

Revised Concentration Proposal Checklist

SCMPD: PhD Program

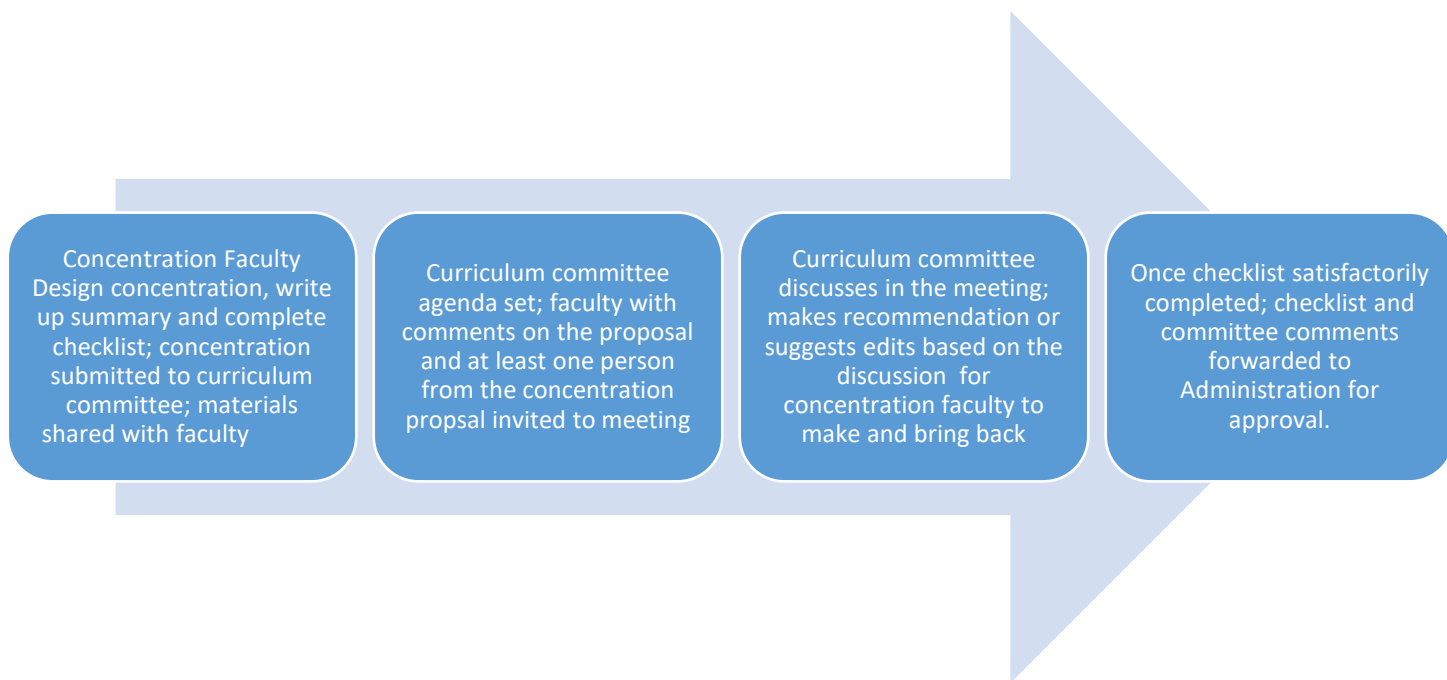
Background:

College and University curriculum committees have a checklist for ensuring all new courses and program proposals have the key elements needed, and during their meetings check to ensure all components of the checklist are in the course and/or program proposal, discuss any omissions or other concerns with the proposal structure and then offer feedback to the proposal originators as needed. As a general rule, curriculum committees do not “get into the weeds” to assess specific content, readings, etc, as the committee is interdisciplinary and expects that the discipline-specific to the program is better placed to evaluate the content of the courses. The committee discusses more broadly the rationale for the courses in the program, and if there are overlaps with other existing courses or programs, may discuss those matters before voting on a recommendation to move the proposal on to the next stage of evaluation.

An underlying assumption of the addition of concentrations to the PhD program is that concentrations will be proposed by subject matter experts in fields where they hold expertise, and that concentrations will be largely decentralized in their form and function, although all are expected to relate to the core material in some way as part of the overall PhD program (degree coherence). Thus, like what happens in curriculum committees across the KSU structure, the SCMPD curriculum committee is not deciding on content of concentrations—they are confirming that all requisite parts are present in any new concentrations. This serves two purposes 1) ensure that there is a parallel structure of sorts across what could be vastly different concentrations and 2) that the concentration is clear enough for outsiders to understand, which should make it easier for students to understand the relative merits and purpose of each concentration for comparative purposes. The committee will check the checklist, discuss the proposal in a defined window when other faculty interested in making comments on the proposal are invited to submit comments or attend a regularly scheduled committee meeting in person, and when someone representing the proposal is there to answer any questions the committee may have (this mirrors college and university process).

Once the committee makes a recommendation, the checklist and committee comments move on to the Director and/or Associate Director to make a final approval.

Concentration Flow Chart



a. Concentration proposal checklist:

- i. Title of concentration
- ii. Description—250-300 words
- iii. This should discuss the main goals and focus of the concentration, what contribution this concentration makes to the study of International Conflict Management, what its organizing theme is, etc. This should include a discussion of how the concentration relates to the core curriculum (how it complements, builds on, etc.) [if this is disciplinary specific vs interdisciplinary a brief mention/explanation of that should come here]
- iv. Courses and course sequence and their availability
- v. Faculty affiliated with the concentration and their credentials relevant to the proposed concentration. This should include demonstration that we have existing faculty to teach the required courses.
- vi. The number (and type) of transfer credits allowed in to the concentration from previous coursework taken by students, i.e. how many courses must students take at KSU in order to be seen to grasp the core learning objectives of the concentration
- vii. Concentration comprehensive process/illustrative questions/plan for concentration exam or evaluation (e.g. What format would the comprehensive take, where in the curriculum structure might it fall, e.g. end of year 2, end of 5 semesters, etc.). Proposals should include an illustrative question or description of examination process for this concentration.
- viii. Plans for evaluation of the concentration (e.g. how will you determine whether the concentration is successfully achieving its goals/learning objectives, etc.).

- ix. Note that if a student has a specific concentration they wish to propose that does not currently exist, they may go through this process with the support of a minimum of two faculty members who agree to sign off on the various stages of this process. If there are not existing courses specific to the proposed concentration, the faculty with the student, should draft a reading list that will serve as the basis for the examination and/or design relevant related studies courses in preparation for the concentration comprehensive.

1. Core Seminars (16 Credit Hours)

1. INCM 8000 Comparative Approaches to Knowledge in Conflict Management, Peacebuilding and Development
2. INCM 8001 Theories of International Conflict: International Relations Approaches
3. INCM 8002 Theories of International Conflict: Economic Approaches
4. INCM 8003 Theories of International Conflict: Socio-Cultural Approaches
5. INCM 8004 Theories of International Conflict: Peace and Conflict Studies Approaches
6. INCM 8005 Professional Knowledge for the PhD

2. Required Research Methods Courses (12 Credit Hours)

1. INCM 9101 Fundamentals of Research Design
2. INCM 9102 Quantitative Methods
3. INCM 9103 Qualitative Methods
4. Advanced Research Methods (3 credits total)

3. Peacebuilding Courses (3 credits required)

Although 3 credits hours are required, students may take more as electives, related studies, or concentration hours.

1. INCM 9320 Essentials of International Negotiation: Theory and Practice
2. INCM 9350 Peacebuilding, Peacekeeping, and Reconciliation
3. INCM 9360 Gender, Conflict, Peace
4. INCM 9602 Peacebuilding Assessment
5. INCM 9604 Nonviolent Resistance
6. INCM 9609 Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration

4. International Development Courses (3 credit hours)

Although 3 credits hours are required, students may take more as electives, related studies, or concentration hours..

1. INCM 9330 Foundations and Issues in International Political Economy
2. INCM 9340 Transnational Civil Society and Conflict
3. INCM 9370 International Project Management
4. INCM 9380 Sustainable Development

5. IPM 7745 International Political Economy
5. Additional Electives, Related Studies, & Concentration Area (up to 26 credits)

Any INCM or MSCM course above the 5000 level, students should consult with their graduate advisor or program director.

6. Dissertation Research (up to 15 Credit Hours)

INCM 9900 is a variable credit course (1-9 hours). Students should consult their graduate advisor or program director.

1. INCM 9900 Ph.D. Dissertation Research
7. Program Total (75 Credit Hours)