Troy University is a public institution comprised of a network of campuses throughout Alabama and worldwide. International in scope, Troy University provides a variety of educational programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels for a diverse student body in traditional, nontraditional, and emerging electronic formats. Academic programs are supported by a variety of student services which promote the welfare of the individual student. Troy University’s dedicated faculty and staff promote discovery and exploration of knowledge and its application to life-long success through effective teaching, service, creative partnerships, scholarship and research.

The Troy University calendar may be found in each schedule of classes or at http://www.troy.edu.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Members of the Graduate Council are elected from the graduate faculty in the five colleges of the University.

Scope of the Instructional Program

The basic purposes of the University are determined by the Alabama State Legislature and the University’s Board of Trustees. While the past history of the University reflects an institutional purpose that was dedicated to teacher education, there has been in recent years broadening dedication to the advancement of the arts and sciences, business, communication and fine arts, and health and human services.

The faculty and administration of the University recognize that changes in technology, urbanization of the region, advances of science, greater participation by working students, national and world economics, international relations and advancement of democratic processes along with the preservation and advancement of the cultural heritage, will demand constant attention in determining the future purposes of the University.

Nature of Graduate Work

Graduate level work differs appreciably from that of undergraduate programs. Graduate students will find that their programs are geared toward meeting certain criteria.

The first of these criteria is that the graduate student should understand the ramifications of research as well as the manner in which it is conducted. Research, the context of graduate study, is conducted in a systematic, thorough, critical, interpretative, and analytical manner—free of preconceived notions and receptive to new ideas; such research attempts to collate and synthesize new patterns of meaning, discover new truths, and correct past errors.

The second component of the graduate program requires that graduate students master their field of study. Such mastery would entail a thorough grasp of the subject matter, literature in the field, theory, and methodology related to the student’s field of interest.

Finally, every graduate program must give students the opportunity to demonstrate research skills, knowledge of the field, and opportunity to contribute to the field of study. Thus, a person who wishes to do graduate level work must be prepared to pass examinations, both written and oral, to write coherent papers that reflect the results of research as defined above, and to participate in course projects.