TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ON ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

Degree Requirements

To qualify for the TREES dual-title intercollege degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the major degree program in which they are enrolled, including the communication/foreign language requirements, if any. In addition, they must satisfy the minimum requirements in the TREES dual-title intercollege program described here. Final course selection, including which courses will satisfy the both the graduate major program and dual-title program requirements, is determined by the students with approval by their dual-title program advisers and their major program advisers. All dual-title intercollege degree candidates should enroll in TREES 590 in their first semester.

A student in TREES must complete 15 credits of TREES course work beyond the bachelor's degree in addition to curricular requirements for the master's or doctoral degree in the student's primary program. These courses are required for both the M.S./M.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

Code	Title	Credits
REQUIRED COURSES		
TREES 590	Colloquium in Transdisciplinary Research on Environment and Society	1
TREES 574	Integrated Perspectives in Transdisciplinary Research on Environment and Society	3
TREES 575	Ethical Issues in Transdisciplinary Research on Environment and Society	3
Two courses from at least two pools that provide the most breadth for the student as determined by the program chair. A list of courses in each pool is maintained by the graduate program office.		6
TREES 596	Individual Studies (at least 1 credit)	1
Graduate-level Internship (at least 1 credit at the 495/595/895 level); internship credit can reside in student's home department or related program, but requires approval by the program chair.		1
Total Credits		**15**

Master's Degrees

All courses, including which courses will satisfy both the graduate major program and dual-title program requirements, must be approved by the student's M.S./M.A. adviser(s) and/or committee. The thesis supervisor and chair of the student's committee shall be a member of the student's major program, and a member of the dual-title program. All members of the committee must hold Graduate Faculty status or secure the same before serving on the committee.

The culminating experience (e.g., thesis or scholarly paper or capstone course) must incorporate a TREES interest together with the primary field of study.

Doctoral Degrees

All courses, including which courses will satisfy both the graduate major program and dual-title program requirements, must be approved by the student's dissertation adviser(s) and/or committee.

Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title graduate degree program no later than the end of the fourth semester (not counting summer semesters) of entry into the graduate major program. In consultation with the TREES dual-title program, the graduate major program will determine the timing and format of the Qualifying Examination for dual-title TREES students from the three available options: a single qualifying examination that covers both the major and the dual-title, separate qualifying examinations for the major field and the dual-title field, or a qualifying examination in just the major field. This will be stated in the graduate major program's Graduate Bulletin listing for the dual-title adoption.

In accordance with Graduate Council policy (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-602-phd-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from TREES. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in TREES, the member of the committee representing TREES must be appointed as co-chair. The TREES representative on the student's Ph.D. committee will develop questions for and participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination.

All Ph.D. students will be required to complete, present, and defend a dissertation that incorporates a topic related to both their graduate major program and TREES. Candidates for the dual-title Ph.D. degree in TREES will be required to pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) covering their graduate major program field and TREES. To earn the Ph.D. degree, doctoral students must also write a dissertation that is accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.