

MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Hudelson, Executive Secretary
Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

FOR: Academic Affairs Committee

DATE: 15 March 2021

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Rule 111, Undergraduate Major, Minor, and College Requirements for Graduation

At its meeting on March 9, 2021, AAC approved the following revision to Rule 111 as prompted by the Carson College of Business. The revision will allow academic units additional flexibility in serving former students who return to WSU to complete their degrees.

Currently, former students are held to the requirements that are in place at the time they are readmitted to WSU. The College proposed that academic units should be able to choose the student's original catalog year, to finish the earlier set of requirements, when appropriate.

This change will better serve academic units and advisors, and provide more accurate information to former students whose advisement report will reflect the earlier catalog year.

111. UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR, MINOR, AND COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

Graduation requirements for a student's degree are set at the time the student is admitted to the major and include college requirements. Graduation requirements for additional majors, minors, or other academic awards are set at the time of admission to those additional academic plans. The following exceptions apply:

- a) Departments may require students to meet newer major or minor requirements, provided the newer requirements neither oblige a student to enroll in more than a normal complement of credit hours in any semester nor prolong the time necessary to complete degree requirements.

b) Current students whose admission to the major or minor is more than eight years old may be required by the department to meet current degree requirements. This may in some cases prolong the time necessary to complete the degree.

c) Former students who must reapply and be readmitted to WSU will need to contact the department where they wish to be admitted as a major since their prior status is not maintained. These students will be eligible to be admitted to the major when they meet the current requirements set by the department.

d) Students who apply to graduate and who have not attended WSU for six or more years will need approval from their major department to complete the degree in the major to which they were previously admitted. In some cases, these students may be held to more current requirements which may prolong the time necessary to complete the degree. Students may choose to seek a different major without being readmitted to the university in order to earn a degree.

e) Students who maintain continuous enrollment shall have eight years to complete any degree, major, minor, or other academic award that has been discontinued, following the last inclusion in the WSU Catalog.

Deans, department heads, and program chairs have the authority to waive or provide substitute course work for college, major, or minor requirements and allow former students to be readmitted and graduate using the major or minor requirements of a previous catalog.

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2021.