

**Received by the Graduate Council through an electronic vote--April 1, 2019**

GRADUATE COUNCIL CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (GCCC)  
Fourth Meeting/2018-19 Academic Year  
March 25, 2019  
Held Electronically

**SECTION D – Items reported for inclusion in the 2019-20 Graduate Catalog by another standing committee of the Graduate Council**

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**Graduate Council 3/4/19**

**Admission to Graduate Study**

Other Catalog Change

**Examinations Required for Admission**

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**Graduate Record Examination (GRE)**

In order to be considered ... (GRE) to the Graduate School.

Applicants to the following programs are exempt from the GRE:

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- Master of Public Administration (exempt);
- Master of Science in Geography (exempt);
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- Ed.D. in Adult and Higher Education (exempt);
- Ph.D. in Geography (exempt).
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**Standards Committee 2/18/19; Graduate Council 3/4/19**

**Requirements for Graduate Degrees**

Other Catalog Change

**Thesis**

The thesis will be a ... .. thesis director.

The thesis may be presented in any format that reflects the professional standards of publication and ethics in its discipline, subject to departmental policies and approval of the advisory faculty. (See “Composition of Committees below.”)

Previously published work and manuscripts submitted for publication may be included in a thesis fulfilling the requirements for graduate degree programs, subject to individual department and faculty approval. These may include chapters, sections of chapters, data, or the entire document authored by the degree candidate; however, the research, writing, and publication of the work must be wholly undertaken and completed while at NIU during the course of graduate study for the degree to which the thesis is submitted. The research, writing, and publication must have been performed under the supervision of a full or senior member of the graduate faculty from the major department.

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Previously published material is subject to copyright restrictions. Students are responsible for understanding copyright law and securing written permission to reproduce previously published work in the thesis and must upload these permissions during submission or include them as appendixes in the document. In addition, acknowledgement of the previously published material must be included in the front matter or in footnotes where appropriate in the text. Previously published material must be reformatted to conform to the requirements of the Graduate School and ProQuest. ~~Previously published manuscripts are not acceptable in fulfilling the thesis requirements for graduate degree programs; however, it is permissible to include some previously published material (for example, a chapter, a section, or data/findings) in the thesis so long as the thesis as a whole is original, unpublished work. (See the Graduate School Guidelines for Preparing a Thesis at NIU for additional requirements.)~~ The thesis must be successfully defended in an oral examination.

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**Dissertation Requirements**

~~The dissertation will be a substantial contribution to knowledge in which the student exhibits original scholarship and the ability to conduct independent research. Its subject must be in the area of the student's major and be approved by the student's dissertation director and, ultimately, by the dissertation committee. The dissertation presents research that has been conducted by the student under the supervision of a senior member of the graduate faculty from, and nominated by, the major department and approved as the dissertation director by the dean of the [Graduate School](#). Previously published manuscripts are not acceptable in fulfilling the dissertation requirements for graduate degree programs; however, it is permissible to include some previously published material (for example, a chapter, a section, or data/findings) in the dissertation so long as the dissertation as a whole is original, unpublished work. (See the Graduate School Guidelines for Preparing a Dissertation at NIU for additional requirements.) The dissertation must be successfully defended in an oral examination. The author must demonstrate to his or her committee satisfactory command of all aspects of the work presented.~~

The dissertation should be a significant contribution to knowledge in which the student exhibits original scholarship and the ability to conduct worthwhile research. The dissertation should demonstrate professional competencies relevant to the student's field of study, including effective communication skills (whether written, graphical, digital, or multimedia). The research must be in a subject area of the student's major, approved and completed under the supervision of a senior member of the graduate faculty from the student's major department. (See "Composition of Committees" below.)

The dissertation may be presented in any format that reflects the professional standards of publication and ethics in its discipline, subject to departmental policies and approval of the advisory faculty. The Graduate School maintains specific policies and requirements pertaining to acceptable, durable formats.

Previously published work and manuscripts submitted for publication may be included in a dissertation fulfilling the requirements for graduate degree programs, subject to individual department and faculty

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approval. These may include chapters, sections of chapters, data, or the entire document authored by the degree candidate; however, the research, writing, and publication of the work must be wholly undertaken and completed while at NIU during the course of graduate study for the degree to which the dissertation is submitted. The research, writing, and publication must have been performed under the supervision of a senior member of the graduate faculty from the major department.

Previously published material is subject to copyright restrictions. Students are responsible for understanding copyright law and securing written permission to reproduce previously published work in the dissertation and must upload these permissions during submission or include them as appendixes in the document. In addition, acknowledgement of the previously published material must be included in the front matter or in footnotes where appropriate in the text. Previously published material must be reformatted to conform to the requirements of the Graduate School and ProQuest.

The dissertation must be successfully defended in an oral examination. The author must demonstrate to his or her committee satisfactory command of all aspects of the work presented.

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**Composition of Committees**

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- ~~A majority~~ At least one-half of the members must be tenured or tenure-track faculty members at Northern Illinois University.
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