

TO: Sheila Converse, Executive Secretary
Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

FOR: Academic Affairs Committee

DATE: 7 November 2013

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Rule 54

At its meeting on November 5, 2013, AAC approved the following proposal to revise Rule 54. The revision is in response to departments and the undergraduate degree area within the Registrar's Office.

The revision adds a stipulation that a student cannot receive a minor that is the same title as the major. For example, a student majoring in Chemistry may not also receive a minor in Chemistry. However, a student majoring in English would be able to receive the more specialized minor in Professional Writing.

Similarly, the revision extends to the level of the option or concentration (subplan) within the major. For example, a student majoring in General Studies, Social Sciences, with an area of concentration Political Science cannot also receive a minor in Political Science.

Finally, the revision further clarifies that minors and additional majors may not stand alone, but that they are awarded at the same time that the degree is awarded.

54. UNDERGRADUATE MINOR OR SECOND ADDITIONAL MAJOR

Undergraduate minors and additional majors emphasize study in an area outside a student's primary major. An undergraduate minor or additional major is a supplemental academic award that is awarded at the same time that a student's undergraduate degree is conferred. The name of the undergraduate minor or additional major may not be the same as the degree, primary major, or any subplan, option, or general studies concentration within the major.

An undergraduate or professional student who has completed 60 semester hours and is certified in a major may certify a minor or ~~second~~ additional major with the approval of the department offering the minor or ~~second~~ additional major. The student should consult with the department concerning hours and grade point requirements and an approved schedule of studies to meet such requirements.

- a. Minors: An undergraduate minor requires a minimum of 16 semester hours, 9 of which must be in upper-division work and taken in residence at WSU or through WSU-approved education abroad or educational exchange courses. Students may not be certified in a minor of the same name as their degree, major, or as any subplan, option, or concentration within their major. No student shall be

required by their major to complete a minor, though the department may encourage students to complement the ~~first~~ primary major with a certificate, minor, or ~~second~~ additional major. Unless otherwise noted, courses forming a minor may also be used to satisfy the requirements of a major and include credits required for the undergraduate degree. ~~Once requirements for the minor or second additional major are met and the student's first undergraduate degree has been conferred and posted to the transcript, the student's transcript will be updated to show these additional academic awards.~~ A student who has earned a minor may be subsequently certified with departmental approval to seek a major or degree of the same title.

- b. Additional Majors: An ~~second~~ additional major requires completion of departmental requirements for the major, exclusive of general education requirements. University Common Requirements (UCOREs). Students may not be certified in an additional major of the same name as their degree, major, or as any subplan, option or concentration within their major. Note that ~~second~~ additional degrees have additional requirements. See Rule 118. A student who has earned an additional major may be subsequently certified with departmental approval to seek a primary major or degree of the same title.

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2014.