Graduate Programs—PROGRAM CHANGE REQUEST

**Effective Date**
(FOR PROVIDE TERM/YEAR)
FALL 2016

**Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below and/or attached:**

**Requested change:** For both the thesis and non-thesis options for degree requirements change

From: 1.B Theory—COM 6424 (3 credits), Communication Theory

To: 1.B Theory—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or concentration; no course can be used to fulfill both the theory and methodology requirements): COM 6415, COM 6424, FIL 6807, MMC 6408, SPC 6234, SPC 6236

**Rationale:** Currently both the thesis and non-thesis pathways to degree include COM 6424 Communication Theory as a requirement for students completing our MA in Communication. We request to remove the requirement that students take that specific course and instead be allowed to take any of the above listed theory courses to satisfy our requirement for 3 credits of theory. There are several reasons for this change:

1. **This is actually a reversion to the previous approach to the theory requirement and after several years of specifying one particular required course both faculty and students prefer the older model.**
2. **The change allows students to specialize in their selected area of interest and to demonstrate that specialization on a transcript.**
3. **The change aids course scheduling because too few faculty were able/committed to teaching the general COM 6424 Communication Theory course.**

**Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:**
William Trapani, wtrapan1@fau.edu, 7-2051

**Consult and list departments that might be affected by the change and attach comments.**
N/A

**Approved by:**
Department Chair: ________________________
College Curriculum Chair: ________________________
College Dean: ________________________
UGPC Chair: ________________________
Graduate College Dean: ________________________
UFS President: ________________________
Provost: ________________________

**Date:**
3/8/2016
3/18/16
3/28/16
4-6-2016
4-6-16

Email this form and syllabus to UGPC@fau.edu one week before the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

FAUpogramchangeGrad—Revised November 2012
Requirements for Degree—Thesis Option
Minimum of 30 credits—
1. Nine credits of required courses:
   a. COM 6400 (3 credits), Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication;
   b. Theory—COM 6424 (3 credits), Communication Theory; (3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or specialization, no course can be used to fulfill both the theory and method requirements): COM 6415, COM 6424, FIL 6807, MDC 6408, SPC 6234, SPC 6236;
   c. Methodology—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or concentration): COM 6316, COM 6340, COM 6341, FIL 6807, SPC 6682.
2. Fifteen credits of approved electives, of which a minimum of 9 must be in Communication. Any coursework in a department other than Communication must be approved in writing by a Communication faculty advisor prior to enrollment.
4. Courses taken to satisfy the foreign language requirement cannot be applied to the degree.
5. Submission of an approved thesis.
6. A minimum 3.0 GPA on all work completed.
7. A grade of "B" or higher on all credit applied to the degree.

Requirements for Degree—Non-Thesis Option
Minimum of 36 credits—
1. Nine credits of required courses:
   a. COM 6400 (3 credits), Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication;
   b. Theory—COM 6424 (3 credits), Communication Theory; (3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or specialization, no course can be used to fulfill both the theory and method requirements): COM 6415, COM 6424, FIL 6807, MDC 6408, SPC 6234, SPC 6236;
   c. Methodology—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or concentration): COM 6316, COM 6340, COM 6341, FIL 6807, SPC 6682.
2. Twenty-seven credits of elective courses, of which 21 must be in Communication. Any coursework in a department other than Communication must be approved in writing by a Communication faculty advisor prior to enrollment.
3. Satisfactory completion of a written comprehensive examination.
4. Courses taken to satisfy the foreign language requirement do not count toward the 36-credit degree requirement.
5. A minimum of 3.0 GPA on all work completed.
6. A grade of "B" or higher on all credit applied to the degree.
7. Additional requirements that the student’s advisory committee may prescribe.
Requirements for Degree—Thesis Option
Minimum of 30 credits—
1. Nine credits of required courses:
   a. COM 6400 (3 credits), Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication;
   b. Theory—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or specialization, no course can be used to fulfill both the theory and method requirements): COM 6415, COM 6424, FIL 6807, MMC 6408, SPC 6234, SPC 6236;
   c. Methodology—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or concentration): COM 6316, COM 6340, COM 6341, FIL 6807, SPC 6682.
2. Fifteen credits of approved electives, of which a minimum of 9 must be in Communication. Any coursework in a department other than Communication must be approved in writing by a Communication faculty advisor prior to enrollment.
4. Courses taken to satisfy the foreign language requirement cannot be applied to the degree.
5. Submission of an approved thesis.
6. A minimum 3.0 GPA on all work completed.
7. A grade of "B" or higher on all credit applied to the degree.

Requirements for Degree—Non-Thesis Option
Minimum of 36 credits—
1. Nine credits of required courses:
   a. COM 6400 (3 credits), Introduction to Graduate Studies in Communication;
   b. Theory—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or specialization, no course can be used to fulfill both the theory and method requirements): COM 6415, COM 6424, FIL 6807, MMC 6408, SPC 6234, SPC 6236
   c. Methodology—(3 credits from the following, as appropriate to generalist program or concentration): COM 6316, COM 6340, COM 6341, FIL 6807, SPC 6682.
2. Twenty-seven credits of elective courses, of which 21 must be in Communication. Any coursework in a department other than Communication must be approved in writing by a Communication faculty advisor prior to enrollment.
3. Satisfactory completion of a written comprehensive examination.
4. Courses taken to satisfy the foreign language requirement do not count toward the 36-credit degree requirement.
5. A minimum of 3.0 GPA on all work completed.
6. A grade of "B" or higher on all credit applied to the degree.
7. Additional requirements that the student's advisory committee may prescribe.