Rubric for Evaluating INDS Degree Plan

Strong, cogent degree plan description
- Is the proposed degree clearly defined, with reference to relevant professional association definitions included where appropriate?
- Does the description explain how the degree plan is interdisciplinary?
- Are the disciplines comprising the degree plan clearly stated?

Well-written learning objectives
- Do the learning objectives fulfill the scope and content of the degree as it has been defined?
- Are the listed courses adequate to achieve the learning objectives?
- Do the learning objectives demonstrate academic rigor, defined as depth of coursework in two or three disciplines or thematic areas, adequate for the student to execute the degree plan?

Academic and professional development
- Is there a discussion of immediate post-graduation plans, including relevant back-up options?
- Does this section explain how the degree plan adequately prepares the student as a competitive applicant for graduate or professional school?
- Is there a discussion of the employment opportunities or goals for which this degree plan will prepare the student?

Capstone Project description
- Does the student include a plausible* idea for a research, artistic, or other project that might be addressed using the skills, knowledge and experiences acquired by the proposed degree plan? (*Plausible defined as "Would the student be able to evolve the idea into an executable research plan or project through the agency of INDS 480 – Capstone Seminar followed by INDS 490 – Capstone Research Project?")
- Does the project description identify the disciplinary perspectives and research methods (or classes in which methods will be learned) to be included in the project and how the project relates to the overall degree plan?
- Does the project description identify whether data, either quantitative or qualitative, or other relevant information is available, or will need to be created as part of the project?

Letters of support from faculty mentors
- Do the letters of support affirm the degree plan as worthy of pursuit and connected with to the faculty mentors’ area(s) of expertise?
- Do faculty mentors affirm that the coursework listed is sufficient to achieve the learning objectives?
- Have the faculty mentors indicated that they will be able to support the student in the development and execution of the capstone project as a one-semester (unless otherwise specified), senior level project suitable for an undergraduate student?

Clarity and professionalism
- Is the degree plan cleanly written with few typographic and/or grammatical errors?
- Are classes, grades, and credits listed accurately throughout the document?
- Does the cover letter explain why the student is in Interdisciplinary Studies, providing relevant information about the student’s background, interests, and future goals as appropriate?
INDS Degree Proposal – Markup version (v3)

Please use checkboxes to indicate ✓ (yes), ~ (maybe) or ✗ (no)

☐ 1. Degree Plan Description
   - Clearly defines the degree being proposed
   - Explains how degree is interdisciplinary
   - Clearly identifies the constituent disciplines

☐ 2. Learning Objectives
   - Clearly defines feasible goals for learning
   - Lists coursework appropriate to attain each objective
   - Suitable academic rigor for an undergraduate degree

☐ 3. Academic & Professional Development
   - Clear post-graduation plans, including back-up options
   - Discusses career opportunities to which this degree leads
   - Explains how this degree is preparation for these plans

☐ 4. Capstone Project Description
   - Identifies suitable topic to develop through INDS399/480
   - Coursework is suitable to execute this capstone
   - Presents a credible plan for obtaining necessary data

☐ 5. Letters of Support
   - Appropriate mentors clearly support the degree
   - Mentors affirm coursework is appropriate
   - Mentors affirm topic of capstone project

☐ 6. Clarity and professionalism
   - Professionally written (few typos)
   - Accuracy in classes and grades
   - Clearly explains why the student is in INDS

☐ Overall Evaluation / General Comments

Comments

Comments

Comments

Comments

This form uses reduced wording of each rubric item in order to create space for comments; it should be used in conjunction with the full INDS degree proposal rubric, available at http://example.com