

Graduate and Professional Council Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2022

<https://tamu.zoom.us/j/93848082735?pwd=ck45OW12M1UwZFpTclFpU1lvUlhKZz09>

Meeting ID: 938 4808 2735

Passcode: 995438

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Allowance of 691 Credits for MS/MA NTO Degrees (Revision) – *Attachment 1 (Approved)*

- [Butler-Purry] Introduction
 - Initially discussed with the Graduate and Professional Council and Graduate Operations Committee during March 2022 meetings and forwarded to Graduate Instruction Committees for comment
 - Revision change from PhD to non-thesis option Master of Arts or Science degrees
 - Departments, colleges, and interdisciplinary degree programs may opt to establish higher standards – disallow 691 or permit less
 - New draft adds edit to include change from master’s thesis option degrees to master’s non-thesis option degrees to use 691 credits
 - Would not automatically apply to “Master of Agriculture/Engineering/etc.” degrees and require individual requests for allowance of 691 credits
- Discussion
 - [Butler-Purry/Walker] Graduate and Professional School will need to assess semester deadlines to facilitate approvals of degree plan changes for students making a change to their graduating semester
 - [Miranda/Butler-Purry] special circumstances leading to changes from PhD to NTO MS/MA result in difficulties regarding deadlines; 12th class day serves as the constraint on degree level changes for domestic and international students
 - [Kinslow/Butler-Purry] for “Master of...” degrees, a memorandum would need to be submitted by department through GOC Dean requesting application of 691 credit guidelines or in CARS
 - [Escobar-Lemmon/Butler-Purry] if approved, will be added to all MA/MS program requirements in 2022-2023 Catalog
- Approved with addition of “All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Arts/Science degree other than those specified above are the same for the thesis option degree” to the end of new paragraph

PHAR 774: Spanish for Pharmacists II

- [Butler-Purry] Previously approved by the Graduate and Professional Council and returned due to objections by the Department of Hispanic Studies at the Faculty Senate
- [Gleason] College of Pharmacy received Letter of Support from Hispanic Studies

- Forwarded to Faculty Senate for approval

CONSENT AGENDA (Approved)

1. Course Changes

[GEOG 643: Advanced Geographies of Energy](#)

[INTA 673: Chinese Domestic Politics in Transition](#)

[INTA 712: A Non-Technical Introduction to Cyber Policy](#)

[INTA 721: History, Strategy, and American Statecraft](#)

2. New Courses

[INTA 723: Covert Action](#)

3. Course Inactivations

[STAT 623: Statistical Methods for Chemistry](#)

[STAT 658: Transportation Statistics](#)

4. Program Changes

[CERT-FINC: Finance Certificate](#)

[CERT-MKTG: Marketing Certificate](#)

[MBA-BUAD: Master of Business Administration in Business Administration](#)

[MBA-EMBA: Mays Executive MBA Program](#)

[MCS-CPSC: Master of Computer Science in Computer Science](#)

[MS-ANLY: Master of Science in Analytics](#)

[MS-BUSI: Master of Science in Business](#)

5. Combined Program Changes

[MEN/MD-ENGR/MDMD-ENGR/MDMD: Master of Engineering and Doctor of Medicine](#)

[MS/MBA-ANLY/BUAD-ANLY/BUAD: Master of Business Administration in Business Administration and Master of Science in Analytics](#)

COURSES

1. Course Changes

[INTA 709: China's Military](#) (Approved, with syllabus update)

2. New Courses

[ORTH 660: Introductory Growth and Development](#) (Approved, with syllabus update)

PROGRAMS

1. Program Changes

[MBA-PMBA: Mays Professional MBA Program](#) (Approved, with Program Assessment modification)

Attachment 1

**Revision to university guideline related to allowing 691 credits for MS/MA NTO degrees
March 10, 2022**

Justification: Occasionally a department or intercollegiate faculty and a PhD student or a master's thesis option student determine that the best option for that student is to change to a master's non thesis (NTO) option degree program and complete the degree within the current or following semester. The student has performed some research and has several credits of 691 (dissertation or thesis research) but has not or will not complete enough research for a thesis option master's degree. In those cases, it may be reasonable to allow the student to use some 691 credits toward a MS or MA non-thesis-option degree since up to 8 credits of 685 (directed studies) are allowed for these degrees.

Proposed changes in red font below:

MS degrees

- A student pursuing the non-thesis option is not allowed to enroll in 691 (research) for any reason and 691 may not be used for credit toward a non-thesis option Master of Science degree. A maximum of 4 credit hours of 684 (Professional Internship), 8 credit hours of 685 (Directed Studies), and up to 3 credit hours of 690 (Theory of Research) or 695 (Frontiers in Research) may be used toward the non-thesis option Master of Science degree. In addition, any combination of 684, 685, 690 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan. All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Science degree other than those specified above are the same as for the thesis option degree.
- The department head or the chair of an intercollegiate faculty (if appropriate) for the program may approve an exception for a PhD student who changes to a non-thesis option MS degree program after at least one year of PhD studies to use 691 credits toward a non-thesis option Master of Science degree. The department head or chair of an intercollegiate faculty (if appropriate) for the program may approve an exception for a master's student who changes from a MS thesis option degree to a MS non-thesis option degree program to use 691 credits toward a non-thesis option Master of Science degree. In both cases, the student is allowed to use a maximum of 8 credit hours of 685 and 691 combined. Departments, Colleges, and Interdisciplinary Degree Programs may opt to establish higher standards. Further any combination of 684, 685, 690, 691 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan. All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Science degree other than those specified above are the same as for the thesis option degree.

MA degrees

- A student pursuing the non-thesis option is not allowed to enroll in 691 (Research) for any reason and 691 may not be used for credit toward a non-thesis option Master of Arts degree.
- A maximum of 8 credit hours of 685 (Directed Studies), and up to 3 credit hours of 690 (Theory of Research) and up to 3 credit hours of 695 (Frontiers in Research) may be used toward the non-thesis option Master of Arts degree. In addition, any combination of 684, 685, 690 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan.
- All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Arts degree other than those specified above are the same as for the thesis option degree.
- The department head or the chair of an intercollegiate faculty (if appropriate) for the program may approve an exception for a PhD student who changes to a non-thesis option MA degree

program after at least one year of PhD studies to use 691 credits toward a non-thesis option Master of Arts degree. The department head or chair of an intercollegiate faculty (if appropriate) for the program may approve an exception for a master's student who changes from a MA thesis option degree to a MA non-thesis option degree program to use 691 credits toward a non-thesis option Master of Arts degree. In both cases, the student is allowed to use a maximum of 8 credit hours of 685 and 691 combined. Departments, Colleges, and Interdisciplinary Degree Programs may opt to establish higher standards. Further any combination of 684, 685, 690, 691 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree plan. All requirements for the non-thesis option Master of Science degree other than those specified above are the same as for the thesis option degree.