Gallaudet University
Stage 1: New Program: Preliminary Proposal

The New Program Preliminary Proposal is submitted via the Office of Academic Quality to the New Program Review Committee (NPRC) consisting of the following members: the Chief Enrollment and Marketing Officer, Provost, Senate representative, and the appropriate Dean(s).

I. Name of Program:

International Development: Advanced Studies

II. Rationale for Program:

International Development: Advanced Studies is a 30 semester hour program designed for individuals working on a master’s degree at Gallaudet University and who want to pursue a second master’s degree simultaneously in International Development. It is also designed for individuals who already have an advanced degree (Masters or Doctorate) who want to earn a second MA in International Development.

Students who choose Gallaudet University graduate programs are primarily individuals interested in preparing for careers working with people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. They want to become teachers, social workers, interpreters, linguists, speech and language pathologists, audiologists, researchers and academics. Increasingly, graduate students coming to Gallaudet are interested working internationally. While they have a desire to gain skills and knowledge to prepare them to work overseas, they are also committed to preparing to become social workers, speech and language pathologists, early childhood educators, etc. The MA in International Development: Advanced Studies will allow graduate students to pursue two master’s degrees simultaneously at Gallaudet. Each of the two programs is considered to be a full and complete program; neither is to be considered as supplementary or minor in scope. Each degree received at the conclusion of the program will be considered to be the same degree as that received by a student pursuing only one degree.

III. Goals of Program:

1. To equip graduate students with the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively overseas, particularly in developing countries.
2. To attract more students to Gallaudet by allowing students the option to pursue dual degrees with a second MA degree in International Development: Advanced Studies, or earn a second MA.

3. To allow students to complete two masters degrees effectively in an integrated manner, which will result in higher rates of completion.

4. To work cooperatively with other graduate programs to ensure students are able to earn two masters degree, and complete their MA in International Development: Advanced Studies in no more than one year and a summer.

5. To increase the number of students in the International Development MA program, by offering the option to add a degree in International Development to their primary field of study.

6. To work towards more interdisciplinary work between departments particularly in the area of international work. The integration of disciplines will create new areas of study and attract students who have been searching for an institution interested in exploring and researching important niches that have not yet been investigated.

7. To attract students who are members of underrepresented groups and international students with curriculum that addresses their experiences and perspectives and to prepare them to work more effectively in their communities. Graduates in Deaf Education, for example, will be knowledgeable of methodologies used in various settings around the world and will be prepared to align the curriculum in their home schools according to their community’s needs and to universal human rights treaties.

8. To support Gallaudet’s Vision of growing research and “improving the lives and knowledge of all deaf and hard of hearing people worldwide” in preparing professionals to work with Deaf communities overseas in understanding their sign languages, training interpreters, building capacity of community members, in offering appropriate technology, and creating new areas of research.

9. To “engage and embrace the larger world beyond our walls through partnerships and outreach on all levels, encouraging our students, faculty and staff to be fully engaged participants in their local, national and global communities” both in DC and overseas.

10. To allow students and instructors to work together developing materials, programs and partnerships internationally through their internships overseas, through technology (Webinar/World Deaf Information Project), and collaboration with Disabled Person’s Organizations (DPOs), the federal government, and development assistance organizations in the US and in other countries.
Stage 1: New Program Preliminary Proposal Review Form

Date of Review: _______________________________________________________

Name of Reviewer:_____________________________________________________

Role of Reviewer:       CEMO           Provost                    Senate
                         Dean

1. The goals of the program are clearly defined.
   Yes ______
   No ______
   Uncertain (more information needed) _______

2. The proposed program is consistent with Gallaudet University’s Mission.
   Yes ______
   No ______
   Uncertain (more information needed) _______

3. The proposed program supports Gallaudet University’s Strategic Plan.
   Yes ______
   No ______
   Uncertain (more information needed) _______

Additional Comments:

A New Program Feasibility Study should OR should not be developed for this New Program proposal. (circle one).