

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Amy Nielsen, Executive Secretary  
Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

**FOR:** Academic Affairs Committee

**DATE:** 18 January 2019

**SUBJECT:** Proposal to Revise Rules 114 and 34

At its meeting on January 15, 2019, AAC approved a proposal from the Registrar's Office and the WSU Transfer Center to revise Rules 114 and 34, as noted below.

The rationale for the revision to Rule 114 is to make clear that the WSU grade point average is derived only from WSU course work as is seen in the addition of 114.d below. The rule also makes clear that baccalaureate degrees are awarded based on a minimum of a 2.0 GPA from WSU.

**114. REQUIREMENTS FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES**

- a. The award of a baccalaureate degree requires the satisfactory completion ~~the student's satisfaction~~ of all University graduation requirements. The degree grade point average will be posted to the official transcript at the time that the baccalaureate degree is conferred.
- b. The award of a baccalaureate degree requires the completion of and posting to the official transcript of all outstanding incomplete work (including grades of I, X, and no/blank grades).
- c. The award of a baccalaureate degree and/or diploma requires the student's good standing in the university and satisfaction of all University graduation requirements. "Good standing" means the student has resolved any acts of academic or behavioral misconduct, and complied with all sanctions imposed as a result of the misconduct. The University shall have the sole authority in determining whether to withhold the degree and/or diploma in cases where the student is not in good standing due to acts of misconduct, has not resolved any acts of academic or behavioral misconduct, or has not complied with all sanctions imposed as a result of misconduct. The University shall deny the award of a degree if the student is dismissed from the University based on his or her misconduct. Neither diplomas nor transcripts will be sent until students have resolved any unpaid fees and resolved any acts of academic or behavioral misconduct and complied with all sanctions imposed as a result of misconduct. (See Rule 45 and the Standards of Conduct for Students.)
- d. The grades earned at other institutions do not count in the Washington State University grade point average.
- e. ~~d.~~ To complete a baccalaureate degree, students shall:

- 1) Earn a 2.0 cumulative grade point average or better in graded course work, ~~in this or any institution for which a grade has been received.~~
- 2) Earn a 2.0 cumulative grade point average or better in graded course work in the major.
- 3) Complete the departmental and college requirements for an active baccalaureate degree. Baccalaureate degrees remain active for the purpose of degree completion for eight years following the last inclusion in the WSU catalog.
- 4) Earn a minimum of 120 semester hours of credit. At least 30 must be WSU hours; see Rule 6.
- 5) Earn a minimum of 40 semester hours of credit in 300-400-level courses; 500-level courses will count toward the 300-400-level requirement, but an undergraduate may not be required to complete a 500-level course as a requirement for the baccalaureate degree.
- 6) Complete the University Common Requirements (UCOREs) for ~~G~~ graduation.
- 7) Complete the university writing requirements, including two Writing in the Major courses and the Writing Portfolio.

The revision to Rule 34 codifies the policy that has always been in place but has not been described in the academic regulations, whereby the repeat rules that apply to WSU courses also apply to how transfer credit is awarded.

This allows WSU to apply repeat rules consistently and fairly and also avoids a system where students from different transfer institutions have different outcomes for how credit is awarded.

### **34. REPEAT COURSES**

Students may repeat a course in which they have received a grade of C- or below, or a withdrawal (W), or when a course may be repeated for additional credit. Students may enroll more than once in the same course in any given term (fall, spring, or summer) provided that the particular periods of enrollment do not overlap and that other conditions for allowed repeats are met.

- a. Repeating courses graded C- or below. To attempt to improve the cumulative grade point average, a student may repeat courses in which a C- or below was received. When such a course is repeated, only the last grade contributes to the grade point average and total hours earned. Students may repeat a course graded C- or below one time at WSU. Additional repeats are allowed at WSU by special permission of the academic unit offering the course.
- b. b. Repeats are allowed as transfer credit from another institution. However, the series of repeats and grades is retained on the student's academic record.
  1. Only courses identified as acceptable equivalents according to the appropriate department, the Transfer Guide, or the Admissions Office are treated as repeats. If courses deemed equivalent in content differ in credit hours, the credit hours of the repeat course supersede the credit hours of the original course.
  2. For courses repeated at other institutions, credit is awarded following the WSU repeat policy.

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At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2019.