



Requirements for the Ph.D. with a **Double Major**

Required forms:

Application to Change from a Single to a Double Major for the Ph.D. Degree

Appointment of Advisory Committee and Program of Studies for Double Major Ph.D. Degree

Nomination to Candidacy for the Ph.D. with a Double Major

Nomination of Research Committee for the Ph.D. with a Double Major

General Requirements The two general requirements are that (a) all of the degree requirements for each major must be fulfilled and (b) there must be a substantive relationship between the two major fields, particularly with respect to the student's dissertation topic.

Admission Formal acceptance of a student into a double-major degree program by both departments and approval by the Dean of the Graduate School are required. Since double-major applicants normally will have been initially admitted by one department to take a major in one of its fields, the student's original department must approve the change from a single to a double major. The department of the second major must formally accept the student into a degree program through its normal admission procedures and also approve the student's request for a double major.

Advisory Committee The minimum number of faculty members for the advisory committee is four, with two persons from each major field. Any minor field not covered by a major shall be represented by one person per minor field. The nomination of faculty members who will be willing to serve on the student's Advisory Committee shall be submitted with the application for admission.

Minors For each major, any minors, including the other major field or interdepartmental minors, that are allowed for the student with a single major, may be used to meet the degree requirements. If one or both of the major fields is approved by the Student's Advisory Committee as the minor field for the other, no additional course work beyond the normal amount taken by the single-major student shall be required, and the total number of minors necessary will be reduced by one or two, as the case may be. Theoretically, then, it is possible for a double-major student to obtain a Ph.D. without a minor.

Language and Research -Skill Requirements If both majors require Language and/or Research-Skill proficiency and there are no proficiency options common to both majors, the student must satisfy the requirements for each major separately. If, however, there are any proficiency options common to both majors, such options may be satisfied by a single instance of demonstrating proficiency. If one major does not have any language/research-skill requirements but the other major does, the lack of requirements by the one field does not nullify the requirements in the other.

Qualifying Examinations The double-major student shall pass **two** Qualifying Examinations, and each shall be similar to the examination taken by a single-major student in the respective departments. However, if in the judgment of the Advisory Committee, any area of overlap should exist between the two examinations, a single testing for such areas will suffice. The student will be nominated for admission to candidacy after the second qualifying examination is passed.

Time Limits In consideration that two qualifying examinations must be passed, the seven-year limit on courses taken prior to admission to candidacy will be extended by one year to a total of eight years.

Research Committee This committee shall be constituted according to the same guidelines that apply to the Advisory Committee. All the committee members must be members of the Graduate School Faculty and at least half must hold the endorsement to direct dissertations .

Dissertation Topic The topic must be relevant to both major fields, as judged by the members of the Research Committee.

Total Credit Hours As in the case of the student with a single major, the minimum number of credit hours for the Ph.D. degree is 90. A student with a well-planned course of study majoring in fields that in effect serve as minors in the other should have no difficulty in obtaining the degree with the minimum number of hours.

Instructions for Applying for the Ph.D. Double Major
After being admitted by the department(s)/school(s) for both majors complete the following form:

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1. Write a new goal statement for the second major.
2. Fill out the top of the application form (up to the section for approvals.)
3. Obtain the signature of the department chair of your current PhD program. This signature indicates that your current department is giving you permission to seek a double-major. Obtain the signature of the department chair of the new/second PhD program. This signature indicates that your new department is giving you permission to seek a double-major. If both of your programs are in the same school, the department chair should sign both places.
4. Give the application form to your departmental graduate office who will then route the form to the appropriate school/university office(s) for final approval.

At the appropriate time in your programs, complete the following:

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Name: _____ IU ID #: _____
Last First

Current Major: _____ **Current Minor:** _____
Check box if student will **not** have a minor w/ the double major

Date Qualifying Examination in current major was passed or is scheduled: _____

Second Major Sought: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Current Major Approval:

By signing this form, the Department Chair or Graduate Advisor for the current major is granting the student permission to seek a second PhD major.

Signature of current major chair or advisor: _____

Printed name of current major chair or advisor: _____

Date: _____

Second Major Approval:

By signing this form the Department Chair or Graduate Advisor for the second major is confirming the student has been fully admitted to the second major with departmental knowledge of the current major.

Signature of chair or advisor for second major: _____

Printed name of chair or advisor for second major: _____

Date: _____

School Dean Approval (if required):

The Dean or designate (typically the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies) approves the addition of the second major to the student's program plan.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

University Graduate School Approval:

Approved/Dean
University Graduate School: _____ Date: _____