



Graduate Board
Thursday, March 24, 2022

By Zoom:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 83869023396

Passcode: 928283

3:00-4:30 pm

AGENDA

1. Review/approval of the April 5, 2022 Curriculum Committee report
2. Commencement update
3. 2022-23 Graduate Board membership
4. Changing meeting time for Graduate Board?
5. Revised draft policy on a land acknowledgment statement for theses and dissertations
6. Draft policy on nonterminal master's degrees
7. Items arising

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Curriculum Committee met on April 5th, 2022 and is recommending the following courses to the Graduate Board for approval at its April 21st meeting.

New Courses:

BIO 500 Biological Inquiry and Analysis

EHD 511 Classroom-based Prevention and Intervention

ESC 552 Teaching Science in Secondary Schools

MEE 520 Nanomaterials and Nanomechanics

Modifications:

CMJ 515 Mass Communication Theory

FSN 586 Sensory Evaluation II

FSN 603 Nutrient Changes in the Food System

SED 505 Diversity of Development in Childhood

SEI 524 Supporting Play and Social-Emotional Development of Infants and Young Children

Proposed Graduate School policy on the inclusion of a land acknowledgment in graduate student theses and dissertations

(updated April 14, 2022)

University of Maine graduate students are ~~expected~~ encouraged to include a statement in their final thesis or dissertation which acknowledges that their graduate study has taken place on the ancestral lands of the Wabanaki Tribal Nations. The Graduate School acting through the Graduate Board **recommends inclusion of the land acknowledgment the statement** that was developed by the President's Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and adopted by the University of Maine in the acknowledgements section of the thesis/dissertation:

The University of Maine recognizes that it is located on Marsh Island in the homeland of Penobscot people, where issues of water and territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. Penobscot homeland is connected to the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations—the Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac—through kinship, alliances, and diplomacy. The University also recognizes that the Penobscot Nation and the other Wabanaki Tribal Nations are distinct, sovereign, legal and political entities with their own powers of self-governance and self-determination.

UMaine President's Council on DEI

In support of the land acknowledgement statement, all University of Maine RCR courses should include an overview of the history of indigenous relationships in the U.S.

Graduate students ~~undertaking qualitative research studies~~ may also choose to include a researcher positionality statement in the thesis/dissertation. More information can be found here, and we recommend students interested in writing a positionality statement consult their advisors:

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1268044.pdf>

<https://inthearts.arts.ubc.ca/renewed-project/discussion-topics-prompts/discussion-prompts-positionality/>

Proposed Policy on Nonterminal Master's Degree

Many University of Maine doctoral students complete the most or all the requirements for the program's cognate master's degree in the course of their doctoral study. To recognize this achievement, a nonterminal master's degree may be awarded if the student satisfies the following criteria:

1. Student remains in good standing in the doctoral program.
2. Student has completed at least 30 hours of graduate-level credit (exclusive of thesis credits) and has been admitted to doctoral candidacy or has met all the degree requirements for the cognate master's degree.
3. Student has no outstanding conditions on their admission and no outstanding financial balance owed to the University of Maine.

Some programs may place additional requirements on the student such as admission to doctoral candidacy.

Process: Upon satisfaction of the criteria for awarding a nonterminal master's degree, the graduate program coordinator sends an approved program of study to the Graduate School. The Graduate School will create a master's degree record in addition to the student's doctoral record and award the master's degree in the next scheduled graduation term.