500 Level Course Proposal Justification

Departments planning to submit requests for new courses at the 500 level or requests to change the level of a course to 500 should be aware of the policy of the Graduate Curriculum Committee in regard to these courses.

1. For academic units that do not offer a master’s degree, written statements from the department whose graduate students will use the courses in question should be attached to the curricular proposal forms. Included should be an indication of how the course will contribute to the students’ graduate program, the number of graduate students likely to be involved, requirements for special handling of graduate students and similar issues.

2. For academic units that do offer a master’s degree, information concerning how the course or courses under consideration will provide a graduate experience for graduate students should be included in the curricular proposal. For example, what does the department view as the role of the course on a master’s degree program? Will graduate students enrolled in the course be identified and required to conduct themselves in a manner somewhat different from undergraduates?