ARCHITECTURE

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title M.S. and Ph.D. in Architecture and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment

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

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 time gaining the perspective and methods of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment.

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 accepted into the Architecture program, the student can apply to the Admissions Committee of HDNRE. The HDNRE admissions committee reviews applications and recommends students for admission to the dual-title degree program to The Graduate School. In addition to the admission requirements for the in Architecture degree program, the HDNRE program also requires a minimum baccalaureate Jr/Sr grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the HDNRE Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/human-dimensions-natural-resources-environment/). Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in HDNRE prior to taking the qualifying examination in their primary graduate program.

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 the degree requirements for the dual-title M.S. in HDNRE, listed on the HDNRE Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/human-dimensions-natural-resources-environment/). Within this framework, final course selection is determined by the student, the HDNRE adviser, and the Architecture program adviser.

Upon a student’s acceptance by the HDNRE admissions committee, the student will be assigned a HDNRE academic adviser in consultation with the HDNRE chair. As students develop specific scholarly interests, they may request that a different HDNRE 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 HDNRE Program.

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

The qualifying examination is determined by the students in consultation with their dual-title program advisers and their major program advisers.

There will be a single qualifying examination, containing elements of both Architecture and HDNRE. Dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

The qualifying examination committee and the Ph.D. committee must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from HDNRE. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. The HDNRE representative on the qualifying examination committee will participate in constructing and evaluating the qualifying examination, and the HDNRE 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 HDNRE, the member of the committee representing HDNRE 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 Architecture and HDNRE. Candidates for the dual-title Ph.D. degree in Architecture and HDNRE will be required to pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) covering the general field of Architecture and HDNRE, 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.