



**Departmental Petition Form 05**

**Petition for Alternative Field Exam**

**Background:** Ph.D. students are required to pass “field examinations” in two recognized subfields of the discipline. The department regularly offers field exams in its clusters of expertise. Students may petition to take examinations in alternate subfields of the discipline contingent on the agreement of two faculty members to guide the student's preparation and to evaluate the exam, and on the approval of the student’s adviser and the graduate directors.

**Petition Procedure:**

- 1) Form an exam committee of a) at least two sociology faculty or b) at least one sociology faculty and one affiliated faculty.
- 2) If this petition concerns the **written field exam** requirement:
  - Provide syllabi of at least two courses taken that your exam committee judges as clustering around the alternative subfield. The two courses cannot include any of the Ph.D. course requirements<sup>1</sup> or have been used to satisfy the requirement of the student’s other field exam.
  - Provide a copy of a reading list that you and your exam committee developed for the exam.
- 3) If this petition concerns the **coursework field exam** requirement:
  - Provide syllabi from three satisfactorily completed courses that your exam committee judges as coalescing around the alternative subfield. The three courses cannot include any of the basic Ph.D. course requirements<sup>2</sup> or have been used to satisfy the requirement of the student’s other field exam.
- 4) Incorporate into a single pdf file the 1) petition form, 2) syllabi, 3) reading list, 4) Ph.D. Requirements Worksheet, and 5) unofficial transcripts.
- 5) Once approved/signed by two committee members and your adviser, send materials to a graduate director for approval/signature.

Name of the proposed alternative subfield: \_\_\_\_\_

Courses that satisfy the field exam’s requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Field exam committee members: \_\_\_\_\_

Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Adviser’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Exam committee member #1 signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Exam committee member #2 signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Director’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup> These include Soc 202A (ProSem I), Soc 202B (ProSem II), Soc 221A, B, C (Graduate Statistics), Soc 220A (Sociology Research Design), Advanced Soc Method Elective, Soc 210A (Classical Social Theory) and Soc 210B (Contemporary Social Theory).

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 1.