



**Time Limits on Doctoral Degrees.** All doctoral course work and the comprehensive examinations must be completed within six years from the initial registration after acceptance into the doctoral program. The student must complete the dissertation within a period of five years after passing the comprehensive examinations. However, all requirements must be met within a total of ten years (seven years for Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology). A petition for an extension of time may be granted by the dean/doctoral program director after action by the appropriate committee. However, such an extension may require additional qualifying examinations, additional course work, or both.

Throughout the doctoral program, the student is expected to make progress and to keep in contact with the department. If two years pass without progress and without approval from the student's advisor, the student is put on inactive status and must apply to be reactivated. Students in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology should read "Time Limits," p. 247. Students must comply with the bulletin in effect when the reactivation is approved. Course work taken previously may apply by petition, subject to the normal time limits and GPA standards. The cumulative GPA from all courses taken, including any that may not apply to the new program, is used to compute the GPA requirements for satisfactory progress and completion of the degree.

#### UPDATING COURSES

**Updating Master's Degree Courses.** Students working towards a master's degree may update some outdated course work. However, graduate classes in the School of Business and computer courses in the College of Technology may not be updated. Those courses that may be updated are subject to the following policies:

- No more than 25% of the total program credits from courses 6-10 years old may be updated. No work over 10 calendar years old, calculated from the graduation year, may be updated.
- Not all courses between 6 and 10 years old may be updated. Each course must be approved by the department.
- No course work with a grade below a B (3.00) may be updated.
- Outdated work done elsewhere cannot be updated at Andrews University.
- Independent study, workshops, and directed readings cannot be updated.
- The requirements for updating are specified by the department on a course-by-course basis.
- Written evidence of the updating must be approved by the department chair and the appropriate dean or graduate program coordinator.
- Updating a course does not change the grade in the course used in computing the GPA.
- The updating fee is 20% of regular graduate tuition.

#### ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Students enrolled in graduate programs governed by the School of Graduate Studies should note the following standards of scholarship. Students enrolled in the Theological Seminary professional ministerial programs or in the School of Education EdS, EdD, and PhD programs should read the requirements for their specific programs in the appropriate sections of this bulletin.

**Minimum Standards of Scholarship.** Candidates for graduate degrees must satisfactorily fulfill the course of study for the degree program they select subject to these standards:

- A minimum GPA of 3.00 (4.00 system) is required in those courses that apply to the degree.

- No course with a grade of D or F (or U) may count toward a graduate degree. Some departments may require a higher satisfactory grade in certain courses.
- If a student receives an unsatisfactory grade as defined above, the course may be repeated *once*. However, both the original grade and the grade in the repeated class are used in computing the GPA.
- Credit by examination is not accepted toward a graduate degree.
- Candidates for a master's degree must pass comprehensive examinations and/or formally defend a master's thesis or an acceptable alternative for a particular program as approved by the Graduate Council. Candidates for specialist and doctoral degrees must pass comprehensive examinations. Doctoral degree candidates must complete and formally defend a dissertation.

**Standards for Progression.** In addition to the following standards, master's, specialist, and doctoral students should consult the appropriate section of this bulletin and their respective handbook.

- The cumulative GPA must be at least 3.00 calculated using all graduate work taken at Andrews University including courses taken for other degrees, courses taken prior to the time limits for degrees, and courses taken PTC. Exceptions to this standard must be recommended by the dean/graduate program coordinator and approved by the dean of the School of Graduate Studies.
- A student whose cumulative GPA drops below 3.00 in any given semester is placed on academic probation. Such a student must work with the advisor to develop a schedule of courses that ensures the student will raise his/her cumulative GPA above the required 3.00 in a timely manner—normally, the following semester. The dean/graduate program coordinator of the school/college must approve such a plan. A student who does not meet such a plan may not continue except by the recommendation of the dean/graduate program coordinator and approval by the dean of the School of Graduate Studies.
- Students who accumulate more than 4 grades below B- (including U) normally are not allowed to continue. Exceptions must be approved by the appropriate dean/graduate program coordinator of the college/school and the dean of the School of Graduate Studies.
- Students who have been accepted provisionally to a degree program must meet the planned schedule for removing any deficiencies or earning a minimum GPA.
  1. English-language deficiencies must be met by the time the student has completed no more than 50% of his/her course work for a master's or specialist degree or 25% of his/her course work for a doctoral degree.
  2. Undergraduate deficiencies should be met by the time the master's degree student has completed no more than 50% of his/her course work. Doctoral students should take care of background deficiencies before starting on required doctoral course work.
  3. A minimum GPA of 3.00 must be met by the time the student has completed 9 graduate credits.
  4. A student who does not meet this schedule is not allowed to continue except by the recommendation of the dean/graduate program coordinator and approval by the dean of the School of Graduate Studies.
- Students on academic probation or provisional status may not
  1. Register for thesis, dissertation, or independent study (or workshop credit for doctoral students)
  2. Register for project credit except by permission from the dean/graduate program coordinator of the college/school
  3. Advance to degree candidacy or take comprehensive examinations.

## AWARDING DEGREES FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

### General Minimum Requirements for a Master's Degree (MA, MAT, MBA, MMus, MPT, MS, MSA, MSCLS, MSW, MTh)

While additional specific departmental requirements are described under each degree in later sections of this bulletin, the general minimum requirements for awarding master's degrees include the following:

- A student must satisfactorily fulfill a schedule of studies approved by the student's advisor and the graduate program coordinator or dean of the appropriate school.
  1. The number of credits to be completed depends on the minimum requirements for the degree.
  2. The student's schedule of studies must include at least one-half of the required minimum credits in course work numbered 500 and above. Exceptions are made where a course of study specifically outlined in this bulletin makes provision for an adjustment to the required number of credits numbered 500 and above.
- The student must submit evidence of competence in conducting investigation in his/her field of study. A student may fulfill this requirement by one of the following, depending on the particular degree program:
  1. A thesis
  2. Written reports of one or two research projects
  3. Research methods or other appropriate course work.
- Where required, and only after a student has been advanced to degree candidacy, he/she must successfully complete general written and/or oral comprehensive examination(s) as prescribed by the student's major department. Usually this is done within the last semester of a student's program.
- In general, no foreign language is required. In cases where an individual student's program requires a reading knowledge of a foreign language, the student must demonstrate competence in the language, normally by examination, before receiving advancement-to-degree candidacy. The department prescribes the appropriate method of demonstrating competence. A student's advisor or supervising committee informs the student regarding the foreign language required for his/her course of study.

### General Minimum Requirements for the Educational Specialist Degree (EdS)

Consult "Educational Specialist Degree," p. 246, of this bulletin and the *School of Education Handbook for Educational Specialist Students* for information on degree procedures.

### General Minimum Requirements for Doctoral Degrees (EdD, PhD, ThD)

Doctoral programs include a master's degree or equivalent as a prerequisite. The Leadership and Counseling Psychology programs in the School of Education allow selected students to be admitted with a bachelor's degree.

- Each program shall include post-master's doctoral course work approved by the school and the student's advisor.
  1. A minimum of two years of doctoral study is required.
  2. At least two-thirds of the required doctoral course work must be in courses graded with an A-F grading scheme.
  3. A minimum of 32 credits of the doctoral course work must be taken in residence at Andrews University. A portion of an EdS that is completed elsewhere may apply to this minimum residence requirement as defined by the school.
  4. The minimum number of dissertation credits required is 16.
- Written and/or oral comprehensive examinations are required of all doctoral students, normally after all course work has been completed.

- The doctoral student must demonstrate competence in conducting research in his/her field of study by completing an approved dissertation.

**General Minimum Requirements for Theological Seminary Professional Ministerial Degrees.** The requirements for ministerial degrees may be found in the Theological Seminary section of this bulletin.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

**Transferring Master's Degree Credits from Another Graduate School.** Graduate courses taken at another recognized institution less than six calendar years before the expected graduation year may be transferred and applied toward a master's degree at Andrews University subject to the following conditions:

- The grade earned in each course accepted for transfer is at least a B (3.00).
- The courses can be applied toward a comparable degree at the institution where the credit was earned.
- The courses meet similar requirements or electives within the master's program at Andrews University.
- The credits to be transferred do not exceed 20% of the minimum credits required for the master's-degree program.
- Grades earned in transfer courses are not included in the computation of the GPA.
- Courses to be taken at another university and transferred to Andrews after a student is enrolled in an Andrews' graduate program must be approved by petition before being taken.
- Such transfer courses are identified and approved by the dean/graduate program coordinator within the first semester of the student's residence.
- An official transcript listing transfer courses is on file in the Academic Records Office.

Seminary professional degree programs have transfer limitations unique to each program. See the appropriate section of this bulletin for details.

**Transferring Master's Degree Credits from Another Andrews Program.** Graduate courses taken at Andrews University as part of another completed graduate degree may be transferred subject to the following conditions:

- The grade earned in each course is at least a B (3.00) and the overall GPA at Andrews University is at least 3.00.
- The courses meet similar requirements or electives within the new master's program.
- The credits to be transferred do not exceed 20% of the minimum credits required for the new master's program.
- The grades earned in courses transferred from another master's program at Andrews University are included in the computation of the GPA. Both the overall GPA and the GPA of the remaining courses taken for the master's degree must meet the minimum required (3.00) for graduation.
- The credits to be transferred were taken fewer than six calendar years before the expected graduation year of the master's program.

Seminary professional ministerial degree programs have special transfer limitations. See the appropriate section of this bulletin for details.

**Transferring Specialist Degree Credits.** Read the "Educational Specialist" section of this bulletin, p. 246 or the *School of Education Handbook for Educational Specialist Students*.

**Transferring Doctoral Degree Credits.** Post-master's transfer credit, if appropriate to the student's program, may be accepted if (1) the credits were completed within the time limitations indicated in the appropriate section of this bulletin and (2) the transfer complies with the provisions in the *School of Education Handbook for Doctoral Students*. A petition for transfer of credit is considered only after an official transcript for the course is received.

**Exceptions.** Exceptions to course-transfer regulations must be approved by the dean of the School of Graduate Studies on a standard petition form upon the recommendation of the dean/graduate program coordinator of the college/school. Any such exceptions will be considered individually in the light of the master's requirements. Exceptions for whole programs must be voted by the Graduate Council but thereafter do not need individual approval on petitions.

### STUDENT SUPERVISORY COMMITTEES

**Master's Degree Committees.** A student's project supervisory committee normally consists of a minimum of two members nominated by the department chair/program director/area coordinator in consultation with the student and appointed by the appropriate dean or graduate program coordinator. For a master's thesis, the committee consists of the thesis advisor and normally two other members. Exception: For an interdisciplinary master's degree, a committee is appointed before initial registration. All other master's-degree student committees are appointed after some course work has been completed and before registration for thesis credits. Only rarely may a student's committee be changed while study or research is still in progress. This may be done only in consultation with the appropriate dean or graduate program coordinator. The chair of the supervisory committee is the student's chief advisor. The function of the committee is to guide the student in his/her research and writing of the project/thesis.

A student's supervisory committee may be augmented with additional members for the oral defense of the thesis. These additional committee members have full voting rights.

The term of service of a student's committee is deemed to have expired when a student has graduated or when registration has been terminated.

**Doctoral Degree Committees.** A doctoral student's supervisory committee consists of no fewer than three members appointed by the appropriate dean and/or doctoral program director. The appointment is made in consultation with the department chair or program director and the student after appropriate school approval. See the *School of Education Handbook for Doctoral Students* or the *Graduate Programs Manual* for further details.

### COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

Most master's- and all specialist- and doctoral-degree candidates are required to take prescribed written and/or oral comprehensive examinations as required by the department.

Master's-degree students are not permitted to sit for these examinations until they have been officially advanced to degree candidacy. EdS and doctoral students normally sit for comprehensive examinations after all course work is completed and after applying for degree candidacy. Candidacy is not granted to doctoral students until the comprehensive examinations have been passed.

See the appropriate sections of this bulletin and the *School of Education Handbook for Doctoral Students*, the *School of Education Handbook for Educational Specialist Students*, or the

*Graduate Programs Manual* for details about examinations for master's, specialist, or doctoral students.

### ADVANCEMENT TO DEGREE CANDIDACY

**Master's Degree.** Upon completion of 50% of course work, a student must apply for advancement to degree candidacy. Forms are available at the office of the appropriate dean or graduate program coordinator. The forms should be completed by the student, approved by the advisor and the department chair, and returned to the office of the dean or graduate program coordinator.

- At the time a student files an application for advancement to degree candidacy, he/she must have
  1. Received *regular* admission status
  2. Applied for graduation
  3. Completed all curriculum and English-language deficiencies that may have existed
  4. Demonstrated foreign-language proficiency where required.
- A student who has completed 75% of his/her program is not allowed to register for further course work until the advancement to degree candidacy forms have been filed with the appropriate dean or graduate program coordinator.
- After a student has been advanced to degree candidacy, he/she may then request to take the comprehensive examinations.
- An application form for the comprehensive examinations is sent to the student at the time of notification of advancement to degree candidacy.

**Educational Specialist Degree.** Read "Educational Specialist" section of this bulletin, p. 246, and the *School of Education Handbook for Educational Specialist Students* for information on degree procedures.

**Doctoral Degree.** The *Application for Admission to Doctoral Candidacy* form must be filed at least one month prior to the scheduled date of the comprehensive examination.

Approval for degree candidacy is granted when the student has

- Received regular admission status
- Completed all curriculum and English-language deficiencies that may have existed
- Demonstrated research tool proficiency, including foreign language when required
- Passed all comprehensive examinations
- Completed all other degree requirements except the dissertation.

### PROJECTS, THESES, AND DISSERTATIONS

**Projects.** The student who elects to complete a research project or projects as part of fulfilling the research requirement for the master's degree reports it/them in conformity to the *Andrews University Standards for Written Work*. One copy of each report is submitted to the instructor under whose supervision it was prepared. It becomes the property of the department. Completed and signed approval forms for the project(s) must be filed in the Academic Records Office no later than noon on Friday, one week before graduation, unless an earlier time is specified by the department. Some departments require approval of the project(s) before writing the comprehensive examinations. If students need time for project preparation beyond the semester(s) when regular project credits are accumulated, they may register for project continuation. Project continuation is a non-credit enrollment status that requires a small fee for each semester of registration.

**Master's Thesis.** To fulfill the thesis option for the master's degree, a student is required to write a thesis and successfully defend it in an oral examination at an officially designated time and place.

**Doctoral Dissertation.** In order to fulfill the dissertation requirement for the doctoral degree, the student is required to write a dissertation and successfully defend it in an oral examination at an officially designated time and place.

**Registration for Thesis Credits—Committee Guidance.** When a master's student is required or elects to write a thesis, he/she should register for it initially no later than one semester before the anticipated graduation date. The student may register for 2-6 thesis credits per semester with a maximum of 9 total credits for the thesis. The student is guided from the beginning of thesis preparation by a committee, normally consisting of two to three members, appointed before registering for thesis credits. The committee chair serves as thesis advisor.

**Dissertation Credits—Committee Guidance.** Doctoral students are required to register for a minimum of 16 dissertation credits. Students in the School of Education should consult p. 247 of this bulletin and the *Handbook for Doctoral Students* for information regarding dissertation credits. Students in the Seminary should read p. 309 of this bulletin. The doctoral committee is appointed following the guidelines of the appropriate section of this bulletin and the appropriate handbook for doctoral students.