

**GRADUATE COUNCIL
REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION
February 27, 2018**

GR1.6 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

CURRENT

In addition to the specific degree requirements listed below, professional development training is a requirement of for the M.A., M.S., M.F.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Each degree program determines the format, content, and extent of its training. A program may provide all of its training independently, or it may partner with other programs or utilize services provided by other campus units or professional organizations. Training must be for unit credit and may be delivered as a single course or as portions of multiple courses.

PROPOSED

Professional development training is required for all MS, MA, MFA and Ph.D. programs. Such training is ideally designed to help students achieve mastery of some core competencies including communication (e.g., skill building in teaching and mentoring, writing and publishing, presentation skills, networking); academic development (e.g., skill building in teaching and mentoring, grant writing); leadership and professionalism (e.g., abilities in research/scholarship and professional ethics); and career development (e.g., strategies for success in graduate school and the profession, maintaining work/life balance, and career and job market guidance). This list is not meant to be exhaustive or prescriptive, but rather to reflect the range of skills our students need to be successful.

Each program determines the format, content, and extent of its training in order to make it specific to, and appropriate for, the discipline. A program may provide all of its training independently, or it may partner with other programs, or utilize services provided by other campus units or professional organizations. Training must be for unit credit and may be delivered as a single course or as portions of multiple courses. The course must be listed in the catalogue and clearly noted as the course serving to meet the professional development requirement.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SECTION IN THE CATALOG, PAGE 62

CURRENT

Professional development training is required for all MS, MA, MFA and Ph.D. programs. Training typically includes elements of research and professional ethics, grant and professional writing, strategies for success in graduate school and the profession, pedagogy, public speaking, career and job market guidance, and other relevant topics to help students become successful professionals. Each program determines the format, content, and extent of its training in order to make it specific to, and appropriate for, the discipline. A program may provide all of its training independently, or it may partner with other programs, or utilize services provided by other campus units or professional organizations.

Training must be for unit credit and may be delivered as a single course or as portions of multiple courses.

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Professional development training is required for all MS, MA, MFA and Ph.D. programs. Such training is ideally designed to help students achieve mastery of some core competencies including communication (e.g., skill building in teaching and mentoring, writing and publishing, presentation skills, networking); academic development (e.g., skill building in teaching and mentoring, grant writing); leadership and professionalism (e.g., abilities in research/scholarship and professional ethics); and career development (e.g., strategies for success in graduate school and the profession, maintaining work/life balance, and career and job market guidance). This list is not meant to be exhaustive or prescriptive, but rather to reflect the range of skills our students need to be successful.

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Justification: Six years after the professional development (PD) requirement for graduate students was approved by the Graduate Council (GC), compliance among programs still seems to be inconsistent and of varying quality. GC has taken steps to remedy this problem, namely, approval of the amended questionnaire for program reviews and modification of the guidelines for program review self-study reports, both of which aim to probe whether students are indeed receiving any PD training.

In the same spirit, the committee is proposing to change the text both in the Graduate Division Regulation GR 1.6 and in the Professional Development section in the catalog (Page 62). The proposed text puts PD training into the widely accepted “core competency” framework. We believe this text expresses what is expected of programs more clearly, and the core competency framework facilitates the design of PD training the programs will provide.

Approved by Graduate Council: 11/16/2017

The Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction finds the wording to be consistent with the code of the Academic Senate: _____

Received by Executive Council: _____