

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE**

Meeting #2  
December 5, 2016  
217 Varner Hall

**MINUTES**

Present: S. Dykstra, A. Hitt, L. Jiang, W. Matthews, B. McDaniel, M. McDonald, H. Qu

1. Committee approved Minutes #1, October 31, 2016.
2. Committee deferred the request from the Department of Biological Sciences to **add** the following *new courses*:

BIO 586/5012 Experimental Design and Analysis (4)  
Design and analysis of manipulative and natural experiments, emphasizing the practical use of statistics for analyzing common types of data in the biological sciences. Topics will include generalized linear models, model selection, mixed models, survival analysis and randomization tests.

3. Committee approved the request from the Department of Communication and Journalism to make the following changes to the Master of Arts in Communication program:
  - a. Remove the three tracks (interpersonal communication, media studies, and critical cultural communication) and offer a general MA in Communication. The core courses of COM 500, COM 503, and COM 622 or COM 652 are retained, but the elective courses, currently segregated by track, are combined as one general set of electives.
  - b. Require an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher to select the thesis or creative program exit option.
  - d. Substitute the current exit exam option with a new option titled "Advisor approved elective plus final competency exam (4 credits).
  - e. Change GPA requirement from "GPA of 3.0 or higher in the major" to "GPA of 3.0 or higher."
4. Committee approved the request from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to **change** the *prerequisite* and *description* following course:

STA 5330 Time Series 1 (4)  
Introduction to and characteristics of autoregressive moving average models; autocorrelation functions, modeling, estimation and forecasting; deterministic and stochastic trends and seasonality; forecasting from regression, spectral analysis, multivariate models, GARCH models, applications to actuarial, financial, economic, and other data sets. *Required background includes courses in mathematical statistics and linear models. STA 5330 is cross-listed with an undergraduate course. Students cannot receive credit for both STA 5330 and STA 4330.*  
~~Prerequisite: STA 5228 with a grade of 3.0 or above.~~