Interdisciplinary Ph.D. (INPR)

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. website (http://www.marquette.edu/grad/programs_interdis.shtml)

Degree Offered
Doctor of Philosophy

Program Description
The interdisciplinary Ph.D. program provides students and faculty with opportunities for creative customized academic programming and research that crosses the boundaries of traditional disciplines. Each student’s program is reviewed by the Graduate School and is subject to approval by the University Board of Graduate Studies, which acts as the governing department. Any INPR program must combine course work and expertise from two or more academic departments at Marquette. Faculty may serve on an INPR committee whether or not their department offers a doctoral degree.

Prerequisites for Admission
Due to the unique nature of the interdisciplinary program, only students who demonstrate a high degree of initiative and responsibility will be considered for admission. In addition, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed a master’s degree or its equivalent.
2. The student normally must have a graduate GPA of 3.500 or above, on a 4.000 scale, in their master’s degree (or equivalent graduate work). If the student has less than a 3.500 cumulative GPA, the results of a current (within five years) standardized examination such as the GRE, GMAT, or LSAT will be required.

Application Process
To gain admission into the interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, the student must satisfy all admission requirements specified by the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Guidelines, which can be found on the Graduate School website and are available in the Graduate School. To begin the admission process, the nomination of a provisional dissertation committee chair must be submitted to the Graduate School’s associate dean. In addition, a one-page concept paper of the INPR project must be submitted to the University Board of Graduate Studies for approval.

Upon approval of the concept paper by the UBGS, the student can be admitted to non-degree status and can begin taking courses. A maximum of 12 credit hours can be taken in a non-degree status. It is expected that the student will request credit hours taken in non-degree status be counted toward the degree requirements.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program
INPR program requirements are specified by the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Guidelines, found on the Graduate School website or in the Graduate School office.

Once admitted, students may take a maximum of 12 credit hours in a non-degree status. During that time, the student will:

1. Build the dissertation committee, which must be approved by the associate dean of the Graduate School and the University Board of Graduate Studies (UBGS).
2. Submit a project outline to the UBGS for approval in the format specified by the program guidelines. The outline will include the dissertation research topic, a brief description of the project, the methodology involved, anticipated course work and a timeline for completion.

Following final approval of both the committee and project by the UBGS, the student will be admitted to degree status in the interdisciplinary Ph.D. program.

An interdisciplinary doctoral student must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours of course work beyond the master’s degree, satisfactorily complete a doctoral qualifying examination, complete 12 dissertation credits and successfully defend a dissertation.

Annual progress reports written by the student and endorsed by the dissertation committee chair must be submitted to the UBGS in April of each year.