

Transfer credit hours from other domestic universities, international universities or military educational programs may be used to fulfill requirements for the educational specialist degree at MSU provided they meet the criteria established in the General Requirements of the Graduate School. At the educational specialist level, transfer credit may constitute up to 9 semester hours of coursework except for programs requiring more than 40 hours, in which case transfer credits may constitute up to 30 percent of the total credit hours. Degree programs requiring 40 hours or less, a maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree’s Program of Study and the student’s transcript. For the educational specialist thesis option, all thesis credit hours must be taken at MSU. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (9 hours at the educational specialist level) may be transferred to MSU. Only courses in which grades of B or higher were earned may be accepted for transfer. Transfer credit must fall within the eight-year time limit and must be academically relevant at the time the degree is awarded (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010). A maximum of 9 hours of graduate course credit taken prior to admission to an MSU Educational Specialist degree program can count on that degree’s Program of Study. For Educational Specialist degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements, but not listed on the Program of Study. For the Educational Specialist degree, a minimum of 30 hours of graduate coursework after the master’s degree must be listed on the Program of Study form. The Attachment Sheet is submitted to the Graduate School with the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study.
p. 66 (Ph.D.):

**Minor**

In establishing the candidate’s program of study in his/her major, the student and graduate committee may specify a minor area of study. A minor in a doctoral program must consist of at least 12 hours of current graduate coursework in a program or approved concentration other than the major program; must have approval of the student’s major professor; approval of the graduate coordinator from the minor area; have a member from the minor area on the student’s graduate committee; and satisfy additional requirements as specified by the major and minor areas (per Graduate Council, March 2005). Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (12 hours required for a minor at the doctoral level) may be transferred to Mississippi State University. The hours must be academically relevant at the time the degree is awarded and fall within the time-limit requirements for coursework (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010). See Transfer Credit. A maximum of 9 hours of graduate credit that were earned prior to admission to an MSU doctoral degree program can count on that degree’s Program of Study.

**Transfer Credit**

Transfer credit hours from other domestic universities, international universities, or military educational programs may be used to fulfill requirements for the doctor of philosophy degree at MSU provided they meet the criteria established in the General requirements of the Graduate School. At the doctoral level, up to one-half of graduate course credit requirements can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree’s Program of Study and the student’s transcript. For doctoral degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements, but not listed on the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is not considered part of the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study. Examples include relevant graduate course credit: (1) earned for another degree; (2) earned prior to admission to the doctoral degree program; and (3) other graduate course credit relevant to degree program requirements. Transfer credit may constitute up to one-half of the coursework requirement. All dissertation credit hours must be taken at MSU. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (12 hours at the doctoral level) may be transferred to MSU. Only courses in which grades of B or higher were earned may be accepted for transfer. Transfer credit can be accepted for those courses that are academically relevant to the program at completion of the degree and must fall within the time-limit requirements for coursework (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010).

p. 69 (D.Ed.):

**Transfer Credit**

Transfer credit hours from other domestic universities, international universities, or military educational programs may be used to fulfill requirements for the doctor of education degree at MSU provided they meet the criteria established in the General Requirements of the Graduate School. At the doctoral level, up to one-half of graduate course credit requirements can be transferred from another institution to appear on the degree’s Program of Study and the student’s transcript. For doctoral degrees, the Graduate Program of Study Attachment Sheet is used to list course credit relevant to degree requirements, but not listed on the Program of Study. The Attachment Sheet is not considered part of the Program of Study and is modified by the same procedures as the Program of Study. Examples include relevant graduate course credit: (1) earned for another degree; (2) earned prior to admission to the doctoral degree program; and (3) other graduate course credit relevant to degree program requirements. Transfer credit may constitute up to one-half of the coursework requirement. All dissertation credit hours must be taken at MSU. Up to one-third of the required hours for a minor (12 hours at the doctoral level) may be transferred to MSU. Only courses in which grades of B or higher were earned may be accepted for transfer. Transfer credit can be accepted for those courses that are academically relevant to the program at completion of the degree and must fall within the time-limit requirements for coursework (per Graduate Council, September 2005 and March 2010).