Guidelines for the Non-Thesis Masters in Animal Sciences (MANSC)

Sandra Rodriguez Zas
Graduate Coordinator

Questions:
https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/7598908
ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu

August 2021
Graduation Requirements Guideline

Three types of graduation requirements:

- Seminar
  - ANSC 590 and/or ANSC 591 (2 credit hrs)

- Independent studies project
  - ANSC 593
  - MOA approved

- 400- or 500-level courses

Student must complete a minimum of 32 credit hours of graduate credit. Credit hours used to fulfill one requirement cannot be used to fulfill another requirement.
New (Fall 2021-) MANSC Degree Requirements

Non-thesis Master of Animal Sciences (≥ 32 hrs): 5 years max.

≥ 22 hrs of course work including:

≥ 2 hrs statistics course (ANSC 440, 445, or approved: e.g. NRES 421)
≥ 2 credit hrs of 500-level lecture or lab courses

≥ 2 hrs of ANSC 590 or ANSC 591 discipline seminar

≥ 8 hrs of independent study (ANSC 593)

project & report (MOA approved; graded by faculty advisor)

*if applicable, English proficiency (ESL) courses required

≥ 3.0 GPA

Recommendation: try to register for Stats course, seminar, some 500-level hrs, some project hrs in Fall
Pre Fall 2021 - MANSCL Degree Requirements

Non-thesis Master of Animal Sciences (≥ 32 hrs): 5 years max.

≥ 24 hrs of course work including:
- ANSC 440, 445, or approved statistics (≥ 4 credit hrs)
- ≥ 6 credit hrs of 500-level lecture or lab courses
- ≥ 6 credit hrs of 400 or 500-level ANSC courses
- ≥ 8 credit hrs of 400 or 500-level lecture or lab courses

≥ 2 hrs of ANSC 590 or ANSC 591 discipline seminar

≥ 6 hrs of independent study (ANSC 593)
  - project & report (MOA approved; graded by faculty advisor)

*if applicable, English proficiency (ESL) courses required

≥ 3.0 GPA

Recommendation: try to register for Stats course, seminar, some 500-level hrs, some project hrs in Fall

[Image of students celebrating]
Courses and seminar requirements

- Ask your faculty advisor about course selection (best to support career and project)
- 2 credit hrs of ANSC 590 or ANSC 591 (no other seminar will count)
- At least 2 credit hrs of statistical/analytical/informatics course
  - ANSC 440, ANSC 448, ANSC 449, ANSC 445, NRES 421, etc.
  - Other 400- and 500-level courses must be pre-approved (email ansci-gradprog@illinois.edu)
    - When in doubt send email to https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/7598908
- Only 400- and 500-level courses count towards degree requirements
MOA = Memorandum of Agreement

MOA describes the ANSC 593 independent studies work
  • developed by the faculty advisor and student
  • signed faculty advisor and student
  • submitted to ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu
  • evaluated by the MANSC committee

MOA template available from ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu:
  ✔ title, name of student and faculty advisor
  ✔ brief description of proposed studies
    ❖ research, teaching, extension, more courses, literature review
  ✔ resources available for project
  ✔ expected student time commitment
  ✗ Submitted by end of 1st month of 1st semester or second semester

Two MOAs if two 4 credit hrs projects, one MOA for one 8 hrs project
Three ANSC 593 Project Pathways

Application
Prospective student

Admission
ANSC 593 advisor- pre admission
ANSC 593 advisor- post admission

ANSC 593
Submit a MOA before 1st month in program
Submit a MOA by end of 1st month in program

Committee Revises and Approves MOA

Student has 1 month to secure advisor
Three ANSC 593 Project Pathways (cont’d)

Application

Prospective student

Admission and 1st semester

No ANSC 593 MOA by end of 1st month

Accepted

1st semester

Department facilitates interdisciplinary advising.
Student must submit ANSC 593 MOA by 2nd semester
Interdisciplinary advising for students without MOA by 1st month of semester

It is in the best interest of the MANSCE student to secure some credit hrs of an ANSC 593 project (or MOA) as soon as possible, this is a graduation requirement

• Students without MOA by the 1st month of first semester must send email to https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/7598908 or ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu
• An advisor will be assigned:
  o Students will be guided to possible departmental mentors/projects
  o Could start working on a project with the advisor
  o Advisor may not work on the student’s area of interest
### Evolving List of Possible Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advisor Name</th>
<th>Advisor email</th>
<th>Discipline(s)</th>
<th>ANSC 593 MANSC project topic or title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maria Godoy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgodo2@illinois.edu">mgodo2@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Comparative and CAN</td>
<td>Novel ingredients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derek Nolan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dtnolan@illinois.edu">dtnolan@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Dairy Edu., Extension</td>
<td>Milk quality analysis; relationships between production and management decisions in dairy herds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Rodriguez Zas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rodrgzzs@illinois.edu">rodrgzzs@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Bioinformatics, Genetics</td>
<td>Bioinformatics study of molecular pathways impacted by stress, infection, addiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Miller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:djmille@illinois.edu">djmille@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Reproductive, Cell Biology</td>
<td>Reproductive Technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Ellis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mellis7@illinois.edu">mellis7@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Swine Prod/ Management</td>
<td>Reducing pre-weaning mortality; thermal imaging of sows and growing pigs as a management aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmert, Koelkebeck, Parsons</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jemmert@illinois.edu">jemmert@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Poultry nutrition/prod/</td>
<td>Hatchability evaluation, chick nutrition, ingredient evaluation in poultry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Swanson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ksswanso@illinois.edu">ksswanso@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Companion an. nutrition</td>
<td>novel ingredient evaluation; dog and cat metabolism and/or physiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romana Nowak</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ranowak@illinois.edu">ranowak@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Reproductive Biology</td>
<td>Help build course module for comparative reproduction course-evolution of sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romana Nowak</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ranowak@illinois.edu">ranowak@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Reproductive Biology</td>
<td>Study effect of phthalate exposure on premature aging of reproductive system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Rodriguez Zas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rodrgzzs@illinois.edu">rodrgzzs@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>Biostatistical analysis of animal experiments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Kukekova</td>
<td><a href="mailto:avk@illinois.edu">avk@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Behavior Genetics</td>
<td>Analysis of videos recording daily activity of farm-bred foxes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella Condotta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:icfsc@illinois.edu">icfsc@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Precision Management</td>
<td>PMA hands-on research (computer vision for swine or cattle), including basic programming skills development; producer willingness-to-adopt technology; teaching projects for ANSC 360 and ANSC 460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Fischer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:afischer@illinois.edu">afischer@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Humane Educa, Extension</td>
<td>Pet retention (human animal support services); Community cats return-to-field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Dean</td>
<td>mjdeanillinois.edu</td>
<td>Reproductive Biology</td>
<td>The effects of parabens on the reproductive tract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Dean</td>
<td>mjdeanillinois.edu</td>
<td>Reproductive Biology</td>
<td>The role of membrane progesterone receptors in the uterus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh McCann</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jcmcccan2@illinois.edu">jcmcccan2@illinois.edu</a></td>
<td>Ruminant Nutrition</td>
<td>In vitro rumen fermentation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Select at least two ANSC 593 activities per MOA

- Literature review
- Extra course-work (beyond 32 credit hour MANSCE requirement)
- Research project
- Development of teaching module
- Development of extension material

Most projects will include literature review + other component
Students must write a final report (one for an 8-hr project, two for both 4-hr projects)
Faculty offers feedback on the preliminary versions of the report
ANSC 593 grade: faculty advisor grade of the final report and student’s work
One grade for one 8-hr project or two independent grades for two 4-hr projects
Things to consider when selecting ANSC 593 projects

- Interests and career goals *think broadly*
- Coursework load -develop a course plan & alternatives, fit 593 hrs
- Timeline (1 or more semesters), Fall/Spring/Summer
- Remote “on-your-clock” work versus in-person AM or PM

- One 8-hr project can provide depth in learning experiences
  - more advanced graduate or professional studies
- Two 4-hr projects provide breadth to strengthen resume
  - mix and match areas (genetics, nutrition, analytics, physiology)
- One 4-hr project can be extended to one 8-hr project
- Faculty advisors can be future letters of recommendation
Things to consider when selecting ANSC 593 projects

- Remote “on-your-clock” work and/or in-person AM or PM

Web-based bioinformatics study of genes affecting health
Extra course-work as ANSC 593 project

- At least 6 credit hrs of coursework for one 8-hr project
  - Transcript will show >= 38 credit hours (32 hrs + >=6 hrs)
- At least 3 credit hrs of coursework per each of two 4-hr projects
- Extra coursework (title, credit hours, semester) and advisor-selected report prompts must be included in the MOA for approval
- Report will include advisor-selected prompt(s) on topic(s) related to the extra courses and a literature review
- Grade will recognize the ability of student to apply the extra course concepts to address the prompt(s), synthesis, integration
- Grading by advisor is based on the report alone
## Advising Resources by Discipline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genetics, Genomics &amp; Bioinformatics</th>
<th>Immunophysiol. &amp; Behavior</th>
<th>Ruminant Nutrition</th>
<th>Non-ruminant Nutrition</th>
<th>Production &amp; Environmental Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Kukekova</td>
<td>Adrienne Antonson</td>
<td>Phil Cardoso</td>
<td>Maria Godoy</td>
<td>Isabella Condotta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juan Loor</td>
<td>Isabella Condotta</td>
<td>Josh McCann</td>
<td>Ryan Dilger</td>
<td>Jim Drackley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alfred Roca</td>
<td>Ryan Dilger</td>
<td>Jim Drackley</td>
<td>Michael Ellis</td>
<td>Michael Ellis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra Rodriguez-Zas</td>
<td>Rod Johnson</td>
<td>Juan Loor</td>
<td>Jason Emmert</td>
<td>Kevin Kline</td>
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<td>Kelly Swanson</td>
<td>Daniel McKim</td>
<td>Dan Shike</td>
<td>Carl Parsons</td>
<td>Robert Knox</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sandra Rodriguez-Zas</td>
<td>Lee Rincker</td>
<td>Hans Stein</td>
<td>Ken Koelkebeck</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drew Steelman</td>
<td>Kevin Kline</td>
<td>Kelly Swanson</td>
<td>Derek Nolan</td>
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<td>Nohra Mateus</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Debra Hagstrom</td>
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[https://ansc.illinois.edu/directory](https://ansc.illinois.edu/directory)
# Advising Resources by Discipline

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reproductive Biology</th>
<th>Microbiology</th>
<th>Meat Science</th>
<th>Others</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phil Cardoso</td>
<td>Isaac Cann</td>
<td>Anna Dilger</td>
<td>Ag Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Dean</td>
<td>Rex Gaskins</td>
<td>Bailey Harsh</td>
<td>Ag Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Fischer</td>
<td>Rod Mackie</td>
<td>Brandon Klehm</td>
<td>(ALEC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Kline</td>
<td>Jason Ridlon</td>
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<td>(Phil Cardoso)</td>
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<td>Robert Knox</td>
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<td>David Miller</td>
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<td>Matthew Wheeler</td>
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</table>

- Ag Education
- Ag Communication (ALEC)
- Humane edu./ shelter management/sport animals (Amy Fischer; Debra Hagstrom)
- Statistics/Data analytics courses/Economics (S. Rodriguez Zas)
Summary

*32 hrs (ANSC 590/591 + ANSC 593 + 400- and 500-level courses)
*First 10 days of semester for self-service add/drop course
  after this, add/drop form requires form and signatures
  **dedicate first 2 weeks of semester to develop course/project plan**
*Submit MOA by **October 1**st or let us know you need advisor
*Plan your course and project work across semesters
*Be flexible and have an alternative plan
Have a great semester!

Questions, comments, communication:

[ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu](mailto:ansci-gradprog@Illinois.edu)
[https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/7598908](https://forms.illinois.edu/sec/7598908)