



PLEASE FORWARD

Memo

To: Deans, Departments Heads, Directors, Faculty and Graduate students  
From: Nancy Marcus, Dean, The Graduate School  
Re: Replacement of Residence Requirement with Scholarly Engagement Requirement  
Date: February 8, 2016

The Faculty Senate has approved a revision to the doctoral RESIDENCE requirement (see p. 75 Graduate Bulletin 2015-2016) effective Fall 2016. The RESIDENCE paragraph will be replaced with the following language:

**SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT**

The purpose of the Scholarly Engagement requirement is to ensure that doctoral students are active participants in the scholarly community. To meet the Scholarly Engagement requirement, doctoral students should interact with faculty and peers in ways that may include enrolling in courses; attending seminars, symposia, and conferences; engaging in collaborative study and research beyond the university campus; and utilizing the library, laboratories, and other facilities provided by the university. The goal is to prepare students to be scholars who can independently acquire, evaluate, and extend knowledge, as well as develop themselves as effective communicators and disseminators of knowledge. Each academic unit with a doctoral program should include a program specific statement in its Graduate Handbook describing how its students can meet the Scholarly Engagement requirement.

What does this mean?

1. Effective Fall 2016 students will no longer be required to complete 24 graduate credit hours in a 12 month period following completion of 30 hours or a master's degree. Beginning in the fall 2016 the Registrar will no longer check for compliance with this requirement. This applies to all students (new and returning). Students must still comply with the continuous enrollment policy. There is no change in the total number of hours required for the degree.
2. Each program must include language in its Graduate Handbook that describes its expectations for Scholarly Engagement and how students can meet the requirement. Programs should ensure that sections in the Graduate Bulletin (currently being revised for the 2016-2017 edition) which refer to Residence are revised to reflect the new Scholarly Engagement requirement.

3. Programs should revise existing language in its College/Department's Annual Review of Doctoral Students Policy and/or forms assuring the versions align with the new requirement.

Example: The intent of the annual review is to assure that each student has the opportunity for scholarly engagement and continues to make timely progression toward completion of the degree program.

4. Please note that the following change (underlined text added) was also approved and will be reflected in the Faculty Handbook, Section 7: Teaching and Student/Faculty Interactions

#### Distance Learning

Florida State University offers a wide array of courses through distance learning, some of which are part of entire degree programs available online. Any new graduate degree program that will offer more than 50% of its graduate credit hours using distance learning, and any existing graduate degree program that intends to increase its graduate credit hours using distance learning above the 50% threshold, must be approved by the Graduate Policy Committee. Instructors developing or teaching distance learning courses can find resources at: <http://distance.fsu.edu/>.

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