



MEMORANDUM

To: Julio Frenk
University President

From: Linda L. Neider
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Neider', is written over the 'From:' field.

Date: October 31, 2019

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2019-30(B) – Remove the GRE requirement for admission to the Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) Program, College of Arts and Sciences

The Faculty Senate, at its October 30, 2019 meeting, had no objections to the approval of the College of Arts and Science's request to remove the GRE requirement for admission to the Master of Arts in International Administration Program. This will establish an option for applicants to waive the GRE requirement based on the applicant's years of professional experience and quality of that experience effective Fall 2019. Instead eligible applicants will be evaluated based on an interview and review of their professional portfolio. No other changes are being made to the program.

The proposal is enclosed for your reference.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

LLN/ss/rh

cc: Jeffrey Duerk, Executive Vice President and Provost
Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Bradford McGuinn, Director of MAIA Program, College of Arts and Sciences
Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs, College of Arts and Sciences

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2019-30(B) – Remove the GRE requirement for admission to the Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) Program, College of Arts and Sciences

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: 11/14/19
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Dean Leonidas Bachas, Arts & Sciences

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____



UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI

Proposal Submission Checklist

Proposals are to be submitted to the Office of Assessment and Accreditation (OAA), if applicable, the Graduate Council (for graduate programs excluding Law and Medical), if applicable, and the Faculty Senate. Refer to the [Procedures for Program Changes](#) document for information on the approvals and notifications needed for program changes and the [Proposal Submissions Specifications](#) document for an explanation of the process and a list of the materials required.

(Please note that change approvals can take 2 semesters to complete.)

FORM INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Save/download the form as a pdf.
2. After completing the information below, print and scan the form.
3. Insert it with the background materials that are specified, in the order listed, and submit to facsen@miami.edu.

Please note: only scanned versions can be accepted.

Include this checklist at the beginning of each proposal.

KEY CONTACT PERSONNEL INFORMATION

First Name

Maryann

Last Name

Tobin

Proponent's Title

Executive Director of Programs

Department, if applicable

School/College

College of Arts & Sciences

E-mail

met@miami.edu

Phone

305-284-3737

Title of Proposal

Proposal to Remove the GRE requirement for admission to the Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program.

(-continue to next page-)

MANDATORY MEMORANDA AND FORMAT

Please check that each item listed below is included in the proposal package of materials, in the ORDER as listed. The applicable title (i.e. Letter of Explanation, Memo from the Dean, etc.) is to precede each section in the materials.

Only proposals conforming to this format will be accepted.

1. This completed checklist.

2. Letter of explanation. (2-3 pages only, double spaced, 12 pt font)

Yes No

If no, explain why:

3. A memo from the dean(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant School(s) / Colleges(s).

Yes No

If no, explain why:

4. A memo that all affected or relevant School / College Council(s) have approved.

Yes No

If no, explain why:

5. A memo from the department chair(s) signifying approval of the faculty of the relevant department(s).

Yes No

If no, explain why:

6. A memo from the Office of Accreditation and Assessment (OAA) if the proposal involves academic programs (degrees, certificates, majors, minors, concentrations, specializations, tracks, etc.) such as new programs, closing programs, or program changes (such as changes in requirements, program length, modality, name, location).

(To be submitted by OAA to the Graduate Council or the Faculty Senate, as appropriate.)

Applicable Not applicable.

If not, explain why:

7. A memo from the Graduate School Dean signifying approval of the Graduate Council (for graduate programs only).

(To be submitted to the Faculty Senate by the Graduate Council.)

Applicable Not applicable.

If not, explain why:

8. Academic Deans Policy Council (ADPC) approval, for interdisciplinary issues and as appropriate. Please consult with the Dean of the Graduate School or the Secretary of the Faculty Senate to check if this is needed.

Yes No

If no, explain why:

This degree is housed solely within the College of Arts and Sciences.

9. Additional required documents as listed on the "Proposal Submissions Specifications," i.e. market analysis, budget information, assessment of library collections, etc. as specified.

List additional documents included:

End form.

Proposal to remove the GRE requirement for admission to the
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program

Proposed by
Dr. Bradford McGuinn, Director
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) Program
bmcguinn@miami.edu

Dr. Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs
College of Arts & Sciences
Office of the Dean
met@miami.edu

Executive Summary

The Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program is proposing to eliminate the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) from the program admission requirements. At present, the MAIA program requires a combined score of 297 or higher.

Several top institutions have eliminated the GRE in favor of interview or portfolio admissions requirements, including Tufts, Johns Hopkins, and American. In maintaining consistency with other comparable programs within APSIA and across the university that no longer require the GRE, the MAIA program is requesting this change.

UNIVERSITY
OF MIAMI



Master of Arts in International Administration
1300 Camino Sano Avenue, Suite 215
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Phone: 305-284-8783
Fax: 305-284-2023
miami.edu/maia

November 16, 2018

To: Dr. Leonidas Bachas, Dean
College of Arts & Sciences

From: Dr. Bradford McGuinn, Director
MAIA Program

This memo is to confirm the support of the MAIA faculty to remove the GRE as a requirement for admission to the program. Several of our APSIA-affiliate institutions have already removed this requirement and replaced it with an interview, which we began doing two years ago as a matter of practice, so that we can better understand each applicant's background, professional goals, and suitability for the program.

The MAIA faculty discussed this change and no objections were made. It is our desire to put this proposal forth and help ensure that MAIA remains a viable and competitive professional master's program.

Sincerely,


Bradford McGuinn, Ph.D.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE of
ARTS & SCIENCES



Office of the Dean 1252 Memorial Drive Ph: 305-284-4117
Ashe Building, Suite 227 Fax: 305-284-5637
Coral Gables, Florida 33146 as.miami.edu

To: Linda Neider Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Senate

From: Leonidas G. Bachas, Ph.D. 
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Subject: Proposal to remove the GRE requirement for admission to the
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program

Date: September 18, 2019

Dear Dr. Neider,

The Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program is proposing to eliminate the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) from their admission requirements. MAIA has a successful history of recruiting working professionals, and our aspirational peer programs have already waived their GRE requirements, in keeping with the demands of an aggressive recruiting market.

MAIA is an affiliate of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA) and several APSIA programs have set the precedent of eliminating the GRE in favor of an interview or professional portfolio, including Johns Hopkins, American, Duke, George Washington, Brandeis, UToronto, and Tufts.

The faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences voted unanimously to support this proposal at a regular faculty meeting on September 17, 2019. I am forwarding this to you for your approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Dr. Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs.

LGB/mtt



Office of Planning,
Institutional Research,
and Assessment


P.O. Box 248285
Coral Gables, FL 33124-2923
Phone: 305-284-3856

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1320 S. Dixie Hwy., Coral Gables, FL 33146
Fax: 305-284-4081 • pira@miami.edu

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 4, 2019

TO: Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs
College of Arts and Sciences

FROM: Patty Murphy, Associate Provost for University Accreditation
Office of Assessment and Accreditation 

RE: GRE Waiver Option for MAIA Program

On February 1, 2019, the College of Arts and Sciences notified my office of its intent to establish an option for applicants to the Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program [Academic Plan Code: IADM_MA] to waive the GRE requirement based on the applicant's years of professional experience and quality of that experience effective Fall 2019. Instead of the GRE, applicants who are eligible to waive the GRE, will be evaluated based on an interview and review of their professional portfolio.

The proposed change is being made because the MAIA is designed for working professionals and the GRE has proven to be a deterrence to recruitment. In their review of comparable programs at peer institutions, several have eliminated the GRE requirement in favor of an interview and/or professional portfolio review. The interview and professional portfolio will now be required for all applicants. No other changes are being made to the program. Consequently, this proposed change does not "represent a significant departure, either in content or in method of delivery" from what we are currently approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to offer. SACSCOC only requires notification of program changes that represent a significant departure from our current programs. Therefore, no notification or approval is required for this change.

Please contact me if you have any questions at pattymurphy@miami.edu or (305) 284-3276.

CC: Faculty Senate
Guillermo Prado, Dean of the Graduate School
Leonidas Bachas, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Bradford McGuinn, MAIA Program Director
Karen Beckett, University Registrar
Carrie Glass, Executive Director of Student Financial Assistance and Employment

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
GRADUATE SCHOOL



1252 Memorial Drive
P.O. Box 248125
Coral Gables, FL 33124-4629

Phone: 305-284-4154
Fax: 305-284-5441
graduateschool@miami.edu

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 1, 2019

TO: Tomas Salerno
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Guillermo (Willy) Prado *Guillermo Prado*
Dean, Graduate School

SUBJECT: Proposal - Appeal to Remove the GRE Requirement for Admission to the
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) Program

The College of Arts and Sciences submitted an appeal to remove the GRE requirement for admission to the Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program. The proposal was discussed at the meeting of the Graduate Council on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, and was approved by all those present.

CC: Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Bradford McGuinn, Director, Master of Arts in International Administration
Program
Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs, College of Arts &
Sciences
Kenneth Voss, Professor, Interim Senior Associate Dean for Research and
Graduate Education
Tiffany Plantan, Director of Education, Graduate School
Patty Murphy, Associate Provost for University Accreditation, Office of
Assessment and Accreditation

Proposal to remove the GRE requirement for admission to the
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) program

Proposed by
Dr. Bradford McGuinn, Director
Master of Arts in International Administration (MAIA) Program
bmcguinn@miami.edu

Dr. Maryann Tobin, Executive Director of Programs
College of Arts & Sciences
Office of the Dean
met@miami.edu

1. Rationale

The MAIA program is designed for working professionals, offering evening classes, and often attracting military veterans and active-duty service personnel due to its content and recruiting efforts. However, the GRE requirement has proved a challenge and oftentimes a recruiting deterrent for our application population, who often have more than 5 years of professional experience. At present, the MAIA program does offer to waive the GRE for applicants with at least 10 years of relevant work experience or military service. In addition, some schools waive the GRE for applicants who meet certain undergraduate GPA requirements.

Since professional degree programs are designed to expand specific professional skills, making work experience more salient than test scores, we would like to emphasize the writing ability of individual students, as well as their professional demeanor, and career goals as critical elements of our admissions process. Several peer institutions that are both members and affiliate members of APSIA – the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (UM is an affiliate member) have elected to replace the GRE with an interview, including Johns Hopkins, Brandeis, UToronto, and Tufts. To that end, we have begun interviewing potential students to better ascertain their areas of interest and objectives during and after the program. The interview also allows the program director an opportunity to meet the students, and eventually match them with the appropriate faculty member to guide their course of study and their practicum/internship at the end of the program. The interview also provides a better assessment of prospective students' verbal reasoning skills and ability to communicate. The MAIA program does not have any demanding quantitative coursework.

We would like to formally replace the GRE requirement with an interview, conducted via phone or videoconference but the college recruiter, MAIA program director, and/or another MAIA faculty designee.

2. Comparisons

At the University of Miami, other professional programs have already waived their GRE requirements, or have not had a GRE requirement from the start. Additionally, several top APSIA institutions have set the precedent of eliminating the GRE in favor of an interview or professional portfolio.

APSIA Member programs that do not require the GRE:

- American University, School of International Service (effective Fall 2019)
- Carleton University
- Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy
- George Washington University, Elliot School of International Affairs
- Johns Hopkins, School for Advanced International Studies
- Tufts University, Fletcher School of International Affairs
- University of Southern California
- University of Toronto

APSIA Affiliate programs that do not require the GRE:

- Brandeis University
- Fordham University
- Florida International University
- George Mason University (if GPA is 3.5 or higher)
- New York University (optional)
- Rutgers University (optional)

Relevant UM Graduate Programs that do not require the GRE:

- Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS)
- Master of Professional Science @ RSMAS –if certain science and math prerequisites have been met
- Executive MBA and Professional MBA - may waive GMAT, interview required
- Master of Science in Clinical and Translational Investigation (MSCIT)
- Master of Science in Construction Management, College of Engineering
- Master of Music in Musicology, Frost School of Music

3. Proposed MAIA Admission Requirements

Admission to the MAIA program would require:

- Complete Online Application Form
- \$85.00 non-refundable application fee, paid online upon submission of the application. (\$500 non-refundable fee for International students, applicable to their first course, paid upon notice of admission to the program).
- Resume/CV or professional portfolio
- Statement of Purpose
- Interview (may be conducted in person or via phone/video conference)

- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation
 - two (2) from a Professor/Faculty (Required)
 - one (1) from an employer, colleague, or professional source
- Official transcripts from each post-secondary institution attended
- An acceptable undergraduate grade point average. The GPA of the typical applicant is at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.