Topics

» Program Forms
  - P/D/F (nothing new at this time)

» Thesis
  - Timetables

» Dual Degrees

» PhD Applications
  - [not really relevant this term; see me if you want to discuss long term plans]

» Possible end of term presentations?

Program Forms

» We *really* should have one on file and approved by now

» Revisions need to be cleared

» Thesis supervision and topic

» Timetables for completion and “progress”

Thesis Deadlines

» Thesis topic approval: as early as possible
  - Stellar Site: http://stellar.mit.edu/p/project/tpp-thesis/
  - Submission and “grades” managed centrally
  - Contact furd “at” mit.edu if you need your name added to the “classlist”

» Thesis “Proposal”
  - Due by Add Date of term PRECEDING graduation
  - Look for an “Approved” grade
  - If you want more detailed comments/reviews, request by email to furd “at” mit.edu - or just arrange to meet
**Thesis Deadlines**

- Application for advanced degree due Feb 05 (THIS Friday!)
  - For Sept degree list, [unknown at this time, assume 07 June]
- Theses due dates
  - 7 May 2010
  - 6 August 2010
- Hard deadlines
  - Extensions ONLY with credible demonstration of completion
    (e.g., nearly completed drafts, complete with references, TOC, etc.)

**Thesis “Proposal”**

- Based on Section 9 in de Neufville’s document (p. 51)
  - Thesis Formulation:
    - Write a two page description and justification of the formulation of your thesis in five parts:
      - Its central question or issue
      - The one or two key methods you will use to test or elaborate this hypothesis
      - The evidence or data available to support your answer
      - The feasibility of your approach within the time and capacities at your disposal, and
      - The logic by which you will establish the point of your thesis.
  - Needs a cover page signed by your thesis supervisor and reader, if appropriate

**Thesis Guidelines**

- de Neufville thesis manual
- General MIT Guidelines

**TPP Thesis Proposals Site**

**Thesis Timetables**

» June Graduates
  - You better have gotten started!

» September Graduates
  - You too!

» Planning, planning, planning
  - Remember that your supervisor is NOT obliged to drop everything to meet your schedule!
  - Edit/revisions are the NORM, not the exception
  - Special Note: Clear your title page and abstract with Sydney AS SOON AS FEASIBLE!

» Best Thesis award

**Dual Degrees**

» Admission to the “other” department program
  - Must be admitted no later than the end of the penultimate semester
  - Note: Other departments may have other/earlier deadlines

» Petition for completion
  - 66 graduate units (G) per degree, 42 H-Level per degree
  - Sharing of courses across degrees?
  - Sharing of thesis across degrees?

» Research supervisor in the loop?

» Timing implications

**Applications to ESD PhD**

» See [http://esd.mit.edu/academics/phd_admissions.html](http://esd.mit.edu/academics/phd_admissions.html)

» Due January 10th [for the moment]

» Elizabeth Milnes (emilnes@mit.edu; E40-249)

“...MIT master’s students seeking a doctoral degree should apply using the procedure outlined above. [i.e.: no formal distinction between internal and external applications]

“Current students only are eligible for an application fee waiver, which they can request from ESD’s Academic Office [...]”

“Additionally, current graduate students do not have to submit GRE scores, but [...] standardized test scores submitted to MIT in the past will automatically be uploaded into our system, and be available to the Admissions Committee.

“...The Admissions Committee expects successful applicants to the doctoral program will have an MIT GPA of 4.7 or higher.”

**Two New Courses; New ESD Faculty**

» ESD.936 Systems Modeling and Assessment for Policy
  - Units: 3-0-9 (H)
  - Lecture: MW1-2.30 (56-154)
  - Explores how scientific information can be used to inform policy decision-making processes through the use of quantitative modeling techniques. [...] Examples focus on models and information used for earth system governance.

  - Noelle Selin

» ESD.939 Energy Systems and Climate Change Mitigation
  - Units: 3-0-6 (H)
  - Lecture: TR11-12:30 (E51-057)
  - Explores in detail the contributions of energy systems to global greenhouse gas emissions and the potential levers for reducing emissions. [...]”

  - Jessika Trancik