UAF Interdisciplinary Ph.D.
Proposed Graduate Study Plan–Instructions

Overview

This Graduate Study Plan (GSP) is to be completed by the prospective student in consultation with their proposed committee chair and members (as applicable). Students will have the ability to adjust their GSP within their first year as an admitted graduate student. This document is intended as a tool with the understanding that the student's final coursework is subject to course availability and may change depending on the needs of their research.

UAF Course Catalog | UAA Course Catalog | UAS Course Catalog

Coursework and Timeline

At least 36 credits are required for program completion; however, each student's GSP will be dependent on their academic background, professional experience, necessary coursework, areas of focus, and committee recommendations. The average student typically completes 48 credits or more as part of their GSP.

INDS Ph.D. students are required to take a minimum of 18 credits for "Research and Dissertation" (F699). This accounts for individual mentorship and guidance between the graduate student and their committee—it is typically not a structured class. The F699 coursework can be divided into 1–12 credit increments throughout the GSP at the committee chair's discretion.

No more than 50% of coursework can come from a single department. The GSP should represent the interdisciplinary focus of the proposed research. Additionally, students are highly encouraged to enroll in graduate research methodology courses or equivalents (statistics, evaluations, etc.).

Coursework can be completed in no less than three years but no greater than ten years. Comprehensive exams (written and oral) should be scheduled upon the completion of core coursework. After the comprehensive exams, the student will advance to candidacy and should draft/finalize their dissertation.

Transfer Courses

Graduate degree credit will be transferable within the University of Alaska (UA) system and from any other accredited institution for courses where the student received a grade of "B" or higher. Coursework associated with the applicant's masters degree utilized to qualify for this program are ineligible for transfer credit. All transfer courses must be completed during the timeframe of the INDS Ph.D. and/or have been awarded no earlier than ten years prior to admission.

A maximum of 1/2 of all graduate degree credits can be transferred within the UA system. A maximum of 1/3 of all graduate degree credits may be transferred from accredited institutions outside of the UA system.

Deficiency Courses

Deficiency courses are considered essential preparation for this program that do not occur at the graduate level. These 100-, 200-, 300-, and/or 400-Level courses may be necessary prerequisites or recommendations from the graduate committee to include on the GSP; however, they will not count toward the minimum credit requirement.

UAF Interdisciplinary Ph.D.
Proposed Graduate Study Plan

Applicant Information

Full Name	UAF ID (if known)	Email	Date of Birth
Date Awarded Masters (month/year)	**Masters Degree Institution**	**Masters Concentration/Major**	**Masters Degree Credits**
Proposed Dissertation Title/Topic:			

Proposed Committee

Name	Email	Job Title	Area of Expertise	Terminal Degree?	**Affiliation**		**Role**	
					UAF	UAA/S	Chair or Co-Chair	Member

Transfer Credits

Course Code	Course Title	Academic Institution	Semester Completed	Credits

University of Alaska Courses

Semester: Fall 2025						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F637	Designing Social Science Research Overview	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD F699	Dissertation	2				X
TBD	**Core Course or Independent Study**	3				
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester: Spring 2026						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F638	Designing Social Science Research In Depth	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD F699	Dissertation	2				X
TBD	**Core Course or Independent Study**	3				
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester: Fall 2026						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F644	Conducting Social Science Research Overview	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD F699	Dissertation	2				X
TBD	**Core Course or Independent Study**	3				
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester: Spring 2027						
Anticipated Milestones: ☑ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F650	Conducting Social Science Research In Depth	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD F699	Dissertation	2				X
TBD	**Core Course or Independent Study**	3				
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester: Fall 2027						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☑ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F651	Analyzing Social Science Research	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD	Dissertation	5				X
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester: Spring 2028						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☑ Dissertation Defense ☑ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
HSEM F652	Presenting Social Science Research Results	2		X		
MBA F692	Seminar: Arctic Policy and Leadership Innovation	1		X		
TBD	Dissertation	5				X
	Semester Credit Total:	8				

Semester:						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
	Semester Credit Total:					

Semester:						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
	Semester Credit Total:					

Semester:						
Anticipated Milestones: ☐ Comprehensive Exams ☐ 1st Draft of Dissertation ☐ Dissertation Defense ☐ Graduation						
Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Type of Coursework			
			Deficit Course	Core Course	Independent Study	Dissertation Credits
	Semester Credit Total:					

Total Program Credits

Transfer Credits:	
Core Courses from UAA/UAS:	
Core Courses and Independent Study at UAF:	
Dissertation Credits (699 Courses):	
Total Credits:	

Committee Chair Verification

I have reviewed this Graduate Study Plan and believe it to be sufficient for the applicant's intended research focus.

Committee Chair Name Signature Date