

Duquesne University Graduate Council

(Updated and approved by Academic Council on 11/16/09)

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of graduate programs at Duquesne University emanates from the University Mission that emphasizes education for the mind, heart and soul. Graduate programs must build upon prior collegiate learning experiences to enhance the academic knowledge, professional competence and the personal growth of the student, the academic discipline, and the communities in which the student will live and work. Graduate programs at Duquesne University teach students advanced theories and methods of scholarly and professional work, building upon previous education and experience, to prepare students to assume positions of leadership in their respective fields of study or work, and to advance knowledge and practice in those disciplines. Moreover, graduate educational programs at Duquesne develop the intellectual and ethical potential of students so that they model life-long approaches to learning and to service; this is the Duquesne spirit. It is from this perspective that the Mission and Goals of the graduate programs of Duquesne University are crafted.

UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Duquesne University of the Holy Spirit is a Catholic University, founded by members of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, the Spiritans, and sustained through a partnership of laity and religious. Duquesne serves God by serving students – through commitment to excellence in liberal and professional education, through profound concern for moral and spiritual values, through the maintenance of an ecumenical atmosphere open to diversity, and through service to the Church, the community, the nation, and the world.

GOALS

As a consequence of this Mission, the graduate programs at Duquesne University have the following goals to:

- provide graduate curricula that are responsive to the needs of individuals and groups throughout their lifespan; that encourage critical thinking; and that promote integration of moral thought in personal and professional decisions;
- provide graduate curricula at the master's and doctoral levels that prepare advanced specialists who are committed to lifelong learning; who are competent in relationship-centered skills that empower individuals and the greater society; who conduct research that increases knowledge; who are involved in activities that contribute to the betterment of the public; and who demonstrate leadership and integrity in their professional and personal activities;
- promote tolerance and acceptance of diversity in individuals and groups while maintaining core values of goodness, truth, and integrity, and challenging behavior that offends or degrades human conduct; and
- respond to the needs of society on a regional, national, and international basis with respect for differences in cultural traditions and politics.

ROLE OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

The Graduate Council is a committee of the Academic Council and serves as the primary University-wide committee to address issues related to graduate studies. The Graduate Council reviews and evaluates proposals for new graduate programs, suspension of programs, or closure of programs. It reviews proposals for any administrative entity which grants graduate credit, such as centers and institutes.