Ad Personam Programs

In very rare circumstances, an applicant who wishes to engage in interdisciplinary thesis research, either at the Master’s or Doctoral level, involving supervision by faculty members from two different departments (each of which is authorized to offer its own graduate programs), may undertake an Ad Personam program.

1. Applications for Ad Personam programs must contain the following:
   a) A brief statement of purpose (Master's) or a preliminary research proposal (2 - 3 pages) (Ph.D.)
   b) Specification of the supervisors, at least one from each department.
   c) Approval of the research proposal by two faculty members from each department who will serve as the thesis committee
   d) An outline of a course of study (which meets faculty and government requirements) that has the approval of both departments. The outline must include
      (i) a justification for an interdisciplinary degree,
      (ii) a list of requirements, including courses, which generally should be distributed across both departments (with a minimum of 45 credits in all for a Master's degree),
      (iii) a justification of the distribution of courses in terms of the interdisciplinary goals of the program and the student's background,
      (iv) deadlines for when each of the degree components must be completed, and consequences for not completing them, and, if needed,
      (v) special evaluation procedures.
   e) Agreement concerning program requirements and degree designation on the transcript. There must be a written agreement between the student and both departments
      (i) attesting that the completed program and research will result in an interdisciplinary degree in both disciplines and
      (ii) specifying the order in which the disciplines will be designated on the transcript.
   f) Agreement concerning financial support of the student. There must be a written agreement between the student and both departments concerning responsibilities for financial support. Students in such programs will, for administrative purposes register in one department and the second department will be designated on the student record.

2. Theses will be examined by two internal examiners (one from each department) and by one external examiner. In exceptional cases, interdisciplinary theses may be sent to two external examiners to cover the breadth of the topic.

3. The Ph.D. oral committee should have at least two members from each department.

4. One degree will be conferred, designated on the transcript as Ad Personam Joint Degree: Department 1 and Department 2.