

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

Submitted by: Edward Larkin

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Department: English

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Date: 15 October 2009

Action: Revisions to MA program requirements

(Example: add major/minor/concentration, delete major/minor/concentration, revise major/minor/concentration, academic unit name change, request for permanent status, policy change, etc.)

Effective term: 10F

(use format 04F, 05W)

Current degree: MA

(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed change leads to the degree of: MA

(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed name: _____

Proposed new name for revised or new major / minor / concentration / academic unit
(if applicable)

Revising or Deleting:

Undergraduate major / Concentration: _____

(Example: Applied Music – Instrumental degree BMAS)

Undergraduate minor: _____

(Example: African Studies, Business Administration, English, Leadership, etc.)

Graduate Program Policy statement change: Comprehensive Exam

(**Must attach** your Graduate Program Policy Statement)

Graduate Program of Study: _____

(Example: Animal Science: MS Animal Science: PHD Economics: MA Economics: PHD)

Graduate minor / concentration: _____

Note: all graduate studies proposals must include an electronic copy of the Graduate Program Policy Document, highlighting the changes made to the original policy document.

List new courses required for the new or revised curriculum. How do they support the overall program objectives of the major/minor/concentrations)?

(Be aware that approval of the curriculum is dependent upon these courses successfully passing through the Course Challenge list. If there are no new courses enter "None")

None.

Explain, when appropriate, how this new/revised curriculum supports the 10 goals of undergraduate education: <http://www.ugs.udel.edu/gened/>

Identify other units affected by the proposed changes:

(Attach permission from the affected units. If no other unit is affected, enter "None")

None.

Describe the rationale for the proposed program change(s):

(Explain your reasons for creating, revising, or deleting the curriculum or program.)

We wish to change the timing of the comprehensive exam in the English MA program. Students currently take the exam between the Fall and Spring semesters of their second year. We propose to move the exam date to just prior to the beginning of the Fall term, before they begin their second year. We have several reasons for this change: 1) it focuses the first year around acquiring the generalist foundations and thus enables them to begin to specialize more in the second year, 2) it makes it possible for allow students who fail the exam the first time to take it again before the PhD admissions process begins in January, and 3) it provides an earlier read on where the students are in the program. At the same time, we have moved the required introduction to theory course (ENGL684) to the Fall of the second year in order to enable students to take more literature courses and thus build their generalist knowledge in preparation for the exam. This change also helps us streamline our program to move students through the MA and onto the PhD more efficiently, and, conversely, enables us to better address the needs of those who opt not to continue on to the PhD.

These changes would apply immediately to the students who entered this Fall (2009). They were notified of the schedule change over the summer when they received their formal packet from the program. The current second year class, however, remain on the old schedule and will take the Comprehensive Exam this January.

Program Requirements:

(Show the new or revised curriculum as it should appear in the Course Catalog. If this is a revision, be sure to indicate the changes being made to the current curriculum and **include a side-by-side comparison** of the credit distribution before and after the proposed change.)

The only significant change in the curriculum related to the change in the Comprehensive Exam schedule is a shift in the timing of the required Introduction to Literary Theory seminar (ENGL684). Whereas in the previous curriculum we required ENGL684 in the Spring of the first year of the MA, we have moved it to the Fall of the second year of the MA. The timing of the theory seminar is not referenced in the Course Catalog. Therefore, this change does not require a change in the description of the curriculum as posted in the Course Catalog.

ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION: (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Department Chairperson _____ Date _____

Dean of College _____ Date _____

Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies _____ Date _____

Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. _____ Date _____

Secretary, Faculty Senate _____ Date _____

Date of Senate Resolution _____ Date to be Effective _____

Registrar _____ Program Code _____ Date _____

Vice Provost for Academic Affairs & International Programs _____ Date _____

Provost _____ Date _____

Board of Trustee Notification _____ Date _____

Revised 02/09/2009 /khs