

# COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

## Degree Requirements

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

### Master's Degrees

To qualify for a dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the graduate major programs in which they are enrolled, in addition to the minimum requirements of the Comparative and International Education program.

For the M.A., M.S., or M.Ed. dual-title degree in Comparative and International Education, the minimum course requirements are:

- 3 credits in the required Proseminar in Comparative and International Education CIED 500;
- 6 credits in advanced Comparative and International Education courses;
- and 3 credits in Comparative and International Education content courses.

A master's thesis or master's paper, if required by the student's graduate major program, must include one reader who is a member of the Committee on Comparative and International Education.

### Doctoral Degrees

To qualify for a dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the graduate major programs in which they are enrolled, in addition to the minimum requirements of the Comparative and International Education program.

The minimum course requirements for the Ph.D. or D.Ed. dual-title degree in Comparative and International Education are:

- 3 credits in the Proseminar in Comparative and International Education CIED 500;
- 6 credits in advanced Comparative and International Education courses;
- 12 credits in Comparative and International Education content courses or courses with comparative or international content;
- and 6 credits in research methods.

Students are expected to be fluent in reading, writing, and speaking English, and must demonstrate competency in reading a language other than English, preferably a language relevant to a country or geographic area they propose to study. (This foreign language requirement can be satisfied by passing the appropriate ETS Language Achievement Test, or by passing the appropriate Penn State foreign language course.) A minimum of 18 credits must be 500-level course, and particular courses may satisfy both the graduate major program requirements and those in the Comparative and International Education program.

The qualifying examination committee for the dual-title Ph.D. degree must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from the Comparative and International Education program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a

combined role. There will be a single qualifying examination, containing elements of both the primary graduate degree program and Comparative and International Education. Dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>), the Ph.D. committee of a Comparative and International Education dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the Comparative and International Education Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Comparative and International Education, the member of the committee representing Comparative and International Education must be appointed as co-chair. The Comparative and International Education representative on the student's Ph.D. committee will develop questions for and participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination.

Students in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and education in both their primary graduate program and Comparative and International Education. Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.