



Kinesiology and Health Studies

SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY



University and Departmental Policies

These are answers to common questions, and brief explanations of university/departmental policies and issues that arise.

Transfer Credit

If a student has taken graduate courses at another university, s/he may appeal to the graduate coordinator to accept those courses for the SLU degree. The student must have earned a grade of B or higher in the course(s), and the course(s) must have been taken within 6 years of the date of graduation for the SLU graduate degree. Approval of the transfer courses cannot be done until the student completes at least 12 hours toward the SLU degree.

Full Time Status

Full time status enrolling in at least 9 hours in Fall and Spring semesters.

Full time status in a summer term is at least 6 hours for non-GA students (3 hours for GAs).

Maximum Loads

For GAs, maximum load allowed is 12 hours during Fall and Spring semesters; 9 hours in summer. For non-GAs, maximum load is 16 hours in Fall/Spring, and 9 in summer.

Graduate Assistants

- To be considered for a graduate assistantship, a student must meet the program's requirements for "regular" admission status. For our department, this is either a 3.0 cumulative undergraduate GPA, or a GPA between 2.50 and 2.99 plus a GRE score of 286 or higher.
- A student can be a GA for a maximum of 24 consecutive months. This can be extended one additional semester with approval of the department and dean.
- GAs in our department must enroll in 9 hours in Fall/Spring semesters.

Good Standing/Probation/Suspension/Dismissal

Students accepted into graduate school are expected to perform well academically.

- "Good standing" is defined as achieving a 3.0 semester and cumulative GPA.
- If a student's semester or cumulative GPA is below 3.0, s/he is placed on probation, and must achieve a 3.0 or higher GPA in the next semester. The student remains on probation as long as his/her cumulative GPA is below 3.0.
- If a student's semester cumulative GPA is below 3.0 for two semesters (including summer), s/he will be suspended for at least one semester. After an absence of at least one semester, the student may appeal for re-admission.
- Students may earn a maximum of two C grades, and no D or F grades. If a student receives a grade of D or F in any course, or a C grade in more than 2 courses, s/he will be dismissed from the program.

Graduation Requirements

To complete the degree, a student must have:

- 1) completed the courses in the degree program
- 2) a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- 3) earned no more than 6 hours of C grades (2 classes)
- 4) passed a master's comprehensive exam or successfully completed all aspects of a thesis
- 5) applied for graduation

Time to Complete Degree

A student must complete the master's degree within 6 years of admission.

Master's Comprehensive Exam

The written examination is typically scheduled approximately 1 to 1.5 months before the end of the Fall and Spring semester, and is delivered and proctored in a designated classroom/computer lab during specified times (typically morning) over two days. Topical areas include statistics, research methods, and content areas in each concentration. Students will be informed of the dates of the exam and content areas that will be on their specific exam, and may contact faculty regarding tips/guidance for preparation for the exam. Typically, the statistics and research methods sections are given one day, and other sections/areas on another day of the same week.

Students are notified of the outcome of the exam by the graduate coordinator. Students must receive a passing score to complete the degree. If a student fails to achieve a passing score on the exam, s/he will be given a second opportunity to take the written exam the following semester when the exam is scheduled. At the discretion of the department, a student may be given the opportunity to participate in an oral follow-up exam before the end of the semester within a time frame designated by the department. The maximum number of opportunities to take the written comprehensive exam is two. A student who fails the exam twice will not be eligible to complete the degree.

Thesis

There are many steps to completing a thesis, and the university has deadlines for completing a thesis within a given semester. Students considering the thesis option, should become familiar with the requirements and steps. Students who pursue the thesis option should have a strong understanding of the process, and know the university deadlines. The university's policies for thesis students include provisions that:

- The student must register for the thesis course each semester that the thesis is in progress. This typically involves consecutive semesters.
- There must be a presentation open to the public, and a defense to the committee. Students must make all corrections/changes as recommended by the committee for final approval.
- The student must submit 1 copy of the final thesis on 20% cotton paper to the Office of Graduate Studies, and complete the submission of a PDF version to ProQuest.