Proposal to Create a Dual Degree M.A. in Public Affairs and Slavic and East European Studies

The John Glenn School of Public Affairs (Glenn School) and the Graduate Studies Committee of the M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies propose to create a dual M.A. in Public Affairs and Slavic and East European Studies.

The proposed dual degree promotes the interests of both programs and serves the overall mission of the University. For the Glenn School, the proposed dual degree will:

- Add an international dimension to the School’s degree offerings without a significant increase in resources (e.g. new faculty) and courses;
- Contribute to fulfilling the School’s objective of serving as a hub for multidisciplinary teaching and research; and
- Increase the attractiveness of the School’s degree programs to a new student market.

For the M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies and the Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES), the proposed dual degree will:

- Provide graduate students with an interest in Slavic and East European countries and cultures with an applied set of skills and tools to add to their professional profile upon graduation;
- Contribute to CSEES’ role as a Title VI National Resource Center by expanding Slavic and East European Studies at the Ohio State University and by broadening the preparation of Area-specialists for a variety of government jobs; and
- Help to maintain the M.A. Program in Slavic and East European Studies as one of the most competitive in the country and increase the attractiveness of the degree program to a new student population.

For the Ohio State University, the degree will:

- Contribute to the University’s desire to foster interdisciplinary curricular options;
- Strengthen two academic units by expanding the capacity of each without adding additional resources; and
- Enhance international curricular offerings for graduate students throughout the University.

Dual Degree Structure and Requirements

Entrance into the dual degree program requires the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). On the Slavic and East European M.A. side, prior to admission, students are advised that they need to complete either four years of Russian or three years of another Slavic or East European language in order to graduate on time. For most students, this requires two years of language study; however, some students may enter the program with more
advanced language skills and/or more basic language skills, which will change the time needed to finish this requirement.

On the Glenn School side, while not required for admittance, students are required to have completed three prerequisites (American government, microeconomics, and statistics) before enrolling in PUB AFFRS 801, PUB AFFRS 830, and PUB AFFRS 820. Prerequisite course hours are not counted towards the degree. Upon matriculation in the primary program of study, students have six years to complete the degree.

The dual degree will combine elements of each program’s curriculum. The CSEES MA degree requires 60 credit hours when taken individually. The Glenn School’s MA requires a total of 56 credit hours, with 38 of those credit hours taken as required core course credits. The dual CSEES/Glenn degree will require a total of 86 credit hours for completion plus language requirements. Depending on the student’s level of language when she/he enters the program as based on a language evaluation, previous courses taken, and/or in-country experience, students will generally continue taking language courses to fulfill the language requirements outlined below. Language and prerequisite courses do not count towards the 86 credit hours required for completion of the degrees. In addition, 30 of the required credit hours must be taken in CSEES courses. Another 38 of the required credit hours must be taken in Glenn School courses. The remaining 18 credit hours may be taken in either unit or in other units across campus as long as they can count towards both of the degrees (and must be approved in advance by the Graduate Studies Committee Chair or Program/Faculty Advisor).

On the Slavic and East European M.A. side, all students are required to take SLAVIC 700: Introduction to Slavic Studies (five credit hours). In addition, they must

- Pass the language requirement and language exit examination (completing the 4th year of Russian or the 3rd year of Bulgarian, Czech, Georgian, Modern Greek, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Turkish, Ukrainian, Uzbek, or Yiddish);
- Take at least 15 credit hours in an area of concentration (a geographical area of interest [Balkans, Caucasus, Central Asia, Central/Eastern Europe, Russia] or a discipline [History, Political Science, Literature, Cultural Studies, etc.]);
- Take courses in at least 3 different departments/programs (for example, in addition to Public Affairs courses and the mandatory Slavic 700, students are required to take at least one course in departments/programs such as History, Political Science, Geography, Women’s Studies, or any other department/program that relates to the student’s concentration);
- Take courses in at least 2 different colleges (for the purpose of the dual degree, this requirement is already fulfilled by courses in Public Affairs and the mandatory Slavic 700 [Humanities]);
- Have at least 15 credit hours that count towards the M.A. in Slavic and East European Studies at the 700-800 level, and no more than 10 credit hours may be at the 500 level; and
- Consult quarterly with an advisor from the Slavic Center and have her/his degree checklist approved.
Because of the nature of the Glenn School curriculum, there are a large number of required courses. Students in the dual degree are required to complete 38 credit hours of required course work across four areas: public policy, public and non-profit management, public sector economics and research methods. The required courses are listed below by area with credit hours in parentheses.

PUBLIC POLICY

PUB AFRS 801 Public Policy Formulation and Implementation (5)
PUB AFRS 802 Legal Environment of Public Organizations (4)
PUB AFRS 804 Public and Non-Profit Program Evaluation (4)

PUBLIC and NON-PROFIT MANAGEMENT

PUB AFRS 810 Managing Public Organizations (4)
PUB AFRS 811 Leadership and Human Resources in Public Organizations (4)

PUBLIC SECTOR ECONOMICS

PUB AFRS 830 Economics of Public and Non-Profit Management (4)
PUB AFRS 730 Public Finance (5)
PUB AFRS 834 Public Budgeting (4)

RESEARCH METHODS

PUB AFRS 820 Data Analysis for Public Policy and Management (4)

The remaining 18 credit hours, which must be approved in advanced by the Graduate Studies Committee Chair or Program/Faculty Advisor, may be taken in either unit or in other units across campus as long as they can count towards both of the degrees. For students choosing the thesis option, up to 10 credit hours of Thesis Writing/Research may count toward these joint hours since the thesis will be based on a topic relevant to both degrees.

In addition to taking the required courses and completing all 86 credit hours with a 3.00 GPA, students must also complete a set of exit requirements to acquire the dual degree. On the Glenn School side, students must complete a comprehensive exam spanning four streams of course work – public policy, public and non-profit management, public sector economics and research methods.

On the Slavic and East European M.A. side, students must either pass a comprehensive two-part exam, which consists of material based on

- SLAV 700; and
- An M.A. reading list based on the student’s area of concentration and prepared in consultation with the advisor.

OR

- He/she must complete a thesis and defend it orally.

In addition, students must complete an exit language exam to demonstrate competency in a Slavic or Eastern European language of their choosing at a level that demonstrates knowledge of that language sufficient for use as a professional and/or research tool.

Sample Schedule

While experience will vary by student, the average student could complete the degree program in three years. The table below provides a sample schedule.

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<th>Autumn</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
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<td>Year 1</td>
<td>SLAV 700 (5)</td>
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1 Requires undergraduate American government course.
2 Requires completion of 801.
3 Requires undergraduate microeconomics course.
4 Requires undergraduate statistics course.
5 Requires completion of 830.
6 Requires completion of 830.