ARCHITECTURE

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title M.S. and Ph.D. in Architecture and TRANSIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ON ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/).

The dual-title M.S. and Ph.D. in Architecture and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment is a research-focused degree program that enables students from Architecture to acquire the knowledge and skills of their major area of specialization in Architecture, while at the same gaining the perspective and methods of Transdisciplinary Research on Environment and Society.

Admission Requirements

For admission to the dual-title degree under this program, a student must first apply and be admitted to Penn State’s Graduate School as well as to the Architecture graduate program. Once enrolled in the Architecture program, the student can apply to the Admissions Committee of TREES. Doctoral students should enroll in a dual-title graduate degree program early in their training, and no later than the end of the fourth semester (not counting summer semesters) of entry into the graduate major program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the TREES Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/transdisciplinary-research-environment-society/).

Degree Requirements for the Dual-Title M.S.

To qualify for a dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Architecture program in which they are primarily enrolled. In addition, they must satisfy the degree requirements for the dual-title M.S. in TREES, listed on the TREES Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/transdisciplinary-research-environment-society/).

Upon a student’s acceptance by the TREES admissions committee, the student will be assigned an TREES academic adviser in consultation with the TREES chair. As students develop specific scholarly interests, they may request that a different TREES faculty member serve as their adviser. The student and adviser will discuss a program of study that is appropriate for the student’s professional objectives and that is in accord with the policies of Graduate Council, the Architecture program and the TREES Program.

Some courses may satisfy both the graduate major program requirements and those of the dual-title program. Particular courses may satisfy both the graduate major program requirements and those of the dual-title program. 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.

A thesis committee for the dual-title M.S. degree will consist of two Graduate Faculty members from Architecture and one Graduate Faculty member from the TREES Program. The thesis topic itself will be an integration of both Architecture and TREES.

Candidates for the dual-title Master of Science degree in Architecture and TREES will also be required to pass a final defense covering the general field of Architecture and TREES Program, with emphasis on the student’s area of specialization. The defense is to be administered by the student’s thesis committee. The thesis may only pass with a unanimous affirmative decision of the thesis committee.

Degree Requirements for the Dual-title Ph.D.

To qualify for a dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Architecture program in which they are primarily enrolled. In addition, they must satisfy the degree requirements for the dual-title Ph.D. in TREES, listed on the TREES Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/transdisciplinary-research-environment-society/).

Upon a student’s acceptance by the TREES admissions committee, the student will be assigned an TREES academic adviser in consultation with the TREES chair. As students develop specific scholarly interests, they may request that a different TREES faculty member serve as their adviser. The student and adviser will discuss a program of study that is appropriate for the student’s professional objectives and that is in accord with the policies of Graduate Council, the Architecture program and the TREES Program.

Particular courses may satisfy both the graduate major program requirements and those of the TREES program. If a M.S. student continues into the TREES Ph.D. program, 15 credits of interdisciplinary course work must be selected, with the approval of the student’s Ph.D. committee. Some courses may satisfy both the graduate major program requirements and those of the dual-title program. 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.

The qualifying examination for Architecture will satisfy the qualifying exam requirement for the dual-title degree program in TREES. 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. The TREES representative on the Ph.D. committee will participate in constructing and evaluating the comprehensive examination. 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. 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.

All Ph.D. students will be required to complete, present, and defend a dissertation that incorporates a topic related to both Architecture and TREES. Candidates for the dual-title Ph.D. degree in Architecture and TREES will be required to pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) covering the general field of Architecture and TREES, with emphasis on the student’s area of specialization. The defense is to be administered by the student’s Ph.D. committee. A favorable vote of a two-thirds majority is necessary for passing. 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.