**Research Tools**

*(Approved by Graduate Council, February 24, 2021)*

Doctoral studies require skills and techniques (tools) that vary with the specific needs of the discipline. The degree-granting components determine the suitability of specific research tools for their programs.  Research tools means 2 tools. Such tools comprise coursework equivalent to a minimum of 6 credit hours at the graduate level or the equivalent of 12 hours at the undergraduate level for each tool.  (Undergraduate courses may be used to meet research tool requirements at departmental specification.) Equivalent competencies may, if acceptable to the component, be demonstrated by examination. The degree-granting component establishes whether the credits are included in the required hours for the program or whether they are required in addition to the minimum hours needed for the degree. However, if undergraduate courses are used as research tools they may not be used in the hours that count toward the graduate degree.