
Curricula and Courses

INTRODUCTION

This section of the Catalog, understandably the largest, is partitioned first by collegiate unit of the University within which graduate programs reside. Within each collegiate unit, the major fields of graduate degree study are individually described. Exceptions are four (4) departments, each of which is responsible for more than one distinct graduate program: Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (Geosciences [Geophysics, Geology], Meteorology); Modern and Classical Languages (French, Spanish); Public Policy Studies (Public Administration, Public Policy Analysis, Urban Affairs, Urban Planning and Real Estate Development); and Theological Studies (Historical Theology, Theology).

Each major-field subsection contains the names of the primary administrator(s) of the program, a brief overall description of the program, specific prerequisites, required courses, additional requirements for each available degree, and a listing in numerical order of 400-through 600-level courses that Graduate School students may take for graduate credit. Descriptions of the 400-level courses are not given herein; the reader is referred for such descriptions to the undergraduate catalog of the University. A short explanation of the course number structure of the University is given below.

In general, not every requirement for the degree is indicated within each program-description. The requirements not given are those common to all programs and required by The Graduate School (and detailed in the General Requirements section of the Catalog). Examples of those general requirements are: a minimum of thirty (30) postbaccalaureate credit-hours, the filing of an approved thesis outline, and six (6) credit-hours of Thesis Research for the research degree or option, and a final comprehensive oral degree examination, if a Master's degree is sought; and approximately sixty (60) postbaccalaureate credit-hours prior to preliminary written and oral degree exams, the filing of an approved dissertation outline, and ordinarily twelve (12) credit-hours of Dissertation Research, if a Ph.D. degree is sought.

The University's course code has a three-part structure: 1) the subject abbreviation (three or four alpha characters); 2) the course number (three digits); and 3) the section number (two alphanumeric characters): e.g., AST.527.01, EDA.648.SW, or NURS.602.05. Graduate credit may be earned upon completion of specific individual courses numbered 400 through 899. The century categories of academic work pertinent to graduate study are:

400 level: Upper-division/beginning graduate

500 level: Introductory/intermediate graduate; core graduate

600 level: Advanced graduate

700, 800 levels: Professional/certificate.

The Graduate School permits, subject to Graduate Board approval in individual instances, the "double numbering" of courses involving three levels of academic work. A course may exist at both the 400 and 500 levels or at both the 500 and 600 levels. For such a course, the requirements and expectations of the Instructor are associated and differ with the course level. Both undergraduate and graduate students could conceivably take a 400-/500-level course, but the undergraduate may not register for it at the 500 level without permission from the Collegiate and the Graduate Deans, and a Graduate School student may not enroll in it at the 400 level. A Doctoral student might register for a 500-/600-level course under the 600 number, whereas a student seeking a Master's degree would likely take it at the 500 level. A Graduate School student may not take the course for credit at both the 500 and 600 levels. Such courses should be numbered with the last two digits identical at both levels.

Numbers within the 90 decades at the 500 and 600 levels categorically refer to generic forms of academic work at the Master's and Doctoral levels, respectively. Specifically, the numbers, generic titles, and credit hours (per academic term) are as follows:

590: Introduction to Graduate Study (0-1)

591-691: Journal Club (0-1)

592-692: Colloquium (0-1)

593-693: Special Topics¹ (1-3)

594-694: Internship (0-6)

595-695: Special Study for Examinations² (0)

596-696: Essay/Project Guidance (0-3)

597-697: Research Topics³ (1-3)

598-698: Graduate Reading Course⁴ (1-3)

599: Thesis Research (0-6)

5CR⁵: Master's Degree Study [Section 90] (0)

5CR⁵: Specialist Degree Study [Section 95] (0)

690: Introduction to Doctoral Study (0-1)

699: Dissertation Research (0-6)

6CR⁵: Doctor of Education Degree Study [Section 97] (0)

6CR⁵: Doctor of Philosophy Degree Study [Section 99] (0)

NOTES:

1. The 593-693 number designates a graduate course offered on a trial or a one time (e.g., by a visiting faculty member) basis. Each individual 593-693 offering must be approved by The Graduate School.
2. The 595-695 number designates a student preparing for a research tool examination, final/comprehensive Master's degree examination(s), or preliminary/comprehensive Doctoral degree examinations.
3. The "Research Topics" registration generally designates a student rotating through laboratories toward selection of a mentor and/or learning experimental measurement techniques in preparation for the research phase of the Master's or Doctoral degree program. A specific course title may be submitted to the Registrar for entry into the SLU student's record.
4. The "Graduate Reading Course" is, in essence, a tutorial with an individual faculty member; the subject matter is tangential to or beyond that contained in regular, existing offerings. The instructor is to submit to the Registrar a specific course title for the student's SLU record.
5. The "CR" registrations, for students choosing not to begin new coursework during a specific academic term and not yet approaching or in the examination or research phases of their degree programs, meet the mandatory, continuous registration requirement and enable access to the University's academic resources.