# PHILOSOPHY

## Degree Requirements

### Dual-Title Ph.D. in Philosophy and African American and Diaspora Studies

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/).

### Admission Requirements

Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Philosophy and the Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may make their interest known on their applications to Philosophy. Students must apply and be admitted to the dual-title degree program in African American and Diaspora Studies prior to taking the qualifying exam. In addition to the admission requirements set forth by the Graduate Council and the Department of Philosophy, students will be admitted to the dual-title degree program in African American and Diaspora Studies by an admissions committee of African American and Diaspora Studies faculty and must meet the admissions requirements of the African American and Diaspora Studies dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the African American and Diaspora Studies Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/african-american-diaspora-studies/).

### GPA and GRE Requirements

Applicants entering with only an undergraduate degree should have a junior/senior cumulative average of at least 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale), and, where applicable, a minimum GPA of 3.50 for all graduate work previously undertaken. Exceptions to the minimum GPA requirement may be made for students with special backgrounds, abilities, and interests at the discretion of the program. Each applicant must provide the scores of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within five years previous to the date of application that have already been provided for admission to the graduate major program.

### Degree Requirements

To qualify for the dual-title degree in Philosophy and African American and Diaspora Studies, students must satisfy the Philosophy Ph.D. degree requirements listed in the Degree Requirements section. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in African American and Diaspora Studies, listed on the African American and Diaspora Studies Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/african-american-diaspora-studies/). The minimum course requirements for this dual-title Ph.D. degree are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 501</td>
<td>Seminar in African American Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 502</td>
<td>Blacks and African Diaspora</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAM 503</td>
<td>Sexual and Gender Politics in the African Diaspora</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Choose 6 elective credits from the list of approved electives maintained in the African American and Diaspora Studies program office.

### Total Credits

15

Credits earned at other institutions but not used to earn a degree may be applied toward the requirements for a graduate degree, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/).

### Qualifying Examination

In accordance with Graduate Council policy, the qualifying examination committee must include at least one member of the African American and Diaspora Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role.

Because students must first be admitted to a graduate major program of study before they may apply and be considered for admission into a dual-title graduate degree program, 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 dual-title field must be fully integrated into the qualifying exam for the doctoral program. In addition, students in the dual-title Ph.D. in African American and Diaspora Studies will be required to present to their committee a portfolio of work in African American and Diaspora Studies which includes a statement of the student’s interdisciplinary research interests, a program plan, and samples of writing that indicate the student’s interest in questions taken up by scholars of African American and Diaspora Studies.

### Ph.D. committee Composition

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Philosophy and African American and Diaspora Studies dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the African American and Diaspora Studies Graduate Faculty. 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 a member of the Graduate Faculty in African American and Diaspora Studies, the member of the committee representing African American and Diaspora Studies must be appointed as co-chair.

### Comprehensive Exams

The African American and Diaspora Studies Graduate Faculty member on the student’s committee is responsible for developing and administering the African American and Diaspora Studies portion of the student’s comprehensive exams. The exam must incorporate written and oral components in African American and Diaspora Studies based on the student’s thematic or regional area of interest and specialization in African American and Diaspora Studies. The African American and Diaspora Studies portion of the exam will include the following components:

- a broad history of the field,
- contemporary theory and debates,
- and either sexual and gender politics or
- a topic related to the student’s specific area of interest.
**Dissertation**
The candidate must complete a dissertation and pass a final oral defense of that dissertation on a topic that reflects their original research and education in both Philosophy and African American and Diaspora Studies in order to earn the dual-title Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

**Dual-Title Ph.D. in Philosophy and Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies**
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/).

**Admission Requirements**
Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Philosophy and The Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may make their interest known on their applications to Philosophy. Students must apply and be admitted to the dual-title graduate program in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies prior to taking the qualifying exam. In addition to the admission requirements set forth by the Graduate Council and the Department of Philosophy, students seeking admission to the dual-title program will be admitted to graduate study in CAMS by an admissions committee of CAMS faculty and the approval of the head of CAMS, and must meet the admissions requirements of the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/classics-ancient-mediterranean-studies/) Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/african-american-diaspora-studies/).

Applicants to this dual-title degree program should have an academic record that demonstrates expertise in a field relevant to ancient Mediterranean studies and proficiency at an intermediate level (e.g., 3 semesters of study) in one or more ancient languages. Prospective students seeking admission to this dual-title degree program are required to write a statement of purpose that addresses the ways in which their research and professional goals will reflect an interest in interdisciplinary research in the participating program and the disciplines and fields included in CAMS.

**GPA and GRE Requirements**
Applicants entering with only an undergraduate degree should have a junior/senior cumulative average of at least 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale), and, where applicable, a minimum GPA of 3.50 for all graduate work previously undertaken. Exceptions to the minimum GPA requirement may be made for students with special backgrounds, abilities, and interests at the discretion of the program. Each applicant must provide the scores of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within five years previous to the date of application that have already been provided for admission to the graduate major program.

**Degree Requirements**
To qualify for the dual-title degree in Philosophy and Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, students must satisfy the Philosophy Ph.D. degree requirements listed in the Degree Requirements section. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, listed on the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/classics-ancient-mediterranean-studies/) Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/african-american-diaspora-studies/). The minimum course requirements for this dual-title Ph.D. degree are as follows:

- 15 credits of CAMS-related coursework at the 400 or 500 level.
- 3 of these credits will come from CAMS 592. At least 3 credits will come from CAMS 593. The remainder may come from CAMS courses or courses relevant to the student’s research interests, as approved by the student’s doctoral adviser and the CAMS program director of graduate studies. Unless exempted by the student’s Ph.D. committee, at least 6 of these credits should be in an ancient language.

**Language Requirements**
In addition to advanced proficiency in one ancient language, students will be expected to acquire and demonstrate reading proficiency in those modern foreign languages (e.g., but not exclusively, French, German, Italian) appropriate to their research interests, as identified by their Ph.D. committee.

**Qualifying Examination**
In accordance with Graduate Council policy, the qualifying examination committee must include at least one member of the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role.

Because students must first be admitted to a graduate major program of study before they may apply to and be considered for admission into a dual-title graduate degree program, 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 dual-title field must be fully integrated into the qualifying exam for the doctoral program. In addition, students in the dual-title Ph.D. in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies will be required to present a portfolio of work in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies which includes a statement of the student’s interdisciplinary research interests, a program plan, and samples of writing that indicate the student’s work in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies.

**Ph.D. committee Composition**
In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Philosophy and Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies Graduate Faculty. 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 a member of the Graduate Faculty in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies, the member of the committee representing Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies must be appointed as co-chair.

**Comprehensive Exams**
The Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies Graduate Faculty member on the student’s committee is responsible for developing and administering the Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies portion of the student’s comprehensive exams. The exam must incorporate written and oral components in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies dual-title doctoral degree students.
Studies based on the student’s thematic or historical area of interest and specialization in Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies.

**Dissertation**

The candidate must complete a dissertation and pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) on a topic that reflects their original research and education in both the primary discipline and Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies in order to earn the dual-title Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

**Dual-Title M.A. and Ph.D. in Philosophy and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

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/](http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-title-graduate-degree-programs/)).

**Admission Requirements**

Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Philosophy and the Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may make their interest known on their applications to Philosophy. Students must apply and be admitted to the dual-title degree program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies prior to taking the qualifying exam. In addition to the admission requirements set forth by the Graduate Council and the Department of Philosophy, students will be admitted to the dual-title degree program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies by an admissions committee of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty. The committee must meet the admissions requirements of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Bulletin page ([https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/womens-gender-sexuality-studies/](https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/womens-gender-sexuality-studies/)).

Students applying to the dual-title program must submit: a copy of the Graduate School Application originally submitted to the Philosophy Department; official transcripts from all previous course work; official GRE scores; a writing sample; a personal statement that describes how the dual-title degree program fits with their scholarly interests; and one letter of recommendation from a Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty member at Penn State.

**GPA and GRE Requirements**

Applicants entering with only an undergraduate degree should have a junior/senior cumulative average of at least 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale), and, where applicable, a minimum GPA of 3.50 for all graduate work previously undertaken. Exceptions to the minimum GPA requirement may be made for students with special backgrounds, abilities, and interests at the discretion of the program.

**Degree Requirements for the Dual-Title M.A.**

To qualify for the dual-title degree in Philosophy and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, students must satisfy the Philosophy M.A. degree requirements listed in the Degree Requirements section. In addition to the Philosophy Department requirements, the minimum course requirements for this dual-title M.A. degree are as follows:

A total of 12 credits of course work in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Of these 12 credits, 9 must come from the required core course sequence in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMNST 501</td>
<td>Feminist Perspectives on Research and Teaching Across the Disciplines</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMNST 502</td>
<td>Global Perspectives on Feminism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMNST 507</td>
<td>Feminist Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 3 credits chosen in consultation with the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Officer.

**Total Credits**

12

Credits earned at other institutions but not used to earn a degree may be applied toward the requirements for a graduate degree, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit ([http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/](http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/)).

One faculty member from Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies should be included on the master’s committee. In addition, students should select a thesis topic that reflects their inquiry in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. In the event that the master’s thesis requirement is waived by the Philosophy Department, students need to take three additional credits of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course work and complete a master’s paper on a topic approved by the student’s committee.

**Degree Requirements for the dual-Title Ph.D.**

To qualify for the dual-title degree in Philosophy and Women’s Studies, students must satisfy the Philosophy Ph.D. degree requirements listed in the Degree Requirements section. In addition to the Philosophy Department requirements, the minimum course requirements for this dual-title Ph.D. degree are as follows:

18 credits of course work in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Of these 18 credits, 9 must come from the required core course sequence in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

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</tr>
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<td>Feminist Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 9 credits: at least 6 must be at the 500 level, and all of them must be chosen in consultation with the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Officer.

**Total Credits**

18

Credits earned at other institutions but not used to earn a degree may be applied toward the requirements for a graduate degree, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit ([http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/](http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/)).

**Qualifying Examination**

In accordance with Graduate Council policy, the qualifying examination committee must include at least one member of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role.

**Graduate Faculty**

The combined role of faculty members from the Philosophy and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role.
Because students must first be admitted to a graduate major program of study before they may apply to and be considered for admission into a dual-title graduate degree program, 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 dual-title field must be fully integrated into the qualifying exam for the doctoral program. In addition, the student will be required to present a portfolio of work in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies to their committee. Such a portfolio would include a statement of the student's interdisciplinary research interests, a program plan, and samples of writing that indicate the student's work in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

**Ph.D. committee Composition**
In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Philosophy and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least two members who are Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies-affiliated Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the committee representing Philosophy is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, a member of the committee representing Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies must be appointed as co-chair.

**Comprehensive Exams**
The Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies affiliated faculty members on the student's committee are responsible for administering a comprehensive examination in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies that constitutes a portion of the student's comprehensive exams. The Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies portion of the exam will focus on the following areas:

- feminist theory,
- feminist methodology,
- global feminism, and
- feminist studies in the student's discipline.

**Dissertation**
The candidate must complete a dissertation and pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) on a topic that reflects their original research and education in both Philosophy and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in order to earn the dual-title Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.