Soave, Melissa

From: Scott Herness <herness.1@gradsch.ohio-state.edu>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 3:51 PM
To: Soave, Melissa
Cc: Scott Herness
Subject: FW: GIS Survey Research

Melissa,

The Graduate Studies Committee has met and reviewed the semester conversion plan for the GIS in Survey Research. The committee had two comments which were satisfactorily answered in the email below.

The GIS in Survey Research is now ready to be submitted to CAA for its approval.

Best,

Scott

From: gerald.kosicki@gmail.com [mailto:gerald.kosicki@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Gerald Kosicki
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 3:45 PM
To: Scott Herness
Subject: Re: GIS Survey Research

Hi Scott.
Thanks for this very positive update.
I proposed 10 credits thinking that was what would be expected, but I agree that nine makes more sense. I certainly accept that as a friendly amendment.

In terms of the statistics prerequisites, what we have said is that students should have a year of basic statistics that includes regression. I think it would be fine if the students could show they did something like that as undergraduates or were taking it concurrently. As a practical matter, most people who would be interested in survey research have that and more so it’s never been any kind of issue.

I will be out of town on May 16 attending the American Association for Public Opinion Research meetings in Orlando. If I will be needed at the CAA meeting, you might keep that in mind. If I don't need to be there, I'll look forward to hearing that the semester conversion has hopefully been approved!

Thanks again for keeping me informed about this. I'm looking forward to hearing more good news soon. -- Jerry

On Thu, May 10, 2012 at 3:19 PM, Scott Herness <herness.1@gradsch.ohio-state.edu> wrote:

Jerry,
The Graduate School Curriculum Committee recently reviewed the semester conversion plan for the GIS in Survey Research. The conversion plan was viewed as straightforward. However, the committee had two comments:

- This GIS proposal requires 10 credit hours (of the required 12 total hours) to be taken outside the student’s home program. This is difficult to achieve on semesters where most courses are 3 credit hours and the curriculum only involves four courses. It would be almost impossible to achieve for this GIS unless all courses were outside the home unit. For this reason the Graduate School revised its GIS rule for semesters to 9 credit hours. The committee felt the GIS in Survey Research would be improved if its 10 credit hour requirement (which was recognized as being based on an earlier Graduate School guideline) was relaxed to 9 hours.

- Prerequisite for the GIS involves one year of basic statistics courses. The committee requested the clarification if this included statistics courses taken at the undergraduate level and/or taken concurrently with the GIS courses.

Given a response to these two points, the GIS in Survey Research could be presented to the Council on Academic Affairs as early as its next meeting on May 16th.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Scott

Dr. Scott Herness  
The Ohio State University  
Associate Dean, Graduate School  
(614) 292-0490 Work  
(614) 292-3656 Fax  
herness.1@osu.edu  
250 University Hall  
230 North Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210-1366
Program Request

General Information

Fiscal Unit/Academic Org
Graduate School Admin - D3000

Administering College/Academic Group
Arts and Sciences

Co-administering College/Academic Group
(can select multiple)
Arts and Sciences
Business
Continuing Education
Dentistry
Education & Human Ecology
Engineering

Semester Conversion Designation
Converted with minimal changes to program goals and/or curricular requirements (e.g., sub-plan/specialization name changes, changes in electives and/or prerequisites, minimal changes in overall structure of program, minimal or no changes in program goals or content)

Current Program/Plan Name
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research

Proposed Program/Plan Name
Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research
4 characters remaining

Program/Plan Code Abbreviation
SURVRES-IS

Current Degree Title
**Credit Hour Explanation**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program credit hour requirements</th>
<th>A) Number of credit hours in current program (Quarter credit hours)</th>
<th>B) Calculated result for 2/3rds of current (Semester credit hours)</th>
<th>C) Number of credit hours required for proposed program (Semester credit hours)</th>
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<td>Required credit hours offered outside of the unit</td>
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<td>Maximum: 23</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

**Program Learning Goals**

Note: these are required for all undergraduate degree programs and majors now, and will be required for all graduate and professional degree programs in 2012. Nonetheless, all programs are encouraged to complete these now.

**Program Learning Goals**

Instruction in the basics of scientific, representative survey research of well defined populations according to principles of the Total Survey Error perspective, which has revolutionized survey research theory and practice in the past decade.

7 characters remaining

**Assessment**

Assessment plan includes student learning goals, how those goals are evaluated, and how the information collected is used to improve student learning.

An assessment plan is required for undergraduate majors and degrees. Graduate and professional degree programs are encouraged to complete this now, but will not be required to do so until 2012.

Is this a degree program (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) or major proposal? No

**Program Specializations/Sub-Plans**

If you do not specify a program specialization/sub-plan it will be assumed you are submitting this program for all program specializations/sub-plans.
Pre-Major

Does this Program have a Pre-Major?  No

If yes, please include appropriate documentation.

Attachments

Before leaving the College/Division queue, please ensure that only a maximum of three attachments appear, if at all possible:

1. Letter from the College

2. An attachment that includes the following required information in the following order:
   - Letter from the Program-offering Unit
   - Program Rationale Statement
   - List of Semester Courses
   - Semester Advising Sheet(s)
   - Quarter Advising Sheet(s) (required for re-envisioned or converted programs only)
   - Transition Policy

and if applicable:
   - Pre-major Advising Sheet
   - Co-administering Letter
   - Support/Concurrence Letter(s)
   - Additional Documentation for Ohio BOR Review

3. Curricular Map(s) (Required for undergraduate degrees and majors only. If the program has multiple specializations/sub-plans, multiple maps may be attached)

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Uploaded File Info

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>GISSR_Final with credit hours.pdf <a href="#">#</a></td>
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<td>Program Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division Cover Letter for GIS Survey Research.doc <a href="#">#</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Letter from the College to OAA</td>
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Comments

- 06/17/2011 10:11 PM [Kosicki, Gerald Michael]

This document contains the letter, program details, list of
Courses, semester and quarter advising sheets and transition policy.

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<tr>
<td>Pending Approval</td>
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Ad-Hoc Approvers

Pending Ad-Hoc Approvers
No Pending Ad-Hoc Approvers

New Ad-Hoc Approvers
No New Ad-Hoc Approvers

Actions

- Save Changes
- Approve
- Request Revision

The Ohio State University

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This document discusses the semester conversion rationale for the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research as administered by the College of Social & Behavioral Sciences.

The survey certificate program has been operational since Autumn 2000 and serves an average of about 20 students a year from many graduate departments in the university. The certificate is one of only a few such programs in the United States, and is one of the oldest. The GISSR was the second graduate interdisciplinary specialization to be instituted at Ohio State (after Aging). Many of the students take our program because they need to use survey research for some research they are planning, typically a master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation. Some seek jobs with a significant survey component, such as in an academic department affiliated with an academic survey center. Some prefer to go directly into a government statistical agency, a private sector research firm, an academic survey center, or an academic or foundation-sponsored research center.

The program provides a strong overview of the essential elements of survey research focusing on a recent theoretical approach known as the Total Survey Error Approach. The TSE approach has revolutionized the study and practice of survey research over the past two decades to an astonishing degree. It does this by explicitly focusing on all sources of error that can affect survey research as well as the evidence-based solutions to these problems. The approach encourages an explicit cost-quality balance that is missing from traditional survey teaching, which has tended to stress the importance of sampling error and response rates to the exclusion of most other sources of error. This omission has had the effect of persuading several generations of students and professors that larger surveys are always better than smaller ones. Another misperception is that survey nonresponse is the same thing as nonresponse error. In fact they are quite different and this has important implications for survey practice and the general issue of representativeness. TSE also recognizes that in today’s world, survey coverage is a key issue. It is notable that the popular online, self-selected survey panels are weak in population coverage, as are surveys of landline phones unless they are supplemented by numbers sampled from the pool of wireless numbers. Students of the newer TSE approach, however, recognize that coverage and representativeness are quite complex topics, that controlling question order effects is critical to the success of a survey, and that careful field procedures are fundamental to the success of any project. These are among the major considerations, not an exhaustive list of insights provided by TSE.

The program currently consists of two required courses and three electives that are selected from two menus of courses. One course is selected from a list of Disciplinary Applications of Survey Research, that is, theoretical, substantive courses that are based on empirical data derived from population
surveys. The second group of electives consists of Survey Research Tools. These courses typically
deal with aspects of survey data collection or statistical data analysis techniques that are commonly
used in various aspects of survey analysis. Students take 23 hours of quarter course credits, and a
minimum of 14 must be from outside of their home unit. Students taking five quarter courses in the
plan are able to complete the program within two years or less. This makes the program attractive to
master’s as well as Ph.D. students.

The proposed semester conversion plan involves four three-credit courses. This is important
because it is the only way that students will be able to complete the program with two years.
Students will continue to take the two required courses – Survey Practicum (Communication or
Political Science 789) and Questionnaire Construction (Political Science 702). The extra weeks
will allow for additional coverage of key topics in survey data collection and analysis.

The new program will cover all the basics of survey research and students will have the flexibility
to add electives that suit their programs and plans for the future. Survey education in the United
States increasingly can be seen to be on one of two major paths. One is the creation of free
standing master’s and doctoral programs in survey methodology. This characterizes programs at
the University of Michigan’s Joint Program on Survey Methodology, and the University of
Nebraska at Lincoln. These programs are affiliated with the Federal statistical agencies and
Gallup, respectively.

There are also a number of programs, including OSU’s, that recognize that students are well-
served in academic life with a degree in a traditional discipline and an add-on certificate of
achievement in survey methodology. This approach was pioneered by Ohio State in the creation of
the GISSR and has been adopted by the University of Illinois, University of North Carolina and
the University of Cincinnati. It is notable that Illinois and Cincinnati have hired students from
Ohio State as key players in their survey education efforts. Other OSU graduates are at work in a
number of major survey organizations. The OSU approach recognizes that successful survey firms
and organizations require survey methodologists as well as people trained in traditional disciplines
who appreciate the complexity of survey research.

Students in the program will be transitioned to the new requirements. Streamlining the program
will be highly beneficial to students.

I urge OAA and its committees to approve the proposed changes. Thank you for your
consideration.

Regards,

Gerald Kosicki, Ph.D.
Faculty Coordinator
Social & Behavioral Sciences Division

Associate Professor
School of Communication
Rationale

The Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research is a successful interdisciplinary program that has been operating since Autumn 2000. It has been evaluated annually by an oversight committee administered by Social & Behavioral Sciences that has committee members from a number of colleges.

The plan for semester conversion was discussed and approved by this committee in 2010, along with the addition of HDFS x862, a new course in secondary data analysis. The group felt that reducing the credit hours to 12 was appropriate to make the program workable for both MA and Ph.D. programs, as it has always been structured.

The goal for the conversion is straightforward. All courses that are being converted or their successor courses are being included. Courses not being converted will be dropped.
List of Semester Courses

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research

**Required:**
Communication/Political Science 7789, Practicum in Survey Research (3)
Political Science 7702, Survey and Questionnaire Design (3)

**Electives:** Choose one course from each of the following lists.

**Disciplinary applications of survey research (One Course)**
- Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 5330, Benefit-Cost Analysis (3)
- Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 6220, Environmental and Resource Economics (3)
- Communication 7813, Public Opinion and Communication (3)
- Economics 8851, Labor Economics I (3)
- Economics 8852, Labor Economics II (3)
- Bus M&L 8252, Marketing Models (3)
- Political Science 7160 Public Opinion (3)
- Psychology 5630, Psychology of public attitudes (3)
- Psychology 7873, Attitudes and Persuasion (3)
- Sociology 7711, Sociology of Work (3)
- Sociology 7720, Family, Work and Inequality (3)
- Sociology 7837, Political Sociology (3)

**Survey research tools (One course)**
- AED Economics 6110, Applied Quantitative Methods I (4)
- AED Economics 6120, Applied Quantitative Methods II (4)
- Agricultural Education 8887, Analysis and Interpretation of Data (2)
- Communication 6760, Communication Research Methods (3)
- Economics 8731, Econometrics I (4)
- Economics 8832, Advanced Econometrics III (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 7627, Sampling and Survey Research Measures (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 8658, Applied Multilevel Data Analysis (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 7643 Categorical Data Analysis (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 8674 Scaling and Item Response Theory (3)
- Geography 5100, Quantitative Geographical Methods (3)
- Geography 8102, Spatial Data Analysis (3)
- Political Science 7870, Political Science Research Methods (3)
- Psychology 7820, Fundamentals of Factor Analysis (3)
- Psychology 7821, Covariance Structure Models (3)
- Public Health 6431, Design and Implementation of Health Surveys (3)
- PUBAFRS 7570, Public Management Information Systems (3)
- PUBAFRS 7571, Multivariate Data Analysis for Public Policy and Management (3)
- Sociology 7652, Sociological Survey Research Methods I (3)
- Sociology 7653, Sociological Survey Research Methods II (3)
- Sociology 6650, Categorical Data Analysis (3)
- Sociology 8607, Causal Modeling (3)
- Statistics 5510, Statistical Foundations of Survey Research (3)
- Statistics 6510/Public Health - Biostatistics 7225, Survey Sampling Methods (3)
- Statistics 6520, Applied Statistical Analysis with Missing Data (3)
- Human Development & Family Sciences 8862, Secondary Data Analysis (2)
The OSU Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research is a 12 semester credit hour program available to any graduate student enrolled in any graduate degree program in the university. Upon successful completion of the program, students receive a transcript designation from the registrar, and a certificate of completion from the program.

**Prerequisites for the Specialization**
A year of basic statistics courses, up to multiple regression. Most students take these in their home departments, but any series of courses that deals with basic topics through regression is acceptable.

**Distribution Requirement**
At least ten (10) hours taken for the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization must be completed outside of the student’s home program. Cross-listed courses can count but the student must enroll under another department’s course listing.

**Required Courses**
Communication/Political Science 7789, Practicum in Survey Research (3)
Political Science 7702, Survey and Questionnaire Design (3)

**Electives**
Choose one course from Disciplinary Applications of Survey Research and one course from Survey Research Tools.

**Disciplinary Applications of Survey Research** (One course)
- Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 5330, Benefit-Cost Analysis (3)
- Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 6220, Environmental and Resource Economics (3)
- Communication 7813, Public Opinion and Communication (3)
- Economics 8851, Labor Economics I (3)
- Economics 8852, Labor Economics II (3)
- Bus M&L 8252, Marketing Models (3)
- Political Science 7160 Public Opinion (3)
- Psychology 5630, Psychology of Public Attitudes (3)
- Psychology 7873, Attitudes and Persuasion (3)
- Sociology 7711, Sociology of Work (3)
- Sociology 7720, Family, Work and Inequality (3)
- Sociology 7837, Political Sociology (3)

**Survey Research Tools** (One course)
- AED Economics 6110, Applied Quantitative Methods I (4)
- AED Economics 6120, Applied Quantitative Methods II (4)
- Agricultural Education 8887, Analysis and Interpretation of Data (2)
- Communication 6760, Communication Research Methods (3)
- Economics 8731, Econometrics I (4)
- Economics 8832, Advanced Econometrics III (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 7627, Sampling and Survey Research Measures (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 8658, Applied Multilevel Data Analysis (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 7643 Categorical Data Analysis (3)
- Educational Policy & Leadership 8674 Scaling and Item Response Theory (3)
• Geography 5100, Quantitative Geographical Methods (3)
• Geography 8102, Spatial Data Analysis (3)
• Political Science 7870, Political Science Research Methods (3)
• Psychology 7820, Fundamentals of Factor Analysis (3)
• Psychology 7821, Covariance Structure Models (3)
• Public Health 6431, Design and Implementation of Health Surveys (3)
• PUBAFRS 7570, Public Management Information Systems (3)
• PUBAFRS 7571, Multivariate Data Analysis for Public Policy and Management (3)
• Sociology 7652, Sociological Survey Research Methods I (3)
• Sociology 7653, Sociological Survey Research Methods II (3)
• Sociology 6650, Categorical Data Analysis (3)
• Sociology 8607, Causal Modeling (3)
• Statistics 5510, Statistical Foundations of Survey Research (3)
• Statistics 6510/Public Health - Biostatistics 7225, Survey Sampling Methods (3)
• Statistics 6520, Applied Statistical Analysis with Missing Data (3)
• Human Development & Family Sciences 8862: Secondary Data Analysis (2)

The student must receive a grade of B or better or S in each course comprising the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization.

Faculty Coordinator
Questions and problems should be referred to the faculty coordinator, who is appointed by the Dean of the Social Sciences Division of the College of Arts and Sciences. This individual provides counseling, career advice and coordinates meetings and colloquia.
Students who intend to complete the specialization should signal their intent as soon as possible by filling a program plan. This facilitates course planning, enrollment projections and program accountability, and builds a case for the continued availability of the required courses in the future.
Application forms are available online at the Arts and Sciences website, and at the Graduate School website.

Gerald Kosicki, Ph.D.
Faculty Coordinator
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research
Social & Behavioral Sciences
3138 Derby Hall
154 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210
Tel: (614) 292-9237
E-mail: kosicki.1@osu.edu
Quarter Advising Sheet

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research

Program Overview

The Ohio State University specialization in survey research is a 23 credit-hour add-on program available to any graduate student at Ohio State. The program involves two required courses: Political Science 702, Questionnaire Construction; and Political Science or Communication 789, Survey Research Practicum and elective courses from an interdisciplinary list of courses dealing with the applications of survey research and research methods courses. Upon completing the program, students receive a notation on their official university transcript indicating that they have completed the program. Students also receive an official certificate from the program administrator.

Please click here for a PDF application form. For more information, contact Gerald Kosicki, Ph.D., Faculty Coordinator, Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research at (614) 292-9237 or kosicki.1@osu.edu.

Highlights

- 23-hour, five-course program open to all graduate students in all disciplines
- Credential appears on official university transcripts
- Required courses offered each year
- 3 electives chosen from an extensive menu of courses on applications and tools
- Wide applicability across disciplines

The 2010 Summer Fellowship Competition

The program sponsors an annual Summer Survey Research Fellowship competition in which students are supported to write their own independent publishable papers on survey methodology or substantive papers using archival survey research data. The current 2010 competition guidelines are available here.

History and Administration

The Ohio State University specialization in survey research is a 23 credit-hour add-on program available to any graduate student at Ohio State. It began operation in Autumn 2000 sponsored by 13 departments in six colleges which agreed to contribute courses. The purpose is to further survey education at Ohio State University at the graduate level and provide students with a credential that can be useful in academic or applied contexts. Upon completing the specialization, students receive a notation on their official university transcript indicating that they have completed the program. Students also receive an official certificate from the program administrator.

The field of survey research has been evolving rapidly in terms of technology.
Academic research on the survey process has led to substantial innovation in understanding and managing the survey data collection process. Many of these processes can be organized under the broad heading of the Total Survey Error approach. The standards for data collection by serious clients are now higher than ever and well-trained people are needed in many phases of the survey industry.

The survey industry today can be thought of as having several components: government statistical agencies, including the US Census; academic Survey Research Centers; commercial sector; and media polling. Each has its own characteristic problems, research questions and favored modes of operation. Survey research is also used in the field of marketing, with certain differences.

Survey research education at Ohio State is organized as an "interdisciplinary specialization" under Graduate School rules. The program involves two required courses: Political Science 702, Questionnaire Construction; and Political Science or Communication 789, Survey Research Practicum. Students also select an elective from an interdisciplinary list of courses dealing with the applications of survey research, and two electives from a list of research methods courses relevant to survey research. Students are strongly encouraged to select as one of their survey research methods electives Statistics 651, Survey Sampling.

2010-2011 Schedule
Political Science 702 will be offered on Mondays during Autumn Quarter 2010, 3:30-6:18 p.m. (Professor Tom Nelson).
Political Science 789 will be offered during Spring Quarter 2011 (Professor Herb Weisberg).

Prerequisites
Prerequisites for the specialization include a year of statistics courses, up to and including multiple regression. Most students take these in their home departments, but any series of courses that deals with topics through multiple regression is acceptable.

Other Rules
At least 14 of the credits required for the specialization must be earned outside the student’s home department. Rules that govern all Graduate School Interdisciplinary Specializations can be found here.

Current List of Electives
Here are the current electives for the specialization.
Electives (9-15 credits)

Disciplinary applications of survey research (One Course)
• Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 631, Benefit cost analysis
• Agricultural, Environmental and Developmental Economics 703: Economics of
Consumption

- Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics 831, Resource economics
- Economics 883, Advanced labor economics I
- Economics 884, Advanced economics of labor markets
- Communication 813, Communication and Public Opinion
- Marketing 951, Marketing models
- Political Science 603, Public opinion
- Political Science 703, Readings in public opinion
- Political Science 803, Research in public opinion
- Psychology 630, Psychology of public attitudes
- Psychology 873A, Contemporary attitude theory and research
- Sociology 711, Sociology of work and industry
- Sociology 720, Family, work and inequality
- Sociology 837, Seminar in public opinion and political sociology

Survey research tools (Two courses)

- AED Economics 701, Applied data analysis
- AED Economics 800, Research methods in agricultural economics
- Agricultural Education 885, Research methods
- Agricultural Education 886, Research design
- Agricultural Education 887, Analysis and interpretation of data
- Agricultural Education 888, Instrumentation and procedures for data collection
- Agricultural Education 995, Seminar in research
- Economics 742, Econometrics
- Economics 842, Advanced econometrics
- Educational Policy & Leadership 807, Educational survey research methods
- Educational Policy & Leadership 848, Inquiry in the affective domain
- Geography 683, Introduction to geographic analysis
- Geography 883.01, Application of quantitative methods in Geography I
- Geography 883.02, Applications of quantitative methods in Geography II
- Communication 760 Communication Research Methods
- Political Science 684, Introduction to political science research methods
- Psychology 820, Fundamentals of factor analysis
- Psychology 830, Covariance structure modeling
- Public Health 705, Health survey methods
- Public Health 794.01, Sampling methods
- Public Policy and Management 821, Government information systems administration
- Public Policy and Management 822, Data analysis in public administration
- Sociology 652, Sociological survey research methods I
- Sociology 653, Sociological survey research methods II
- Sociology 703, Advanced single equation techniques
- Sociology 707, Multi-equation quantitative models
- Statistics 651, Survey Sampling
- Statistics 882, Special topics: Missing data and other issues in large-scale
sample surveys

**Application**
Students should signal their intention to complete the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization as soon as possible. This facilitates course planning, enrollment projections and program accountability, and ensures the availability of the needed courses in the future. Application forms are available online by clicking [here](#).

**Faculty Coordinator**
Questions and problems should be referred to the faculty coordinator, who provides counseling, and coordinates colloquia and other activities from time to time. Students who complete the specialization should contact the coordinator so that an official transcript designation can be obtained from the Graduate School. Students also receive a certificate of completion from the program.

Gerald Kosicki, Ph.D.
Faculty Coordinator
Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research
Social & Behavioral Sciences
3138 Derby Hall
154 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210
Tel: (614) 292-9237
E-mail: kosicki.1@osu.edu
# PLAN OF STUDY FOR GIS IN SURVEY RESEARCH

Below please list the courses you have taken or are planning to take for the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research.

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<tr>
<td>PoliSci</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>Survey &amp; Questionnaire Design</td>
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<td>Disciplinary elective</td>
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Student Signature ________________________________ Date ______________
Transition Policy

Students who began the GISSR under the quarter system will not be penalized by the transition to semesters in terms of completing the interdisciplinary specialization and their degrees. Note that there are no restrictions on the order in which the various course are taken.
August 18, 2011

Chair of CAA

Dear Chair:

The Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Survey Research is administered by the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Graduate School. For the ensemble of survey research activities in SBS, including, most importantly, the GIS, the Dean of SBS appoints a director and an oversight committee. The current director is Professor Jerry Kosicki of the School of Communication and the oversight committee has faculty members from six departments in two divisions of Arts and Sciences. Each year the director submits an annual and the oversight committee assesses the past year’s activities and upcoming initiatives and then passes the annual report and its assessment on to the SBS dean.

Last year’s annual report contained the semester conversion proposal now before you. The main change in the program is the alteration of its essential structure from five courses, under quarters, to four. The GIS keeps its two required courses and its distributed electives requirement, but reduces the number of courses in the Survey Research Tools area from two to one. The logic behind this change is that students want to complete the GIS in two years, so if they take one course per term it will be hard to do five courses in two years but four courses will be a natural fit.

The oversight committee approved this conversion plan. The conversion plan has since then been reviewed by me and the Social Sciences Disciplinary Advisory Panel (SS DAP) and we have found it to be appropriate for semesters and submit it to you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gene E. Mumy
Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences/Social and Behavioral Sciences