University of Minnesota Morris
2019-2021 Policies

This document serves as an official historical record for a specific period in time. The information found is subject to change without notice. Colleges and departments make changes to their degree requirements and course descriptions frequently. More information is available at catalogs.umn.edu.

For current information, refer to:
- Program search: z.umn.edu/publicprogramsearch
- Course search: z.umn.edu/publiccoursecatalog
- University policies: policy.umn.edu

University of Minnesota Morris
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www4.morris.umn.edu
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Policy Statement

Academic calendars must be established at least four years in advance so that students may plan their schedules and University units may plan events. Changes in dates to previously approved calendars must be made at least two years before the start of the academic year of that calendar.

The proposed and approved calendars must meet the requirements stated in section A and B below.

A. Fall and Spring Semesters

1. The academic calendar has a fall and a spring semester, each of which includes a minimum of 70 days of instruction, a maximum of 75 days of instruction, and approximately one week of final examinations (including Saturdays but not Sundays).
2. Courses shorter or longer than the semester are subject to the approval of appropriate college or academic unit review committees.

B. Summer Term

The academic calendar has a summer term, which has May and summer sessions. A May session includes a minimum of 14 instructional days. Summer term starts after spring term is complete and concludes prior to the first day of fall semester.

No college or academic unit will be obligated to offer courses during summer term.

C. Revisions of Calendars

Requests for changes in dates to previously approved Twin Cities/Rochester and Morris calendars must be submitted to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy at least two years in advance of that academic year.

All calendars and any subsequent revisions or exceptions must be approved by faculty governance.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Professional schools are permitted to have calendars that vary from the requirements of this policy.
Reason for Policy

Establishing an academic calendar at least four years in advance allows students to plan their degree programs and enables University units to schedule events at times that do not conflict with other key activities. This policy implements requirements of federal financial aid regulations.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can each campus set its own academic calendar?
   Yes, each campus is responsible for setting its own academic calendar. The Faculty Senate approves the University of Minnesota, Morris and University of Minnesota, Twin Cities calendars. The University of Minnesota, Duluth and University of Minnesota, Crookston calendars are transmitted to the Faculty Senate for information only. The University of Minnesota, Rochester follows the Twin Cities academic calendar.

2. Can instructors assign work to students prior to the beginning of the academic term?
   No. Instructors cannot assign work until the term starts.

3. Does the University of Minnesota hold regularly scheduled classes the day before a holiday?
   Yes. Scheduled classes, including evening classes, are held the day before a holiday. For example, classes are held the Wednesday evening before the Thanksgiving holiday. Refer to the current academic calendar for University holidays.

4. When may a school or program have a calendar that varies from the campus calendar?
   Schools and programs must follow the standard, approved campus calendar with an exception provided for professional school programs (i.e., D.D.S., D.V.M, J.D., L.L.M., M.D., Pharm.D. degrees).

Contacts

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Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this policy.

Responsibilities

Campus Office of the Registrar or Campus Calendar Contact
Submits the academic calendar proposal annually to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy.

Faculty Senate
Reviews and approves final academic calendars (Twin Cities/Rochester and Morris); receives Crookston and Duluth calendars for information.

Senate Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP)
Reviews and approves final academic calendars (Twin Cities/Rochester and Morris) prior to forwarding to the Faculty Senate for approval.

Related Information

Campus Calendar Information

University calendars are available on the University Senate office website once approved. Each campus publishes dates and deadlines on their One Stop website.

- Twin Cities
- Crookston
- Morris
- Duluth
- Rochester

Administrative Policy: Scheduling Examinations, Final Examinations, and Study Days: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

History

Amended:
April 2019 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. 1. Incorporates minor edits to improve understandability and removes the December 23rd date for end of fall term due to equity concerns. 2. Re-wrote summer term section to increase accuracy across all our campuses and remove extraneous information about sessions.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to the Crookston campus.
Policy Statement

All colleges and programs will use the following rules for determining probation and suspension.

Every college and campus must have a Student Scholastic Standing Committee.

A. Probation

1. A student will be placed on probation (and will remain on probation) if either the term or the cumulative GPA is below 2.000. A student on probation will have a hold placed on the student's record and must see an adviser in order to register.

2. Academic contract. Colleges may develop contracts specifying additional requirements that students enrolled in that college must meet to be removed from probation or to register for classes while on probation. The academic contract may include GPA expectations more rigorous than the 2.000 term and cumulative GPA minimum standard, where programmatically warranted and where clearly communicated to the student. If the student meets the conditions of the contract, and the term and cumulative GPA are at least 2.000, the student will be removed from probation. Even if the contract conditions are met, the student must still meet the minimum GPA requirements of this policy. If the conditions of the contract are not met, the student will be suspended.

3. Registering while on probation. Students will be given an override for the probation hold to enable them to register when they have met with an adviser and, if a contract is required, when the student's academic adviser and college office are satisfied that the conditions of the contract have been met.

B. Suspension

1. A student is suspended if
   a. at the end of the probation term (semester), both the term and the cumulative GPA are below 2.000, or
   b. the conditions of an academic contract are not fulfilled. The suspension is effective immediately.

2. Consequences of suspension. When suspended, a student is no longer in the program and cannot register for any University courses for at least one full academic year. All colleges and campuses at the University must recognize the probationary holds and will not allow students, including non-degree seeking students, with these holds to register without the approval of the college placing the hold.

3. Appealing suspension decisions. Students may appeal suspension decisions or petition for re-admission in writing to the college's Student Scholastic Standing Committee (SSSC) according to a defined collegiate petition process.

4. Re-admission after suspension. Re-admission after a period of suspension is not automatic. To be re-admitted, a student must show evidence of changes in circumstances that demonstrate that the student will succeed in an academic program.

5. Returning to the college or a different college after suspension. Upon return to the college after petitioning to reenter, students will be placed on probation, and all colleges will use a probation hold and
contract for the purpose of monitoring the student's performance. If the student does not successfully complete the contract, the student will be suspended again.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Crookston or Duluth campuses.

Reason for Policy

Units have a responsibility to identify students who are unlikely to earn degrees and terminate their enrollment. This practice preserves the resources of the unit and the student. Standardizing the eligibility criteria for academic probation and suspension allows for greater understanding and consistent application of probation and suspension across units. Students need to have clearly articulated processes for being placed on and removed from probation or suspension. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

- Student Services Contact Information

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can a student who is suspended enroll in courses at the University of Minnesota during the suspension period?

   No, students who are suspended may not enroll in courses at the University of Minnesota until their suspension is complete. At the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities the suspension period also includes not being eligible to enroll in courses offered through the College of Continuing Education (CCE). The suspension period applies to all academic terms within the suspension period, including May term and Summer Session.

2. Is a contract required for probation?

   No, use of a contract for probation is determined by the college or campus. Students should contact their college office to determine if a contract is required.

3. What is the difference between an optional probation contract and a mandatory returning after suspension contract?

   The optional contract for probation is just that, optional; some colleges or campuses employ these while others do not. After a student has been suspended, however, there must be a written contract provided.
by the college or campus outlining what performance will be necessary to return to full, unrestricted student status.

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See also Student Services Contact Information.

Definitions

**Contract**
A formal, written document that specifies both the corrective action and associated timeline, and expectations of student performance.

**Evidence of changes in circumstances**
A student is able to demonstrate via a transcript that the student is academically ready to resume work at the University of Minnesota.

**Probation**
A student is performing poorly academically and is “on notice” that further performance decline (or lack of improvement) will result in more severe consequences (suspension).

**Suspension**
A period of time (one year) where a student is not allowed to take any course work at the University of Minnesota.

Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

Related Information

- Crookston Policy: Academic Progress/Probation
- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation
History

Amended:
  October 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

Amended:
  January 2011 - Title updated to reflect that Policy applies to Undergraduate Students and remove Crookston from the policy title and scope.

Amended:
  December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston campus.

Effective:
  April 2009
Policy Statement

Departments, colleges, and campuses have the authority to establish, change, and discontinue academic plans and sub-plans that appear on official University transcripts, subject to appropriate consultation with other units and subject to the final approval of the Board of Regents. (See Administrative Policy: Adding, Changing or Discontinuing Academic Plans).

Establishing and changing academic plan requirements

1. Academic units (departments, colleges, and campuses) have the authority to establish their curricula and the requirements, including prerequisite courses, for academic plans, subject to the final authority of the Board of Regents. Academic plans include:
   - undergraduate degrees,
   - graduate degrees;
   - professional degrees;
   - majors;
   - minors;
   - undergraduate certificates; and
   - post-baccalaureate certificates.

2. Academic units have the authority to add to or remove courses, including prerequisite courses, from academic plans. The additions or deletions of courses from the academic plan requirements must be in accordance with Board of Regents policies and in compliance with rules established by the college and campus.

3. Changes to academic plans must have an effective date, based on the start of an academic term (e.g., fall semester 2018). Changes to requirements may not be made in the middle of an academic term. Changes to academic plans should be announced far enough in advance so that students, including continuing students and prospective first-year and prospective transfer students, can plan accordingly.

4. Students must follow the requirements of the academic plan in effect during the term in which they entered the plan. Academic units may offer the choice of moving to the new requirements to currently enrolled students who have already been admitted to an existing academic plan. However, the academic unit cannot mandate a new requirement of students who are currently enrolled in the plan without having sought and received prior approval of the dean of the college or the appropriate official on a campus.

5. Academic units must clearly communicate their policies and decisions regarding new or revised requirements for academic plans to prospective and current students. This includes changes to a major, minor, or certificate program, including changes in required prerequisites.

Expiration of old credits

To ensure that students receiving a degree or certificate will be up-to-date in the discipline, an academic unit (a department or comparable unit) may decide not to accept course work towards satisfying requirements for the major, minor, or certificate if the course was taken too long ago.
Students returning from an approved leave of absence are subject to the specific conditions/requirements identified in Administrative Policy: Leave of Absence and Readmission for Undergraduates: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester.

Exclusions
This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy
Departments, colleges and campuses are best suited to determine curricula and requirements for majors and minors, for graduate and professional degrees, and to add or remove course offerings. It is in students' best interests if changes in requirements do not occur frequently or arbitrarily, and students are provided with advance notice of such changes.

This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures
There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions
There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices
There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is a change in major requirements?**
   The academic department(s) responsible for a major may add, delete, or modify the published degree requirements for a major in that department. As examples, required courses may be added or deleted, or changed; admissions requirements for a major may be changed.

2. **What are some examples of the levels of academic unit authority?**
   A department, or a group of departments working collaboratively, has the authority to establish the course requirements for a major, minor, or certificate program, including prerequisite requirements; for example, the particular courses required to receive an M.A. degree in History.

   A college has the authority to establish college-wide requirements for particular types of academic programs, for example, a second language requirement for a B.A. degree granted within that college.

   A campus has the authority to establish campus-wide requirements for groups of academic programs. Some examples are a first-year writing requirement for all undergraduate degrees, the minimum number of credits required for a baccalaureate degree, and a minimum GPA requirement for graduation.
3. How does expiration of old credits show on a student's transcript?

"Expiration of old credit" refers to coursework a student has completed too long ago for that subject matter to be current in the discipline. The academic unit may determine that the student must take additional, current coursework in that subject matter in order to fulfill the requirements for an academic program. The prior credits are not removed from the student's transcript; however, they do not count toward satisfying requirements for the particular major, minor, or certificate.

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Definitions

**Academic Program**
Undergraduate, graduate, and professional degrees, majors, minors, and certificates that appear on official University transcripts.

**Academic Major**
A student's main field of specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. The major is recorded on the student's transcript.

**Academic Minor**
A student's declared secondary field of study or specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. A minor typically consists of a set of courses that meet specified guidelines and is designed to allow a sub-major concentration in an academic discipline or in a specific area in or across disciplines. The minor is recorded on the student's transcript.

**Certificate**
A particular set of courses or coursework that typically addresses new knowledge or practice areas emerging from technological, social, or economic changes to which particular professions or occupations must adjust. The certificate is recorded on the student's transcript.

**Curriculum**
The set of courses offered by a unit.

Responsibilities

**Academic Department(s) Responsible for the Academic Program**
- Maintain complete, up-to-date descriptions of the requirements for its academic programs, including all prerequisite courses.
- Determine requirements for admission to particular academic programs/plans.
- Maintain up-to-date curricular offerings, regularly scheduled, in order to allow students to make timely progress toward completing an academic program.
- Provide full and timely information regarding course content and scheduling.
- Clear students for graduation, certifying that they have met the requirements for the major, minor, or certificate.
• Review and provide final approval for requests for waivers of particular requirements for the major, minor, or certificate.

**College/Campus**
• Maintain up-to-date descriptions of the collegiate and campus requirements for academic programs within that college and campus.
• Review and provide final approval for requests for waivers of particular academic program requirements at the college/campus level.

**Executive Vice President and Provost**
• Review and recommend approval of academic proposals for Board of Regents consideration and final action.

**Board of Regents**
• Review and provide final approval of proposals for new, changed, or discontinued academic programs/plans.

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### Related Information

- **Administrative Policy:** Adding, Changing or Discontinuing Academic Plans
- **Administrative Policy:** Leave of Absence and Readmission for Undergraduates: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- **Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation**

### History

**Amended:**
- June 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision: 1. Defines "academic plan" to include majors, minors, and certificates (i.e., to include all academic plans that are documented on the transcript). Certificates were not included in the past, as their requirements were not formally documented in PCAS until two years ago. 2. Provides examples of levels of academic units authority in FAQ #5, to clarify for advisors and faculty who has authority over a particular requirement. 3. Includes a definition of a certificate, consistent with the definitions in other policies 4. Outlines the responsibilities at the department/program level, college/campus level, SVPP level, and Regents level. 5. Aligns with Administrative Policy: Adding, Changing or Discontinuing Academic Plans.

**Amended:**
- September 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

**Amended:**
- August 2010 - Added questions 2-4 to Frequently Asked Questions.

**Amended:**
- December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

**Effective:**
- April 2009
Administrative Policy

Addressing Student Academic Complaints

Policy Statement

Each campus will develop and maintain processes for the good faith review and resolution of student academic complaints that will:

- encourage informal resolution of alleged violations at the lowest unit level;
- allow for a formal resolution mechanism if not resolved informally; and
- provide for appeal to a final decision maker.

The final decision following appeal is not appealable further within the University.

Scope

Student academic complaints are brought by students regarding the University's provision of education and academic services affecting their role as students and must be based on a claimed violation of a University rule, policy, or established practice.

Student academic complaints do not include student complaints regarding:

- their University employment
- disciplinary action under Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code
- grades
- University admission decisions

Relief Available

Resolution of complaints under this policy may include student reinstatement or other corrective action for the benefit of the student, including refunds, but may not award monetary damages, or direct disciplinary action against any employee of the University.

This policy does not limit the University's right to change rules, policies, or practices related to the provision of academic services and education.

Reason for Policy

To implement Board of Regents Policy: Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints, and to comply with law, including Title IX. This policy provides a framework for resolving student academic complaints that is simple and fair and allows for both informal and formal resolution of conflicts. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures
Forms/Instructions

- UM 1698 - Student Academic Complaint

Appendices

- Guidelines for Colleges: Hearings Under the Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints: Twin Cities

Frequently Asked Questions

1. I am a student with a complaint, and I don't know where to direct it. Where can I get information and advice?

   The University of Minnesota takes student complaints and grievances seriously and has processes in place to ensure that complaints and addressed appropriately and in a timely manner. Helpful resources and information about the channels for student complaints are provided on the One Stop student services web site.

2. I don't agree with the grade I received from my instructor. Is there anything I can do?

   While grades are not subject to complaint, you are entitled to an explanation for the grade assigned. If you are not able to get an explanation for the grade from your instructor, consult the appropriate director for undergraduate students or department chair. Students also may wish to seek assistance from the Student Conflict Resolution Office. An instructor's judgment in assigning a grade is not a subject for a formal hearing, and can only be reviewed through these informal processes.

3. I have been dismissed by my college for academic reasons. What steps can I take to challenge the dismissal? What is my enrollment status while the dispute is pending?

   If your college or program has an appeal process for dismissals, you must follow that process before filing a student academic complaint. Your enrollment continues while the appeal is pending. If your appeal is denied, your enrollment ends and you may file a student academic complaint at that point. If your academic complaint is successful, you then would be reinstated as a student.

4. A student has a complaint about sexual harassment by a University employee. Where should the student go?

   A student with a complaint of sexual harassment by a University employee (1) can seek assistance from the campus equal opportunity office (see Administrative Policy: Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Relationship Violence) or (2) can bring a student academic complaint under this policy and procedure, where applicable. If the student chooses the latter, the University will provide training for resolving the complaint under this procedure to all administrators and other staff who are authorized to investigate or resolve student complaints of sexual harassment. Colleges can contact the Office of General Counsel (612-624-4100) or the campus's equal opportunity office to arrange the training.
## Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact(s)</td>
<td>Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn (undergraduate)</td>
<td>612-624-1328</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jkuecker@umn.edu">jkuecker@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karen Starry (graduate)</td>
<td>612-625-2815</td>
<td><a href="mailto:starry@umn.edu">starry@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crookston</td>
<td>Jason Tangquist</td>
<td>218-281-8424</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jtangqui@crk.umn.edu">jtangqui@crk.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duluth</td>
<td>Gerald Pepper (undergraduate)</td>
<td>218-726-7274</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gpepper@d.umn.edu">gpepper@d.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erik Brown (graduate)</td>
<td>218-726-8891</td>
<td><a href="mailto:etbrown@d.umn.edu">etbrown@d.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris</td>
<td>Janet Ericksen</td>
<td>320-589-6015</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ericksja@morris.umn.edu">ericksja@morris.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td>Lori Carrell</td>
<td>507-258-8006</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lcarrell@r.umn.edu">lcarrell@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Definitions

**Student Academic Complaint**
Complaints brought by students regarding the University's provision of academic services and education affecting their role as students.

**Sexual Harassment**
Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic advancement in any University activity or program; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis of employment or academic decisions affecting this individual in any University activity or program; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or academic environment in any University activity of program.

## Responsibilities

**Academic Complaint Officer**
Comply with the Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints procedures.

**Chancellor**
Ensure that campus has processes consistent with policy.

**College**
Schedule a hearing should the Academic Complaint Officer refer the matter to a College Hearing Panel.

**Office of the General Counsel**
Provide legal advice to the University and provide legal representation to the University respondent when the student is represented by a lawyer.

**Executive Vice President and Provost**
Ensure that campus has processes consistent with policy.

## Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: [Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints](#)
- [Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation](#)
History

Amended:
  October 2014 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. Edits were made to clarify existing procedures and action steps.

Amended:
  April 2009 - Added question and answer to FAQ about what to do when Students have a complaint about sexual harrassment by University Employees.

Effective:
  November 2008
Policy Statement

The University may grant undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees posthumously. If a college determines that a deceased student has completed sufficient coursework to be awarded a degree, the college (Twin Cities only) or chief academic officer (or designee) on each system campus has the authority to grant the degree posthumously. Graduate students must have completed enough work toward the thesis or dissertation, if required for the degree.

Reason for Policy

To recognize the academic achievement of students who have died, and to empower colleges and Vice Chancellors to award degrees posthumously where the student has completed enough of the planned degree program.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

Contacts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact</td>
<td>Susan Van Voorhis</td>
<td>612-625-8098</td>
<td>612-626-1754 (fax)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Information</td>
<td>Stacey Tidball</td>
<td>612-626-0075</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tidball@umn.edu">tidball@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Information</td>
<td>Crookston - Jason Tangquist</td>
<td>218-281-8424</td>
<td><a href="mailto:umcreg@umn.edu">umcreg@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>218-281-8549 (fax)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Information</td>
<td>Duluth - Registrar</td>
<td>218-726-8887</td>
<td><a href="mailto:umdreg@d.umn.edu">umdreg@d.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Information</td>
<td>Nate Peterson</td>
<td>320-589-6011</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pete2787@umn.edu">pete2787@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Information</td>
<td>Rochester - Jenny Casper</td>
<td>507-258-8242</td>
<td><a href="mailto:umrregistrar@r.umn.edu">umrregistrar@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Definitions**

Posthumous: Following or occurring after one's death.

**Responsibilities**

Registrar
- Notify departments and colleges of this policy.
- Establish individual campus procedures for recording the posthumous degree.
- Post the degree to the student's record.
- Work with the department or college to facilitate appropriate presentation of the degree at the next commencement ceremony or presentation to the student's family in an appropriate setting.

College (Twin Cities)
- In consultation with the academic department of the degree, determine if posthumous degree should be awarded.
- Notify the Office of the Registrar of posthumous degree granting for diploma. Send a copy of the request and approval to the Registrar, and place a copy in the student's file.
- Contact the Office of the Registrar to determine the correct information for posting the degree and issuing the diploma.
- Facilitate appropriate presentation of the degree
- As a courtesy, notify the Executive Vice President and Provost of the awarding of the posthumous degree.

Collegiate Office, (Crookston, Duluth, Morris & Rochester)
- In consultation with the academic department of the degree, make a request of the campus Chief Academic Officer that the degree be awarded.

Chief Academic Officer (Crookston, Duluth, Morris & Rochester)
- In consultation with the college requesting the posthumous degree, determine if posthumous degree should be awarded.
- Notify the Office of the Registrar of posthumous degree granting for diploma. Send a copy of the request and approval to the Registrar, and place a copy in the student's file.
- Contact the Office of the Registrar to determine the correct information for posting the degree and issuing the diploma.

**Chief Academic Officer Assignments by Campus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Chief Academic Officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crookston</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus</td>
<td>Chief Academic Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duluth</td>
<td>Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td>Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Information**

There is no related information associated with this policy.

**History**

**Amended:**
- March 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. Administrative Procedure: Requesting a Posthumous Degree incorporated into the Responsibilities section of the policy. Minor wording changes to Statement and Reason.

**Reviewed:**
- September 2011 - Comprehensive Review.

**Amended:**
- April 2008 - Updated contacts section. Added definitions for "Posthumous" and "Eligible Student". "Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs" changed to "Chief academic officer" in responsibilities section. Additional edits made to clarify policy, but not to change meaning.

**Effective:**
- June 2003
Policy Statement

To receive an undergraduate degree, or to have a minor or certificate recorded on their transcript, students must complete a required minimum of their coursework from the campus that awards the degree, minor, or certificate (commonly referred to as "resident credit" or "credit in residence").

Resident credit includes the traditional courses offered on the campus, as well as study-abroad credits earned through programs sponsored by the University of Minnesota campus, and credits earned in online courses offered by the University of Minnesota campus.

Students may earn a major and a minor from two different campuses. Students may earn a certificate from any certificate program to which they have been admitted on any campus.

Minimum requirements for credits in residence are as follows:

**Undergraduate (baccalaureate) degree**

1. At least 30 semester credits.
2. At least 15 credits of the last 30 credits.
3. At least half of upper-division (3xxx-level or higher) credits that satisfy major requirements (major requirements includes all courses required for the major, including courses in a subplan).

**Undergraduate minor**

4. At least 3 upper-division credits that satisfy requirements for the minor at the campus that will award the minor

**Undergraduate certificate**

5. At least 3 upper-division credits that satisfy requirements for the certificate at the campus that will award the certificate.
6. Crookston only: At least 50% of the course credits required for the certificate must be taken at the Crookston campus.

The Executive Vice President and Provost may, under extraordinary circumstances, waive the requirements in sections 2 through 5 above. The Chancellor for the Crookston campus may, under extraordinary circumstances, waive the requirement in section 6. The requirement in section 1 may not be waived.
Colleges or campuses may, with approval of the Executive Vice President and Provost or Chancellor, establish standards higher than those set in this policy for credits in residence. Students must be informed of such additional requirements.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

It is expected that students who graduate from the University will have completed a minimum amount of coursework from the University campus from which they are seeking to graduate. Similarly, it is expected that students who receive the notation of a minor or certificate on their transcript will have completed a minimum amount of coursework from the University campus awarding that minor or certificate. This requirement allows the faculty of each campus to ensure the student meets the campus and institutional standards of achievement.

This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission. To meet the standards for accreditation, each University of Minnesota campus must maintain structures or practices that ensure the coherence and quality of the programs for which it awards a degree, including that at a minimum, 30 of the 120 credits earned for the bachelor’s degree are earned at the campus itself.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Campus-Specific Credit Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Majors, Minors, and Certificates

Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact(s)</td>
<td>Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn</td>
<td>612-624-1328</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jkuecker@umn.edu">jkuecker@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Cities Campus</td>
<td>Sue Van Voorhis</td>
<td>612-625-8098</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vanwo002@umn.edu">vanwo002@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Contact</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crookston Campus</td>
<td>Jason Tangquist</td>
<td>218-281-8424</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jtangqui@crk.umn.edu">jtangqui@crk.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Campus</td>
<td>Nate Peterson</td>
<td>320-589-6011</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pete2787@umn.edu">pete2787@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester Campus</td>
<td>Diane Douglas</td>
<td>507-258-8008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:douglasd@r.umn.edu">douglasd@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definitions

Academic Major
A student's main field of specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. The major is recorded on the student's transcript.

Academic Minor
A student's declared secondary field of study or specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. A minor typically consists of a set of courses that meet specified guidelines and is designed to allow a sub-major concentration in an academic discipline or in a specific area in or across disciplines. The minor is recorded on the student's transcript.

Requirements for the major and minor
The set of courses that constitute the program of study in a focused area for a particular degree program. These courses make up a portion of the University of Minnesota degree.

Certificate
A particular set of courses or coursework that typically addresses new knowledge or practice areas emerging from technological, social, or economic changes to which particular professions or occupations must adjust.

Responsibilities

Colleges or campuses
- Follow minimum standards established in this policy.
- Prepare request to establish standard higher than those set in the policy. Communicate the new standards, if approved.
- Document and communicate all requirements for majors, minors, and certificates.
- Respond to petitions seeking waivers of collegiate or campus requirements regarding credits in residence.

Executive Vice President and Provost/Chancellor
- Consider collegiate or campus requests on higher standards and communicate the decision.
- Respond to individual student requests for waivers of credits in residence requirements.

Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Academic Unit Authority over the Curriculum and Major, Minor, and Certificate Requirements: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended:
July 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision. 1. Expands title to include majors, minors, and certificates. Certificate requirements have been added. 2. Specifies that students can earn a certificate from any certificate program to which they have been admitted. 3. Incorporates the residency requirements for Crookston certificates.

Amended:
October 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.
Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.
Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

Each campus is responsible for establishing a standard class schedule and class period in order to maximize classroom utilization and student access to courses. These standards apply to courses that are scheduled during an academic term. Academic terms are defined by the academic calendars set for each campus.

A. Standards for Class Schedules

1. Each campus of the University must adopt a standard class schedule with an appropriate change period between classes. Start times and/or class periods that vary from the standard schedule are subject to campus procedures for approval of such variances.
2. Departments are to schedule classes so that classroom space is used to the maximum extent practicable while ensuring that students have reasonable access to register for classes needed for timely degree progress.
3. All classes that normally permit undergraduates to enroll will not be held on official University holidays or University Study Days.
4. Class schedules, and information on non-conforming classes, will be reviewed as needed by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy by the office on the campus responsible for class scheduling.
5. Undergraduate classes will meet during the regular academic session.

B. Crookston Campus Standard Schedule and Class Periods

1. Monday - Friday Standard Class Periods
   - No classes will be scheduled on Thursdays between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
   - Lecture classes
     - All daytime lecture classes will begin on the hour, with the exception of Four-Credit Class Option B (7:40 a.m.).
     - Evening classes may begin at 5:00 p.m. or later and are not restricted by days of the week or time blocks.
   - Exceptions to these rules may be proposed to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs for approval.
   - One-credit classes
     - Meet for 50 minutes any one day per week, beginning on the hour, at any hour (except no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Th).
     - Note: One-credit classes meeting twice a week follow the rules for two-credit classes.
   - Two-credit classes
     - Meet for 50 minutes on M and W, or W and F, or M and F, beginning on the hour, at any hour.
ii. Meet for 50 minutes T and Th, beginning on the hour, at any hour (except between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Th).

- Meet for 100 minutes on T or Th, beginning at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. (on T only; no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Th), 2:00 p.m., or 4:00 p.m. Lecture classes

- Three-credit classes
  i. Meet for 50 minutes on M, W, F beginning on the hour.
  ii. Meet for 75 minutes on T and Th beginning at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., or 4:00 p.m (except no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00pm on Th).

- Four-credit classes
  i. Meet for 50 minutes on M, F, and two other days, beginning on the hour, at any hour (except no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00pm on Th).
  ii. Meet for 70 minutes on M, W, F, 7:40 a.m. to 8:50 a.m., or beginning at 3:00 p.m. or later.
  iii. Meet for 100 minutes on T and Th, beginning at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., or 4:00 p.m. (except no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00pm on Th).

- Five-credit classes
  i. Meet for 50 minutes any one day per week, beginning on the hour, at any hour (except no classes between 12:00 p.m. and 2:00pm on Th).

Laboratory classes
i. Laboratory classes will be scheduled in consultation with Department Heads and the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs.
ii. Laboratory classes will follow start times as outlined above for M, W, F or T and Th.

- Standard Class Meeting Times Chart (see the appendix: Standard Class Meeting Time Charts for Class Scheduling)

C. Morris Campus Standard Schedule and Class Periods

1. No classes will be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11:40 a.m. and 12:40 p.m.
2. Monday - Friday Standard Class Periods
   There are two standard class periods, described below and set out in the Appendix chart:
   - The standard MWF class is 65 minutes, with a 10-minute change period between classes.
   - The standard TTh class is 100 minutes, with a 10-minute change period between classes.
   - Standard Class Meeting Times Chart (see the appendix: Standard Class Meeting Time Charts for Class Scheduling)

D. Rochester Campus Standard Schedule and Class Periods

1. Monday - Friday Standard Class Periods
   There are two standard class periods, described below and set out in the Appendix chart:
   - The standard "A" class is 50 minutes, with a 15-minute change period between classes, with the exception of a 30-minute change period between 12:05-12:35. The first class of the day starts at 08:00. Classes meeting for two or more consecutive periods (such as labs) will start according to this schedule.
   - The standard "B" class is 75 minutes, with a 15-minute change period between classes, with the exception of a 30-minute change period between 12:15-12:45 and between 2:00-2:30. The first class of the day starts at 08:00. Classes meeting for two or more consecutive periods (such as labs) will start according to this schedule. Such classes are scheduled on the following pairs of days: Mon-Wed, Mon-Fri, Wed-Fri, Tues-Thurs.
   - Standard Class Meeting Times Chart (see the appendix: Standard Class Meeting Time Charts for Class Scheduling)
2. Classes designed exclusively for graduate and/or post-baccalaureate professional students are exempt from the scheduling requirements in this policy. Such classes should be scheduled so that students have reasonable access to courses inside and outside the department.
3. Distribution of meeting times
   Classes will be distributed evenly throughout the day when such distributions do not negatively impact student options or cohort offerings.
4. Distribution of enrollments
   Enrollments will be distributed throughout the day (i.e., across class hours) and throughout the week (i.e., day patterns) when such distributions do not negatively impact student options or cohort offerings.
5. Classes scheduled during non-standard times must be approved by the ADAP and Registrar; in case of a disagreement, final authority to grant a variance rests with the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Innovation.

6. **Standard Scheduling Rules for Classes Carrying 1-5 Credits.**

The following rules do not apply to the length of labs, film classes, performing arts classes, or specialized class components, but such classes must begin according to the schedule in Section 1.

Neither these rules nor those in Section 1 apply to courses administered online or directed study, directed readings, or directed research courses, but these courses must comply with Administrative Policy: **Expected Student Academic Work per Credit.**

- **One-credit classes**
  - i. Meet for one standard hour per week, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, and meet for one class period.
  - ii. Meet twice per week, and follow the rules for two-credit classes; or
  - iii. Meet three times per week, and follow the rules for three-credit classes.

- **Two-credit classes**
  - i. Meet twice per week, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, and meet for one class period, or
  - ii. Meet once per week, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, and last two class periods.

- **Three-credit classes**
  - i. Meet three times per week on MWF, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, and meet for one class period; or
  - ii. Meet twice per week, use the standard "B" class meeting times, and meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays only; or
  - iii. Meet twice per week, use the "C" class meeting times, and meet on MW, WF, MF only; or
  - iv. Meet once per week, use the standard "A" start time, and meet on F.

- **Four-credit classes**
  - i. Meet four times per week, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, or
  - ii. Meet twice per week for two hours, begin at a standard "A" time, and last two class periods; or

- For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with three hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for three-credit courses and the discussion component follows the schedule for one-credit classes.

- **Five-credit classes**
  - i. Meet five times per week, begin at a standard "A" class meeting time, meet for one class period, and meet MTWThF.
  - For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with three hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for three-credit courses. For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with four hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for four-credit courses and the discussion component follows the corresponding one- or two-credit schedule.

7. **Summer Term** (May session plus first and second summer session).

Classes may meet during the May session, first or second summer session, or may extend across two or all three sessions. Class period duration in the May and summer sessions is at the discretion of the department offering the class. The first class hour will begin at 08:00.

E. **Twin Cities Campus Standard Schedule and Class Periods**

1. **Monday - Friday Standard Class Periods**

There are two standard class periods, described below and set out in the Appendix chart:

- The standard "A" class is 50 minutes, with a 15-minute change period between classes. Classes meeting for two or more periods (such as labs), must start and end according to this schedule.
- The standard "B" class is 75 minutes, with a 15-minute change period between classes. Such classes will only be scheduled:
  - i. Tuesday/Thursday,
  - ii. Monday/Wednesday,
  - iii. Wednesday/Friday, or
IV. Monday/Friday.

- Standard Class Meeting Times Chart (see the appendix: Standard Class Meeting Time Charts for Class Scheduling)

2. Classes designed exclusively for graduate and/or post-baccalaureate professional students on the Twin Cities campus are exempt from the scheduling requirements in this policy, if held in a room under the control of the department. Departments should schedule classes so that eligible students have reasonable access to register for classes needed for timely degree progress.

- Classes taught through Academic Health Center (AHC) Schools and Colleges using AHC classrooms may be scheduled at non-standard times on the the Twin Cities campus.

3. Distribution Requirements

- The requirements are enforced at the collegiate level. Colleges will work with the Office of Classroom Management to ensure fair-use scheduling.

  - Meeting times
  
    Colleges must distribute classes evenly throughout the day, with no more than 3% of class demand scheduled in any one standard time block.

  - Meeting patterns
  
    Colleges are permitted to schedule a maximum of 50% of their classes using a Tuesday/Thursday meeting pattern, with the remaining classes using a combination of Monday/Wednesday/Friday meeting patterns.

  - Enrollments
  
    Colleges must distribute enrollments throughout the day (i.e., across class hours) and throughout the week (i.e., day patterns).

  - Distribution calculations

    Distributions are calculated and available through a report noted in the Responsibilities section of this policy. Calculations are made by summing the number of minutes for each meeting pattern occurring in a standard "A" class meeting time on each weekday, Monday through Friday.

    Colleges are permitted to schedule up to 3% of departmental classes during any individual time period (e.g., period VII on Thursday or period II on Monday) on any given weekday.

4. Classes requesting to meet during non-standard times, must be approved by the college associate dean and the Office of Classroom Management and may be required to meet in departmental space. In case of a disagreement, final authority to grant a variance rests with the Executive Vice President and Provost's office.

5. Standard Scheduling Rules for Classes Carrying 1-5 Credits.

   The following rules do not apply to the length of labs, performing arts classes, specialized class components, or Summer Semester but such classes must begin according to the Section 1 schedule.

   Neither these rules nor those in Section 1 apply to classes without a meeting pattern, to include online, directed study, directed readings, or directed research courses, but these classes must comply with related Administrative Policy: Expected Student Academic Work per Credit.

**Chart: Standard scheduling rules for Twin Cities classes by number of credits, with alternates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheduling Rules</th>
<th>1 credit</th>
<th>2 credits</th>
<th>3 credits</th>
<th>4 credits</th>
<th>5 credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>Meet once per week, begin at a standard &quot;A&quot; class meeting time, and meet for one class period; or</td>
<td>Meet twice per week, begin at a standard &quot;A&quot; class meeting time, and meet for one class period; or</td>
<td>Meet three times per week on MWF, begin at a standard &quot;A&quot; class meeting time, and meet for one class period; or</td>
<td>Meet four times per week, begin at a standard &quot;A&quot; class meeting time; or</td>
<td>Meet five times per week, begin at a standard &quot;A&quot; class meeting time, meet for one class period, and meet MTWThF; or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduling Rules</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
<td>5 credits</td>
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<td><strong>Alternate</strong></td>
<td>Meet twice per week, and follow the rules for two-credit classes; or</td>
<td>Meet once per week, begin at a standard “A” class meeting time, and last two class periods.</td>
<td>Meet twice per week, use the standard “B” class meeting times, and meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays only; or</td>
<td>Meet twice per week for two hours, begin at a standard “A” time, and last two class periods; or</td>
<td>For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with three hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for three-credit courses; or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alternate</strong></td>
<td>Meet three times per week, and follow the rules for three-credit classes.</td>
<td>Meet twice per week, use the “C” class meeting times, and meet on MW, WF, MF only; or</td>
<td>For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with three hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for three-credit courses and the discussion component follows the schedule for one-credit classes.</td>
<td>For lecture/laboratory or lecture/discussion courses with four hours of lecture time, the lecture component follows the schedule for four-credit courses and the discussion component follows the corresponding one- or two-credit schedule.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alternate</strong></td>
<td>Meet once per week, use the standard “A” start time, and meet on F.</td>
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**Summer Term**

Class period duration in the May and summer sessions is at the discretion of the department offering the class, in consultation with the Office of Classroom Management. The first class hour will begin at 08:00 in Minneapolis and at 08:30 in St. Paul.

**Reason for Policy**

Standard class scheduling allows for maximum access to class offerings for students and facilitates the most efficient use of classrooms.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**
Appendices

- Standard Class Meeting Time Charts for Class Scheduling

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are campuses allowed to set their own class schedule and passing times?
   
   Yes, each campus of the University (e.g. University of Minnesota, Crookston; University of Minnesota, Morris; University of Minnesota, Rochester; University of Minnesota, Twin Cities) is permitted to set the appropriate class schedule and passing times for its institution.

2. What is a centrally-scheduled classroom versus a departmentally-controlled classroom (Twin Cities)?
   
   Centrally-scheduled classrooms at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities are operated, maintained and scheduled through the Office of Classroom Management. Departmentally-scheduled classrooms are operated, maintained and scheduled through the individual departments that control them.

Contacts

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Definitions

Academic Terms

The University of Minnesota academic calendar includes Fall Semester, Spring Semester, Summer Semester, also known as Academic Terms. Classes are offered each of these terms although the duration of the term can vary. See the Academic Calendar of the appropriate campus for exact dates of the terms in a particular calendar year.

Responsibilities

- Campuses
  - In consultation with the campus registrar, each campus is responsible for establishing a standard class schedule and class period.
Colleges and departments follow the established campus standard schedule and class periods.

**Colleges and Departments (Twin Cities)**
- Distribute meeting times and patterns, and enrollment.
- Monitor distribution with the Class Scheduling Distribution Summary.

**Office of Classroom Management (Twin Cities)**
- Establish campus standard schedule and class period times.
- Monitor and report use of time distributions and variations from standard schedule.

**Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost**
- Considers a request for variance from the standard class schedule when it is necessary, and if agreement about scheduling has not been reached at a lower level.

### Related Information

- **Administrative Policy:** *Instructional Time per Course Credit: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*
- **Administrative Policy:** *Expected Student Academic Work per Credit: Twin Cities, Morris, Rochester*
- **Administrative Policy:** *Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Morris, Rochester*
- **Administrative Policy:** *University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Academic Calendar*
- **Administrative Policy:** *Academic Calendars: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*
- **Administrative Policy:** *Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*

### History

**Amended**
- June 2019 - Comprehensive Review:
  - Added standard schedule and class periods for Crookston, Morris and Rochester.
  - Added an appendix that converted standard schedule text to charts for each campus Twin Cities combined ‘B’ and ‘C’ standard class times for clarity Twin Cities clarified standard scheduling rules by converting text into a chart Providing clarity of the standard schedules for each campus that previously were not documented in the policy.
  - Adding the appendix improves communication of standard class times.

**Amended**
- May 2011 - Comprehensive Review: Requires colleges to distribute classes evenly throughout the day; Requires colleges to distribute enrollment, as well as classes, throughout the day and throughout the week; Eliminates the 60/40 guidelines of not scheduling more than 60% of the classes during peak hours. Adds two new meeting patterns to the standard class times.

**Amended**
- April 2010 - Added an additional approval step if a faculty member wants to schedule a class on an official University Holiday.

**Amended**
- December 2009 - This policy now applies to Crookston.

**Effective:**
- April 2009
Policy Statement

1. **Enrollment limits for course sections**
   Departments or programs may set minimum and maximum enrollment limits for any course or any section of a course. Enrollment limits are subject to review by the dean.

2. **Cancellation of low-enrollment courses**
   a. Each campus and college must maintain a policy regarding the cancellation of low-enrollment courses or sections. These policies may differ across colleges and may allow variations by department. Any such policy must, at a minimum, take into account (1) the effect of cancellation of a course or courses on student academic progress and graduation, (2) the need for a course to contribute to appropriate program breadth and curriculum, and (3) commitments made to instructors that a course would be offered.
   b. Courses may not be cancelled after the fifth day of classes for that term.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Maximum efficiency and optimal learning occurs within an enrollment range: it is not feasible or educationally sound to teach certain courses if enrollments are either too small or too large. Departments must be able to cancel a course if it is too under-prescribed to warrant offering it, as well as to limit the enrollment to maximize learning. Students need adequate time to select a replacement course if a course is cancelled.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can college guidelines on canceling low enrollment courses be found?
Each college of the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities should have its guidelines for canceling low enrollment courses on its website. Policies for the University of Minnesota, Morris and the University of Minnesota, Rochester can be obtained in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

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<td></td>
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Definitions

Enrollment limits (maximum or minimum)
The minimum or maximum number of students allowed in a course; the minimum informs when a course may be cancelled and the maximum informs when a course is considered closed to additional enrollments.

Responsibilities

Departments (Twin Cities)
- Establish minimum and maximum course limits.
- Proactively monitor course enrollments so as to cancel courses as early as possible so students can still register for additional course(s) without needed permission to do so.

Related Information

There is no related information for this policy.
History

Amended:
   December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
   April 2009
Policy Statement

The primary purpose of the course numbering system is to help students select and sequence courses. Consistent use of the course numbering system also helps those who view a student's transcript identify the level of courses that appear on the transcript.

1. Departments and colleges must use 4-digit course numbers using the system in the Appendix to this policy.
2. Students should use the course numbering system to assist in selecting courses to advance them toward their degree.
3. **Use of 4xxx Courses in Graduate Programs**: Graduate programs may accept University 4xxx-level course credits as graduate courses. A maximum of nine credits of 4xxx-level course work may be used to satisfy the doctoral or master's course credit requirement, but individual graduate programs may impose a lower maximum. A graduate program may restrict the use of 4xxx courses in the program (e.g., by stipulating that only certain 4xxx courses may be counted). A graduate program has the authority to establish its curricula and the requirements for its academic programs.
4. **6xxx and 7xxx Courses**: 6xxx and 7xxx courses are to be used primarily for post-baccalaureate professional programs (e.g., D.D.S., J.D.). It is at the discretion of a graduate program whether it will accept University 6xxx- and 7xxx-level course credits as satisfying degree requirements. Similarly, it is at the discretion of a professional program whether it will accept University 5xxx- and 8xxx-level course credits as satisfying degree requirements. Those departments or programs offering courses for degrees that span graduate and professional education may determine how to best number courses in their curriculum.
5. **Alphabetic Suffixes**: No alphabetic suffixes other than those already in place at the time this policy is adopted (April 2009) may be used (see the FAQ).
6. Graduate programs must use the standard numbering conventions for all thesis credit courses (see Appendix).
7. Graduate programs will use the all-University numbering conventions for other kinds of courses (see Appendix for xx91 – xx98 courses).
8. Thesis credit courses (see Appendix) and xx91 – xx98 are examples of courses that students may repeat for credit.
9. Use of a zero as the last digit of a course number should be reserved for other kinds of courses that may be repeated for credit (e.g., "topics" courses).

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy
Minnesota law requires the University to have a course numbering convention to distinguish remedial, lower division, upper division, and graduate level coursework. Consistent use of the course numbering system helps students select and sequence their courses and helps those who view a student's transcript to identify the level of courses that appear on the transcript.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**

There are no forms associated with this policy.

**Appendices**

- *Course Numbering System*

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are suffixes and how can they be used?**

Suffixes help identify certain characteristics of courses. Currently three suffixes are used: W (for writing intensive courses); H (for honors courses); and V (for courses that are both honors and writing intensive).

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**Definitions**

**Directed Research**

An opportunity in which a student designs and carries out a research project under the direction of a faculty member. Directed research may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

**Directed Study**
A course in which a student designs and carries out an independent project under the direction of a faculty member. Directed study courses may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

**Independent Study**
A course in which a student enrolls in an established course but studies independently under an instructor’s guidance rather than attending class. Independent study courses may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

**Remedial**
Remedial courses are intended to correct or improve deficient skills and knowledge in a specific subject. 0xxx courses are remedial courses that do not carry credit.

**Responsibilities**

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

**Related Information**

- Administrative Policy: *Academic Unit Authority over the Curriculum and Major*
- Administrative Policy: *Application of Graduate Credits to Degree Requirements*

**History**

**Amended:**
May 2016 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. Language now aligns with Administrative Policy: *Application of Graduate Credits to Degree Requirements*. Removes language that pertained to the old Graduate School structure.

**Amended:**
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

**Effective:**
April 2009
Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

1. Degrees are awarded by the Regents of the University on recommendation of the faculty, not by colleges or departments or campuses. The University sets degree requirements and standards, but departments, colleges, and campuses have the delegated authority to determine the requirements and standards related to programs and majors, so long as they are consistent with this policy.

2. All credit awarded by the University, regardless of the campus or type of instruction, must be recognized by all University campuses, must appear on the transcript, and must count toward the requirements for the degree (subject to the requirements and standards established by departments, colleges, and campuses). In some cases, a student may accumulate credits that, while recognized by the University, are in excess of what may be required for the degree program in which the student is enrolled.

3. Students may not earn two baccalaureate degrees in the same major (e.g. B.A. and B.S. in Economics) from any campus(es) of the University.

4. A student fulfilling requirements for two majors within different degree structures (e.g., one B.A. and one B.S) may earn two degrees. The student must complete all additional requirements for the degree, beyond completion of the major (e.g., the language requirement for the B.A. degree).

5. Baccalaureate degrees require a minimum of 120 semester credits. College/campus approval is required for any baccalaureate degree programs that require more than 120 credits. Academic units that propose baccalaureate degree programs requiring more than 132 credits must also receive approval from the appropriate chancellor or provost in consultation with the Senate Committee on Educational Policy.

6. The accumulation of 120 or more credits, without meeting requirements and standards set out in this policy and by departments, colleges, and campuses, does not entitle a student to a degree.

7. Requirements regarding breadth of study (i.e., liberal or general education requirements) and other campus-wide graduation standards must be approved by the faculty governing body for that campus.

8. Limits on use of S/N grades (see Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts for definitions of S and N).
   a. The maximum proportion of University S/N credits permitted within the total University credits in the degree is 25%.
   b. [Twin Cities only] The maximum number of University S/N credits permitted within the total University credits in the degree is 20.
      i. For a student who completes only the minimum number of 30 credits at the University, no more than 8 of the 30 credits may be taken S/N.
   c. [Twin Cities only] No unit will allow S/N grading in major course work unless the S/N grading system is preset by the unit for specific courses.
   d. [Twin Cities only] Subject to the limits in section 8(a) and (b), colleges, campuses, and programs may specify what courses or proportion of courses taken by its students or its prospective students must be on the A-F or S-N grading system.
   e. [Crookston only] Courses being used to satisfy Crookston major and liberal education requirements must be taken A/F unless the course is only offered S/N.

9. [Twin Cities and Rochester only] D grades are not permitted to to satisfy requirements in major, minor, or certificate courses. Required courses for the major, minor, or undergraduate certificate in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward satisfying the major, minor, or certificate requirements (including transfer courses). All other courses, including courses in the major or
minor field that are not required to complete the major or minor, will count toward a degree if the student earns a D or better.

10. **[Crookston only]** Students may have no more than two D grades in courses included in an academic major. Program faculty and the academic department determine the specific classes required for an academic major.

11. **[Morris only]** No more than 8 credits in Music Ensembles, Mus 1300 through Mus 1340, no more than 4 credits in SSA 12xx skills courses, no more than 4 credits Varsity Athletics, SSA 14xx, and no more than 32 credits of IS 3796, 3896, 3996 may be applied to the 120 credit degree requirement.

12. GPA requirement for graduation. A student who is admitted to a degree program or major and who completes all requirements of the degree, with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.000 in University of Minnesota coursework, will be allowed to earn a degree. The cumulative GPA is based on only University of Minnesota course work. No academic unit may impose additional grade point standards or conditions to graduate.

**Exclusions**

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

**Reason for Policy**

The policy establishes a minimum consistent standard that all undergraduate students must reach in order to earn an undergraduate degree. The standard applies across the University system and is intended to ensure that students have a strong foundation for their future endeavors. This policy supports the University of Minnesota mission of teaching and learning.

Departments, colleges and campuses are empowered to determine the requirements and standards related to their degree programs and their majors and minors, but these must be consistent with the University's policy standards.

This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**

There are no forms associated with this policy.

**Appendices**

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

- [FAQ: Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree](#)
Contacts

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Definitions

**Academic Major**
A student’s main field of specialization during the student’s undergraduate or graduate studies. The major is recorded on the student’s transcript.

**Academic Minor**
A student’s declared secondary field of study or specialization during the student’s undergraduate or graduate studies. A minor typically consists of a set of courses that meet specified guidelines and is designed to allow a sub-major concentration in an academic discipline or in a specific area in or across disciplines. The minor is recorded on the student’s transcript.

**Baccalaureate Degree**
An academic degree conferred by a college or university upon those who complete the undergraduate curriculum. Also called bachelor’s degree.

**Degree Structure**
The type of baccalaureate degree. Most baccalaureate degrees offered at the University of Minnesota are within the bachelor of arts (B.A.) structure or the bachelor of science (B.S.) structure. However, degrees are also offered within other structures such as the Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) or Bachelor of Science in Business (B.S.B.).

**Requirements for the Major and Minor**
The set of courses that constitute the program of study in a focused area for a particular degree program. These courses make up a portion of the University of Minnesota degree.

Responsibilities

**Colleges or campuses**
Prepare request to establish standards higher than those set in the policy. Communicate the new standards, if approved.

**Executive Vice President and Provost**
Consider collegiate or campus requests on higher standards and communicate the decision.

Related Information

- Administrative Policy: *Campus Specific Credit Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*
- *Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation*
History

Amended:
December 2018 - Comprehensive Review. The Credit and grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree policy has been revised to improve understanding when students are approaching the maximum number of S/N credits in their degree. The Twin Cities campus has revised the maximum from 25% to 20 total S/N credits in an undergraduate degree.

Amended:
October 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

Amended:
March 2013 - Minor Revision, Comprehensive Review. 1. Clarifies that a student may not earn two degrees in the same major. 2. Specifies that the minimum GPA requirement of 2.0 must be earned from the courses taken at the University of Minnesota. Transfer credits from other universities will not be used in this calculation.

Amended:
June 2012 - Major Revision, Comprehensive Review: 1. Specifies that Ds will not be allowed in courses required for the minor, which has been the current practice on the Twin Cities campus. 2. Clarifies that this rule applies to Rochester as well.

Amended:
August 2011 - Major Revision, Comprehensive Review: Eliminates the skills requirements for the Twin Cities, Crookston, and Rochester, to allow students choices as to how to use their electives. There are sufficient other controls in place to ensure that an undergraduate degree does not have an excess of electives.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Credit for Nationally-Recognized Exams for Undergraduate Students: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

Students will be awarded credits based on nationally recognized examinations (Advanced Placement [AP] program, the International Baccalaureate [IB] program, and the College-Level Examination Program [CLEP]) when they meet the minimum standards for the campus awarding the credit.

These credits awarded become applicable to a University of Minnesota degree program or certificate program only after the student has been admitted and enrolled as a degree-seeking student or admitted to the certificate program.

Academic unit authorities on each campus have discretion to establish the minimum standards for awarding credits for nationally recognized examinations. In determining those standards, academic unit authorities evaluate the material in the nationally recognized examination. If the material is judged to be substantially similar to that of an existing course, credit will be awarded for that specific course. If the material is judged to be of college level but not substantially similar to an existing course, the academic unit may assign general departmental credits.

Reason for Policy

To provide the opportunity for enrolled undergraduate students to receive credits for nationally recognized exams when the minimum standards, as determined by academic unit authorities, have been met. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

- **UM 1787 - Review of Advanced Placement Course Award**

Note: This form was designed for the Twin Cities Campus. Other campuses can adapt it to their processes if they so choose.
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Who determines the minimum standard to receive credit for a nationally recognized exam?**

   On the Twin Cities, Duluth, Crookston, and Rochester campuses, the minimum standard to receive credit for a nationally recognized exam is determined by the appropriate academic department or unit. On the Morris campus, the Scholastic Committee determines the minimum standard. On the Crookston Campus, the academic department recommends the minimum standard to the Standards and Policy Committee, which then recommends to the Faculty Assembly for final approval.

2. **Which students are eligible to receive credit for nationally recognized exams?**

   Only students who have been admitted as degree-seeking undergraduates at the University of Minnesota and have a student status of “enrolled” are eligible to receive credit for nationally recognized exams. "Enrolled" does not refer to the student's registration status, but is a term used for students who have been admitted to the University and have matriculated. Students who have been admitted to the University but have not accepted an offer of enrollment are not eligible to receive credit for nationally recognized exams. High school students who are enrolled through the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program are not eligible to receive credit for nationally recognized exams while they are enrolled as PSEO students. However, if they apply, are admitted, and matriculate as degree-seeking undergraduates at the University of Minnesota, they are then eligible to receive credit for nationally recognized exams.

3. **When are the credits for AP and IB exams awarded?**

   Students must have completed the AP and IB nationally recognized examinations before they begin their studies as degree-seeking undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota.

   Approved credits for AP will appear in a student's degree audit upon the University's official receipt of official AP test scores; students are notified of approved AP credit totals after they have been admitted to the University. IB credits are awarded after a student has been admitted to the University.

Contacts

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</table>
Definitions

Academic unit authority
The academic college, department, or committee responsible for determining the minimum standards required to receive credit for a nationally recognized exam.

Academic department
The unit on campus offering coursework that is the same or substantially similar to the subject area of the nationally recognized exam.

Matriculate
The process by which a student accepts the University's offer for admission and indicates that the student intends to enroll.

Minimum standard
The minimum exam score a student must earn in order to receive University credit for a nationally recognized exam.

Nationally recognized exam
Exams overseen by an independent organization (e.g., College Board) that determines the national standard for the exams' content and scores.

Responsibilities

Academic unit authority (academic departments on the Twin Cities, Duluth, and Rochester campuses; Scholastic Committee on the Morris campus; Academic Standards and Policy Committee on the Crookston campus)
Determine the minimum standards (i.e., exam score) to receive credit for a nationally recognized exam.

Office of Admissions (Twin Cities, Duluth, Crookston, and Rochester); Scholastic Committee in cooperation with the Office of the Registrar, Morris
Oversee the administrative process for nationally recognized exams.

Related Information

- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

Twin Cities

- Advanced Placement
- International Baccalaureate
- College-Level Examination

Crookston

- Advanced Placement
- International Baccalaureate
- College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Duluth

- Advanced Placement
- International Baccalaureate
- College-Level Examination

Morris
Credit Awarded by Examination

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Rochester

- Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and College-Level Examination

History

Amended:
- December 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

Amended:
- March 2014 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision - Clarifies that an individual must be in a U of M degree program to be awarded these types of credits.

Effective:
- May 2011 - New Policy, Comprehensive Review. Specifies the authority for awarding credits for nationally-recognized exams. Defines where the credit will be applied (either as equivalent to an existing course, or as general departmental credits.)

Supercedes:
- Examinations for Credit and Proficiency (Senate Policy)
Departmental Exams for Proficiency or Credit for Undergraduate Students: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

Academic departments have the discretion to offer exams to either demonstrate proficiency or earn course credit. The format of these exams is at the department’s discretion (e.g., final examination, oral tests, written papers or projects). No department is required to offer exams for proficiency or credit.

Eligibility for such exams is limited to currently enrolled, undergraduate, degree-seeking students. Departments may establish further eligibility criteria for an exam for proficiency or credit. A student may not take an exam for credit for a course the student has already completed for any grade basis (i.e., A-F, S-N, or AUD [audit] status) at the University of Minnesota.

Exam to demonstrate proficiency

A departmental exam for proficiency may be used to fulfill prerequisites for advanced courses or satisfy other requirements. An exam for proficiency does not yield any course credit or grade. The academic department giving the examination will determine the minimum standards for successful completion of an exam for proficiency.

Exam to earn course credit

A departmental exam for credit may be used to earn credit for a course. The academic department giving the examination will determine the minimum standards for successful completion of an exam for credit.

Credit(s) earned by departmental exam do not earn grade point average (GPA) points and are reflected only within the student’s cumulative credit totals on the transcript (not within the term in which the student completed the exam).

Credit(s) earned by departmental exam count in the credit total, but do not count toward the minimum number of credits students must earn at the campus from which they are seeking a degree.

Special situations

On the Morris campus, the Scholastic Committee serves in the role of the academic department and has all related responsibilities.

Reason for Policy
Departments may wish to have a means of allowing students to demonstrate existing proficiency in a subject without requiring the student to complete coursework.

Procedures

- Notating a Special Exam for Proficiency or Credit on the Transcript
- Requesting and Posting a Credit by Special Examination Fee
- Requesting Approval to Take an Exam for Proficiency or Credit

Forms/Instructions

- OTR154 - Request for Special Examination and Special Examination Instructions
- Request for special examination (Morris) (PDF)
- Request for special examinations (Crookston) (PDF)
- Request for special examination room

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who may take an examination for credit or proficiency?

Only students who have been admitted to the University of Minnesota as degree-seeking undergraduate students and have a student status of “enrolled” are eligible to take an examination for credit or proficiency. “Enrolled” does not refer to the student’s registration status, but is a term used for students who have been admitted to the University and have matriculated. Students who have been admitted to the University but have not accepted an offer of enrollment are not eligible.

High School students who are enrolled through the Postsecondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) program are not eligible for these exams while they are enrolled as PSEO students. However, if they apply, are admitted, and matriculate as degree-seeking undergraduates at the University of Minnesota, they are then eligible to take an exam for credit or proficiency.

2. Who determines whether or not to offer an examination for credit or proficiency?

On the Twin Cities, Duluth, Crookston, and Rochester campuses, the decision to offer such an examination is made by the academic department or unit offering the course or subject for which the student is seeking examination. On the Morris campus, the Scholastic Committee has the authority to grant an examination for credit; examinations for proficiency are granted by the academic department.

3. If a student does not pass an exam for credit or proficiency, is this notated on the student’s transcript?

No; only successful exam completions are notated on students’ transcripts.

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**Definitions**

**Academic department**
The unit on campus offering course work that is the same or substantially similar to the subject area of the exam.

**Currently enrolled undergraduate degree-seeking students**
Students who have been admitted to a University of Minnesota undergraduate degree program and who have matriculated.

**Campus-specific credit requirements**
The minimum number of credits students must complete at the campus from which they expect to graduate before a degree will be granted.

**Responsibilities**

**Academic departments (Twin Cities, Duluth, Crookston, and Rochester)**
- Determine whether or not to make available to students an exam for credit or proficiency.
- Determine the format and scoring of the exam.

**Colleges (Twin Cities, Duluth, Crookston, and Rochester)**
- Determine whether or not successful completion of the exam will apply to the student’s degree program.
- Request the credit by special exam fee as part of the annual budget process.

**Scholastic Committee (Morris)**
- Determine whether or not to make available to students an exam for credit or proficiency.
- Determine whether or not successful completion of the exam will apply to the student’s degree program.

**Office of the Registrar (All campuses)**
- Appropriately notate on students’ transcripts any successful completion of a departmental exam for proficiency or credit.

**Related Information**

- Special Examinations on Morris Campus
- Administrative Policy: Campus Specific Credit Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

**History**
Amended:
March 2014 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision 1. Clarifies that student must be enrolled in a program to be eligible for these exams. 2. Emphasizes that it is the department’s choice as to whether or not to offer departmental exams for proficiency or credit.

Effective:
May 2011 - Replaces Senate Policy: Examinations for Credit and Proficiency. Clarifies who is eligible to take a departmental exam for proficiency or credit. Defines key terms to provide clarity for the reader.

Supercedes:
Examinations for Credit and Proficiency
Policy Statement

Directed study, directed readings, and directed research courses are opportunities for students to work individually with a faculty member and to earn credit for individually designed content.

1. Departments, colleges and campuses who wish to offer these types of courses must specify:
   a. the levels for these directed courses within their curricula;
   b. the criteria for registration for these courses; and
   c. the criteria that are used to determine who is eligible to teach these courses.

2. Colleges and campuses must establish and publish procedures for registration in directed study, directed research, and directed readings courses.

3. The instructor of a course and the student must have a written contract in place that specifies the student's responsibilities for the courses and the name of the instructor who is responsible for turning in the student's grade for the course, as part of the enrollment in the course. Instructors must provide a copy of the contract to the academic department in which the registration for the course occurs.

4. These courses do not require a syllabus.

5. The instructor must set the number of credits for these courses in accordance with the provisions of Administrative Policy: Expected Student Academic Work per Credit: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester so that the academic workload requirements are in conformance (generally 3 hours of work per week per credit for undergraduate students and more than that for graduate and professional students).

6. Programs may limit the number of directed study, directed readings, and directed studies courses a student may take per term.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Uniformity of expectations across directed study, readings and research opportunities is in the best interest of students, faculty and staff.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.
Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

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Definitions

Directed Research
An opportunity in which a student designs and carries out a research project under the direction of a faculty member. Directed research may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

Directed Study
A course in which a student designs and carries out an independent project under the direction of a faculty member. Directed study courses may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

Directed Readings
A course in which a student designs an area of study under the direction of a faculty member. Directed readings may be taken for variable credit and special permission is needed for enrollment.

Responsibilities

Instructor
- Review and approve the contract a student has created for a course. Work with the student to revise the contract, as needed, before approval.
- Supervise the student's work in such a course.
- Submit final grade at the end of the course.

**Student**
- Obtain permission to enroll in the course and register for the course.
- Complete the responsibilities of the course, as specified in the contract.
- Maintain regular contact with the instructor.

**Academic Unit**
- Maintain records of such courses, including the individual contracts for each occurrence.
- Maintain oversight of curriculum and instructor workload.

### Related Information

- **Administrative Policy:** Expected Student Academic Work per Credit: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- **Administrative Policy:** Academic Unit Authority Over the Curriculum and the Major: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

### History

**Amended:**
- **October 2015 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision.** 1. Requires instructors to file a copy of the contract associated with these courses, to be on file in the academic department offering the course. 2. Requires departments, colleges, and campuses to specify the criteria for both eligibility and registration into these courses. 3. Allows departments to establish limits to the number of these types of courses that a student may take. 4. Specifies the responsibilities for the instructor, student, and academic unit.

**Amended:**
- **December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.**

**Effective:**
- **April 2009**
Policy Statement

General Provisions

The principal criterion for the choice of any required materials for a course or program should be that the materials are the most appropriate for the purpose. The instructor who has been assigned responsibility for the course or program, in most cases, identifies what materials are required for the course. The process for selecting course materials must avoid conflict of interest or the appearance of conflict of interest.

Generally, no member of the instructional staff of the University may personally profit from the assignment of materials, or assignment of the venue of purchase of materials, to students in classes or any other instructional setting at the University. If the faculty member responsible for a course or program judges that the best materials available for use with the course are materials whose sale will provide them personal income, the faculty member must receive approval from the head of the academic unit.

Review and Approval

The instructional staff member must justify the requirement to use the materials in the course in their request for approval to the head of the academic unit.

The head of the academic unit should judge the request solely on the academic merit of the materials. The decision to approve the request should typically include a consultative step with faculty peers knowledgeable about the use of the materials. If the head of the academic unit is also involved in the use of these materials, the dean of the college must give the written approval.

The approval, if given, will apply to all offerings of the course for which the affected individual is responsible during the twelve-month period following the approval date.

If the individual wishes to assign the same materials, or other materials created by that individual for courses occurring after the twelve-month period lapses, a new request for approval must be submitted to the head of the academic unit.

Documentation

The unit must retain the request and the subsequent decision, as well as file a copy of the record of the approval with the dean of the college.

Exclusions
This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

To manage conflict of interest concerns, persons teaching courses may not by themselves make the decision to assign course materials for which they could personally earn a profit. Requiring approval from a higher level provides appropriate internal controls.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is meant by 'materials'?
   Materials refers to anything that may have been developed by or be the intellectual property of an instructor, including but not limited to textbooks, reading packets or materials, models, computer programs, artwork, etc.

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Definitions
**Instructional Staff**
Faculty, including adjunct faculty; graduate teaching assistants; and all other individuals assigned to provide instruction in a course.

## Responsibilities

**Instructional staff**
- Identify materials required for the course.
- Submit a formal request to the department head, requesting permission use any materials in the course from which the individual will personally profit. Provide justification for the selection of those materials as part of the request.

**Academic Unit Head**
- Review the academic merit of the materials, and consult with faculty peers.
- Provide a formal response to the request.
- Retain a copy of the record of the decision in the academic unit files.
- File a copy of the decision with the collegiate dean’s office.
- Monitor compliance and provide information about this policy to instructional staff.

**Academic Dean**
- Review and render decisions on requests, if the individual providing the instruction in the course is an academic department head.

## Related Information

Administrative Policy: *Individual Conflicts of Interest*

## History

**Amended**
February 2016 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. Changes clarifies the documentation expectations when approval is given to use materials in a course that were created by that instructor, and specifies that a one-up approval is required when the head of the administrative unit is involved in the use of the materials.

Amended:
- December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
- April 2009
Enrolling in Overlapping or Back-to-back Classes: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

Enrolling in overlapping classes is prohibited so students can actually attend the classes in which they enroll. For Twin Cities campus students, back-to-back classes with insufficient travel time may lead them to consistently arrive late or to depart early, which can disrupt a class and cause the student to miss instruction. Students are responsible for planning a schedule that allows enough time for travel between classes. Instructors may accommodate student-scheduling problems but are not required to do so.

1. Overlapping class times
   a. Classes that have any common meeting time are considered to be overlapping.
   b. Students are not permitted to register for classes that overlap unless they successfully petition for permission to do so.
   c. Petitions for overrides for such conflicts require the approval of all instructors involved. The decision to approve or disapprove such a petition for override is discretionary with each instructor involved, but petitions should be granted only under extenuating circumstances.

2. Enrollment in back-to-back classes [Twin Cities only]
   a. Students should not enroll in back-to-back classes when (1) the amount of time available for travel is less than 15 minutes (when both are on either the Minneapolis or St. Paul campus), or (2) the amount of time available to travel between two classes (when one is on the Minneapolis campus and the other on the St. Paul campus) is less than 30 minutes.
   b. Petitions for protection from penalties for such conflicts require the approval of all instructors involved and will be approved only under extenuating circumstances. The decision to approve or disapprove such a petition for override is discretionary with each instructor involved.
   c. If the student's petition has not been approved, instructors have the authority to penalize students who consistently arrive late or depart early from a class.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Students consistently arriving late for a class or departing early can disrupt the teaching and learning process. Instructors must understand that they may accommodate student-scheduling problems but are not required to do so.

Procedures
There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

- OTR024 - Class Time Conflict Approval (electronic) (Restricted Access)
- Online Class Time Approval (login required)

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do students obtain permission to enroll in back-to-back courses?

   Students who wish to enroll in back-to-back courses (or those with overlapping times) must complete the “Course Time Conflict Approval” form. Completing the form requires the signature of both instructors involved in a course time conflict. Without written permission, students will not be allowed to register for courses that are separated by less than one minute or overlap in the time they are offered. Verbal permission will not allow the student to register.

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Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this policy.

Responsibilities

There are no specific responsibilities associated with this policy.
Related Information

There is no related information associated with this policy.

History

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

1. Departments and colleges should be selective in determining prerequisites for courses. Prerequisites should not be set for a course except in progressive, sequence courses or where departments can clearly demonstrate that a student will not be able to complete the course successfully without first completing the prerequisite course work.

2. Where prerequisites have been set, catalogues and course materials must list them and advise students to take only those courses for which the prerequisites have been met.

3. Where prerequisites have been set, instructors may require that any student who has not taken the specified prerequisites for the course must withdraw. Instructors may, however, grant permission, on an individual basis, for a student to take a course without having taken the prerequisite(s).

4. When a student successfully completes a prerequisite course after successfully completing a subsequent course that required the prerequisite, credit for the prerequisite course will be granted. Colleges and departments, at their discretion, may also allow students to receive credit by examination for the prerequisite course.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campuses.

Reason for Policy

Prerequisites inform students that, in order to be successful in a particular course, they must enter the course already having attained specific knowledge as a necessary background. Prerequisites provide a process for directing students to courses for which the students are adequately prepared. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

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Definitions

Prerequisite
A course that is a necessary requirement before subsequent advanced courses.

Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities related to this policy.

Related Information

- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended:
September 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
Policy Statement

Evaluation of teaching provides information (1) to help improve teaching, (2) to be used for faculty tenure decisions and salary and promotion decisions based on merit, and (3) to assist students in course selection. The methods used are:

- Student ratings of teaching
- Peer evaluations

A. General Provisions for Evaluation of Teaching

1. All instructors, regardless of their academic rank or tenure status, will have their teaching performance evaluated.
2. The process for evaluating teaching used in tenure and promotion decisions must follow Board of Regents Policy: Faculty Tenure.
3. Student rating data are used in personnel decisions for faculty and instructional staff whose salary is fully or partially based on teaching, (e.g., merit and salary reviews, promotion, tenure for tenure-track faculty).
   - Only those individuals who are responsible for decisions on reappointment, promotion, tenure, and salary adjustments may have access to information about a specific instructor.
   - Instructors are allowed to respond to student rating results by adding written comments to their files that are communicated to individuals responsible for personnel decisions.
4. When used for salary, promotion, and tenure decisions, information from student ratings should be used in conjunction with other relevant metrics to assess instructional effectiveness.
5. The academic unit must maintain a record of the instructor's contributions to teaching, including cumulative summaries of student ratings of the instructor's courses. Units must protect the materials as private data.
6. To assist students in course selection, students may view Student Rating of Teaching responses that pertain to a course and not to a specific individual. (This provision does not apply to the Crookston campus)
7. Student rating data should be used with other types of information to identify instructors who deserve rewards as well as instructors who may need assistance in improving their classroom effectiveness. When used for salary, promotion, and tenure decisions, these data should be used in conjunction with other relevant metrics.
8. Custom Items

   Colleges and departments may, after consultation with, and approval from, the vice provost for faculty and academic affairs, add custom items to the Student Rating of Teaching form. If custom items are added by a department or college, that unit will make available to instructors a written policy that defines which data from the custom items will be used (1) for improvement of teaching, (2) for personnel decisions, and (3) for improving courses or programs.
   - Data used solely for teaching improvement will be provided only to the instructor.
Data to be used for personnel decisions will be available to individuals charged with reviewing instructor performance.

Data to be used for course and program improvement will be available to curriculum committees and similar bodies only in aggregated form and will not be identified with individual instructors. In all instances, the data will be provided to the instructor.

B. Student Rating of Teaching Form and Requirements

1. Every course with a University course number will be rated by the use of student rating forms every time it is offered, except that thesis-only credits, directed or independent study, and internships will not be rated using such forms. For courses with one instructor but multiple components (e.g., lab, lecture, recitation), departments have the discretion to evaluate the components separately. For courses with multiple components, each taught by a different instructor, each component should be evaluated separately.

2. The standard student rating form (see Appendix X) will be used except that:
   - In courses with more than two instructors, departments and/or colleges that wish to use alternative evaluation procedures must seek written approval from the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP).
   - Academic units in which student evaluation procedures must meet national accreditation standards may use alternative evaluation procedures with written approval from SCEP.
   - A department that wishes to use an alternative form for a course must receive written approval from SCEP.

3. All students enrolled in a course must be provided the opportunity to complete the student rating form. If online SRTs are being used, all enrolled students will receive system-generated email invitations and reminders. Paper forms must be distributed to all students present on the day that ratings are administered. Students who have withdrawn from the course may not participate in the rating of that course. Enrolled students, regardless of the rating protocol or method used, have the option to:
   a. Opt out of responding to one or more questions on the form; or
   b. Opt out of completing the entire student rating form.

4. Instructors may not be present when the evaluations are completed and collected. Results do not become available until after grades have been posted.

5. The dean or chancellor of each college or campus, in consultation with the faculty, will determine whether and how written comments on student evaluation forms may be used in personnel decisions. In units where all written comments on students' ratings of teaching are sent to the chair and/or to reviewing-bodies and are included in the file, unfairly prejudicial comments will be withheld from the file upon request of the instructor concerned and accordingly will not be part of annual or other reviews. The decision whether particular comments are unfairly prejudicial will be made by the chair, a senior faculty member designated through a process determined by the department, or a standing or ad-hoc committee. This provision is intended to cover offensive, racist, sexist, homophobic, and other personal comments, and is not intended to exclude from the file negative comments directly related to the course.

6. Student rating results will be available to instructors online. For online-administered SRTs, instructor reports will include open-ended comments. For paper-administered SRTs, only the multiple-choice item results are reported online. Comments will be available through the return of the original, completed paper forms to the instructor with any student demographic information removed.

C. Peer Evaluation of Teaching

Peer review should include assessment of the instructor's knowledge of the subject matter, general contributions to departmental teaching efforts, and any other teaching contributions. (see Appendix for best practice guidelines.)

1. Peer review process.
   a. Every academic unit should have a documented process for peer review of every instructor's teaching efforts and contributions to teaching, both for purposes of promotion decisions and for teaching-based salary increases. The academic unit should evaluate instructors in ways appropriate to the discipline, and include consideration of activities outside the classroom such as facilitating student research, advising students, and other activities related to students' educational programs.
   b. The peer-review process must include consideration of any additional materials identified by the instructor as relevant to the evaluation. Instructors are encouraged to prepare and regularly update a teaching portfolio that contains materials that will be considered during the their evaluation.

2. Faculty peer review.
a. Faculty peers are responsible for evaluating teaching conducted by tenured and tenure-track faculty as outlined in Board of Regents Policy: Faculty Tenure, Administrative Policy: Faculty Compensation, and Administrative Procedure: Reviewing Candidates for Tenure and/or Promotion: Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty.
b. Both faculty and instructional staff may participate in the evaluation of instructors who are not tenure-track or tenured faculty.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Course-related SRT results from the Crookston campus will not be released to students.

Reason for Policy

This policy establishes standards and processes for evaluating of teaching: peer review and student rating of teaching for the campuses of Morris, Rochester, and the Twin Cities.

It is essential to ensuring quality of instruction and providing feedback to instructors and supervisors.

Procedures

- Using Paper and Online Forms to Conduct Student Ratings

Forms/Instructions

- UM 1811 - Student Rating of Teaching

Original forms (not photocopies) are required for processing. Please see your department contact or the Office of Measurement Services for forms.

Appendices

- Peer Review of Teaching: Best Practices

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are there costs associated with administering custom items on a form?

Units should consult the Office of Measurement Services to inquire about costs associated with administering a custom form or adding custom items on the Student Rating of Teaching form.

2. Can instructors administer additional evaluation items?

Instructors are encouraged to conduct early- and mid-semester course assessments for the purpose of receiving feedback about student learning during the term. Instructors may ask students to answer supplemental questions in the open-ended section of the standard rating form, on a separate sheet, or
online. See Early Term Feedback on Teaching for more information about early- and mid-semester course assessments.

## Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:lcarrell@r.umn.edu">lcarrell@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For information about the administration of student ratings of teaching, please see oms.umn.edu/srt. Inquiries may be directed to oms@umn.edu or 612-626-0006

## Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this policy.

## Responsibilities

**Executive Vice President and Provost**
- Convey to colleges the importance of teaching in decisions regarding promotion, tenure, and merit-pay increases.
- Consult with colleges regarding custom items and exceptions to the policy.

**Deans**
- Convey the importance of teaching in decisions regarding promotion, tenure, and merit-pay increases.
- Consult with college governing bodies regarding the use of written comments in personnel decisions.

**Department Heads**
- Convey to instructors the importance of teaching in decisions regarding promotion, tenure, and merit-pay increases.
- Ensure that evaluation of teaching takes place in the unit.
- Decide whether particular written comments are unfairly prejudicial.

## Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: [Faculty Tenure](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Faculty Compensation](#)
- Administrative Procedure: [Procedures for Reviewing Candidates for Tenure and/or Promotion: Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty](#)
- [Peer Review of Teaching material](#)
History

Amended:
March 2019 – Minor Revision. Revision of language detailing use of both online and paper forms. Minor editing.

Amended:
November 2015 - Policy now applies to Crookston - with minor exception: Course-related SRT results from the Crookston campus will not be released to students.

Amended:
January 2015 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. Key policy changes: 1. Meets the student requests for information that may aid in course selection by releasing course related information from the Student Rating Tool that does not violate Minnesota State Data Privacy law. 2. Eliminates unnecessary language related to policy compliance. 3. Revises the language regarding the authority to decide whether written comments may be used for personnel decisions.

Amended:
December 2014 - 1. Meets the student requests for information that may aid in course selection by releasing course related information from the Student Rating Tool that does not violate Minnesota State Data Privacy law. 2. Eliminates unnecessary language related to policy compliance. 3. Revises the language regarding the authority to decide whether written comments may be used for personnel decisions.

Effective:
April 2009
Expected Student Academic Work per Credit: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

Workload expectations in this policy are an estimate of the amount of work needed for an average student to earn an average grade. Course grades are based on the quality of the work submitted, not on hours of effort (as provided in Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester). Workload expectations per credit do not vary with the method of delivery of the course or the length of the academic term.

A. Undergraduate Courses

1. **Student workload expectations per undergraduate credit.** For fall or spring semester, one credit represents, for the average University undergraduate student, three hours of academic work per week (including lectures, laboratories, recitations, discussion groups, field work, study, and so on), averaged over the semester, in order to complete the work of the course to achieve an average grade. One credit equals 42 to 45 hours of work over the course of the semester (1 credit x 3 hours of work per week x 14 or 15 weeks in a semester equals 42 to 45 hours of academic work). Thus, enrollment for 15 credits in a semester represents approximately 45 hours of work per week, on average, over the course of the semester.

2. **Exceptions to undergraduate workload standard.** Professional norms and the nature of the academic work may necessitate spending more than three hours of work per week on average. For example, clinical experiences, some laboratory work, and some studio activities may require more than an average of three hours per week. Demands on the student in excess of the average of three hours per credit per week are permissible with college approval and with appropriate notification to the student of the amount of work expected for the course or educational experience (e.g., in class schedules, bulletins, or syllabi).

3. **Student workload statement required for undergraduate courses.** All proposals for undergraduate courses must include a student workload statement demonstrating how the course conforms to the student workload expectations in sections (a) and (b). College and campus curriculum committees and other approving bodies (e.g., the Council on Liberal Education) must consider the student workload statement in reaching a decision on whether to approve a proposed course.

B. Graduate School and Professional School Courses

It is expected that the academic work required of Graduate School and professional school students will exceed three hours per credit per week.

C. All Courses

1. For courses using one course number that enroll both undergraduate and graduate/professional students, workload expectations may be different for the two.
2. When a course is offered at two levels (e.g., 1xxx/3xxx or 3xxx/5xxx), workload expectations will differ for the students enrolled at different levels.
3. Instructional units should periodically review course syllabi to determine whether the number of course credits is appropriate for the expected student workload.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Information on workload expectations assists students in understanding the necessary time to allocate for their courses. Outlining workload expectations also allows for greater consistency across the curriculum, as well as identifies areas where the expectations are not necessarily applicable due to the nature of the course being taught. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Do the student workload expectations per undergraduate credit apply to courses that are scheduled in academic terms other than the standard semester?

Yes. The expectation of academic work per credit established for semesters applies to all academic terms. Courses scheduled during the May session, summer session, and any other special terms have the same expectations for student workload per credit as for courses held during the typical semester. For example, a one-credit course represents approximately 42 to 45 hours of academic work, regardless of the length of the academic term.

2. Do the student workload expectations per undergraduate credit apply to all courses, including on-line and distance education courses?

Yes. The workload expectations per credit are the same, regardless of the method of delivery of the course (for example, online, interactive video, correspondence, classroom, or a combination of delivery methods).

Contacts
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<td></td>
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**Definitions**

**Average grade**

According to the policy on Grading and Transcripts, an average grade (C) represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every aspect.

**Responsibilities**

There are no specific responsibilities related to this policy.

**Related Information**

- **Administrative Policy**: Directed Study, Directed Readings, and Directed Research Courses: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- **Administrative Policy**: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- **Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation**

**History**

Amended:
- September 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements

Amended:
- September 2011 - Comprehensive Review. Minor clarifications made to Policy Statement including that workload expectations per credit do not vary with the method of delivery of the course or the length of the academic term and added Frequently Asked Questions section.

Amended:
- December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
- April 2009

The University of Minnesota expectations for workload per credit were first adopted by the Faculty Senate on February 16, 1922.
Faculty Responsibility in Undergraduate Advising on the Curriculum: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

The faculty in each unit are responsible for ensuring that there is an effective advising process. The faculty of every unit will collectively determine the mechanisms by which faculty members will be involved in advising students and will periodically review the effectiveness of that process. In some units faculty may choose to be directly involved in advising or may share that responsibility with appropriately trained academic professionals, graduate students, or peers. The faculty of each unit must assist in and cooperate with the advising process as appropriate and are responsible for providing timely information about the curriculum and student performance to advisers. The faculty should encourage students to take advantage of opportunities provided by the advising process to broaden, intensify, and integrate their educational experience.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Advising is an important component of the educational enterprise, and expectations for faculty and students regarding advising should be clearly outlined.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.
Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

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Definitions

Curriculum
The set of courses offered by a unit

Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

Related Information

There are no related information associated with this policy.

History

Amended:  
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:  
April 2009
Policy Statement

By the start of the term, every department must identify, for each course offering, the instructor responsible for the course.

1. Instructor responsibility
   a. The instructor who is in overall charge of a course offering is accountable for all grades given to students. Responsibility for grading or evaluating student work in a course may be assigned to a teaching assistant or grader but ultimate responsibility remains with the instructor for the course. All individuals who grade or evaluate student work in a course must have a formal affiliation with the course (e.g., as instructor of record, teaching assistant, paid grader).
   b. Instructors in charge of a course with multiple sections or laboratories must take reasonable steps to ensure that grading across sections or laboratories is consistent.
   c. If the instructor in charge of a course has left the institution or is no longer available, the department or academic unit has the authority to handle grades and grade changes for the course. The department or academic unit should assign a regular faculty member to be accountable for grades after the course has ended.
   d. Students in every course must be clearly informed via the syllabus or class schedule of who is ultimately responsible for assigning grades in the course.

2. Student questions about grades
   a. Students have the right to request and receive an explanation for a grade during and after the course but have no right to challenge the academic merits of any grade.
   b. Students may seek an explanation for a grade until the end of the following semester (not including summer session). The instructor is obligated to provide an explanation for a grade within a reasonable time if a request is made by the end of the following semester. The instructor is not obligated to reconsider the grade.
   c. If a student does not receive an explanation for a grade from the instructor within a reasonable time of making a request, the student may consult the director of undergraduate studies, director of graduate studies, or department chair for assistance in obtaining an explanation. Students also may seek assistance from the campus student conflict resolution office.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

This policy clarifies both the accountability and responsibility for assigning grades; and for responding to requests for explanations about the grades.
Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definitions

Explanation of a grade

The criteria used to formulate a grade, not an automatic change of grade.

Responsibilities

Department

Identify an instructor for each course offering by the start of the term.

Instructor

- Inform students in class who is ultimately responsible for assigning a grade.
- Respond to grade inquiries and provide explanations upon request.
Related Information

There is no related information associated with this policy.

History

Amended:
November 2017 - 1. Minor edits to clarify what happens when an instructor leaves or is no longer available.
Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.
Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

This policy establishes the allowed grading scales, grades, and symbols that appear on the University transcript. It also establishes the GPA calculation for the University transcript. Colleges and campuses may not use any other grades or symbols unless approved by SCEP and the University Senate as described in section E.8.

A. University Grading Scales

The University has two distinct grading scales: A-F and S-N.

1. A-F grading scale. The A-F grading scale allows the following grades and corresponding GPA points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA Points</th>
<th>Definitions for undergraduate credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.000</td>
<td>Represents achievement that significantly exceeds expectations in the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.667</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.333</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.000</td>
<td>Represents achievement that is above the minimum expectations in the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.667</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.333</td>
<td>Represents achievement that meets the minimum expectations in the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.667</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.333</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>Represents achievement that partially meets the minimum expectations in the course. Credit is earned but it may not fulfill major or program requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>Represents failure in the course and no credit is earned.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a. The F does not earn grade points and the student does not earn University credit. The credit hours for the course count in the grade point average.
   i. The F is assigned when the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit, or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be given an I.

b. Instructors are not required to use pluses and minuses when grading on the A-F scale.

c. Grade points are the same regardless of the level or course of enrollment (e.g., graduate or undergraduate level).

d. Except for the Law School, the University does not award A+ grades, nor are D- grades permitted.

2. **S-N grading scale.** The S-N grading scale allows for the following grades and corresponding GPA points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA Points</th>
<th>Definitions for undergraduate credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Satisfactory (equivalent to a C- or better)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Not Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. The S grade does not carry grade points and is not part of the GPA calculation, but the credits will count toward the student’s degree program if allowed by the college, campus, or program and the Administrative Policy: *Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Morris, Rochester.*

b. The N does not carry grade points and the credits for the course do not count toward any academic degree program. The credit hours for the course do not count in the grade point average.
   i. The N is assigned when the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit, or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

3. No campus, college, or program is required to offer a course on the S-N grading scale. Any unit may choose to limit grades in a particular course to the A-F or the S-N scale.
   a. When both grading scales are available to a student, the student must declare the choice of scale at the time of registration. After the end of the second week of classes (the first week in summer sessions), students may not change their election of a grading scale.
   b. The S-N system is a self-contained alternative to the A-F system and the two scales may not be combined for a particular student in a particular course. Students may receive grades or symbols only from the grading scale under which they have registered for a course.

4. The No Grade (NG) grading scale is a limited scale used for certain research and thesis registrations.

### B. Incompletes

**Note:** The updated policy language in this section will take effect for classes offered Spring 2019 and after. The previous policy language provided that incompletes would not lapse for one year, refer to the University Policies section of the [Catalogs website](#) for more details.

1. Instructors may assign the registration symbol I for Incomplete if, at the time the incomplete is requested:
   a. the student has successfully completed a substantial portion of the work of the course; and
   b. due to extraordinary circumstances (as determined by the instructor), the student was prevented from completing the work of the course on time.

2. The assignment of an I requires a written agreement with the student specifying the time and manner in which the student will complete the course requirements.
   a. The written agreement must require the student to complete the course requirements no later than the day grades are due for the subsequent regular (fall or spring) term, except as provided in section B.6 for students called to active military duty.
   b. The contract cannot require the student to re-register for the course or to sit in on an entire course in order to resolve an incomplete.
   c. Students may complete the work to resolve an incomplete during a term in which they are not otherwise registered.

3. Students must submit the work to resolve an incomplete as specified in the written agreement. Except for graduate and professional students, incompletes that have not been changed to a letter grade by the day
grades are due for the subsequent regular (fall or spring) term will be automatically changed to an F or N, consistent with the student's grading scale for the course.

a. For graduate and professional students, an I remains on the transcript until changed by the instructor or department.
b. If an I becomes an F or N under this provision, the grade may be changed later by the instructor if appropriate.
c. The instructor is expected to turn in the new grade within four weeks of the date the work was submitted by the student.

4. When an I is changed to another symbol or grade, the I is removed from the record.

5. If a student graduates with an I on the transcript, the I will remain an I. The degree GPA is frozen upon graduation.
   a. With college and instructor approval, a student may be allowed to resolve an incomplete up to one year after graduation. While the degree GPA will not change, the cumulative GPA will be updated.
   b. Students may not sit in on a course without registering for it.
   c. A student may take a previously audited class for a grade.

6. When students are called to active military duty, and reach agreement with their instructor(s) to take an incomplete, they will have up to one calendar year following their discharge from active duty to complete their incomplete(s).

C. Other Transcript Symbols

1. Auditing a course. There will be a symbol V, visitor, indicating registration as an auditor or visitor. No credit is awarded and the auditing student does not receive a grade.
   a. Students auditing a course are required to pay full tuition but do not take exams and are not required to do homework. An auditor is entered on the class roster, is counted as filling a seat in a controlled entry course, and is counted in an instructor's student contact hours.
   b. Students may not sit in on a course without registering for it.
   c. A student may take a previously audited class for a grade.

2. Withdrawing from a course. The symbol W, withdrawal, is entered on a student's record when the student officially withdraws from a course. The W will be entered on the transcript irrespective of the student's academic standing in that course if the student withdraws from the course during the third through eighth week of class (Crookston) or the third through tenth week of class (Morris, Rochester, Twin Cities) or during the second or third weeks of summer sessions.
   a. If a student officially withdraws from a course during the first two weeks of classes, there will be no record of that course registration entered on the student's transcript.
   b. One-time late withdrawal: Students may, once during their undergraduate enrollment, withdraw from a course without documentation of extenuating circumstances or college/campus approval, and receive the transcript symbol W, after the deadline for withdrawal and at any time up to and including the last day of instruction for that course. A student may not withdraw after completing the final examination or equivalent for a course.
   c. Except as provided in the preceding section, withdrawal after the deadline will require approval of the college and may not be granted solely because a student is failing the course; there must be extenuating non-academic circumstances justifying late withdrawal.

3. Continuation course. If a course is approved as a sequenced or continuation course and the grade cannot be determined for all students in the course until the full sequence is completed, the symbol X may be used at the end of the term while the sequence is in progress. The instructor will submit a grade for each X when the student has completed the sequence.

4. Course in progress. The symbol K may be used at the end of a session in courses where course activity (e.g., rotations) has been approved to extend beyond the established end date. The K symbol indicates that course activity is still in progress. The instructor will submit a grade that will replace the K for each student when course activities are complete.

5. No grade reported. There will be a symbol NR, administratively assigned to indicate that a grade was not reported for the course. The NR does not carry any GPA points.

D. Scholastic Dishonesty

1. Scholastic dishonesty in any portion of the academic work for a course will be grounds for awarding a grade of F or N for the entire course, corresponding to the student's registered grading scale (A-F or S-N). This provision allows instructors to award an F or an N to a student when scholastic dishonesty is discovered; it does not require an instructor to do so. (See Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code for a definition of scholastic dishonesty.)
2. If the instructor determines that a grade of F or N for the course should be awarded to a student because of scholastic dishonesty, the student cannot withdraw to avoid the F or N. If the student withdrew from the course before the scholastic dishonesty was discovered or before the instructor concluded that there was scholastic dishonesty, and the instructor (or the appropriate hearing body if the student requests a hearing) determines that the student should receive an F or N, the student will be re-registered for the course and the F and N grade will be entered.

E. GPA Calculation and Other Provisions

1. Counting credits toward a University degree. A course that carries University credit toward a degree in one department or college must carry University credit in all other departments and colleges. All university credit carrying GPA points will count in the GPA unless otherwise prohibited by this policy.
   a. Zero-credit courses. Courses that carry zero credits do not count in either term or cumulative grade point averages. Such courses carry normal tuition and fee charges.

2. Grade point average. Every student will have a grade point average calculated at both the end of each grading period (semester) and cumulatively, which will be the ratio of grade points earned divided by the number of credits attempted with grades of A-F (including pluses and minuses). Both the term and cumulative grade point average will appear on the transcript. Registration symbols, as described in this policy, do not count in the GPA and courses with symbols rather than grades do not earn credit.
   a. When a student graduates, no further changes to the student's transcript will be made (to that portion of the transcript related to the program from which the student graduated) except as expressly allowed under the provisions of this policy.

3. Assigning final grades. All grades for academic work are based on the quality of the work submitted, not on hours of effort. Instructors have the responsibility and authority to determine how final grades are assigned, including, in classes where they use numeric scores, the method that will be used to translate numeric scores into letter grades. (For example, the instructor may decide that 90% equals an A, 80% a B, and so on, or the instructor may decide that the top 10% of the scores will receive an A, the next 20% a B, and so on.) In courses with graded group work, instructors are expected to make efforts to ensure that each student's grade accurately reflects the degree to which they have met the stated goals of the assignment. When an instructor believes that a student's final grade will be significantly adversely affected by the actions or inactions of group members, the instructor is encouraged to identify ways to alleviate this.
   a. Final grades must be submitted to the Registrar no later than three business days after the last day of the final examination period.

4. Repeating courses.
   a. An undergraduate student may repeat a course only once, except as noted in section 4(c). The college offering the course may grant an exception to this provision. Morris only: Students who receive a grade of S or C or higher may repeat a course only if space permits.
   b. When a student repeats a course before receiving the degree, (a) both grades for the course will appear on the official transcript, (b) the course credits may not be counted more than once toward degree and program requirements, and (c) only the last enrollment for the course will count in the student's grade point average.
   c. Provisions 4(a) and (b) of this policy will not apply to courses (1) using the same number but where students study different content each term of enrollment and (2) to courses designated as "repetition allowed."
   d. If an undergraduate student repeats a course after the degree has been awarded, the original course grade will not be excluded from the degree GPA nor will the new grade be included in the degree GPA.
   e. Bracketing is the practice of not including a course in the calculation of a student's GPA and not counting the course as satisfying any undergraduate degree requirements, including electives, because a student has repeated a course. When a student repeats a course, all prior attempts are bracketed and only the most recent attempt counts, except as provided in 4(c). No department or college or campus may bracket the courses of another department or college or campus for any reason other than course repetition. An F may not be bracketed with an N. A University course may not be bracketed with a course taken at another institution.
   f. When a student enrolled in a graduate program repeats a course, provisions 4(a) and (b) apply, but all grades for the course will be counted in the student's grade point average.

5. This policy may be modified but existing transcripts will not be modified when there are changes in policy. Changes to the grading and transcript policy will be reflected on the legend on the back of the official transcript.

6. Compiling and reporting grading data.
1. Each fall, the Office of Institutional Research will produce reports on the mean grade point average by designator and course level, on the percentage of A's awarded by course level, and on overall collegiate grade point averages. Data should be reported for all undergraduate students for all terms in an academic year. Cells in the tables with fewer than 10 grades should be suppressed in order to protect the privacy of students, but the numbers should be included in the totals.

2. The Office of Institutional Research will produce the required tables and provide them to the chair of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy and to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

3. The information will also be reported annually to the Faculty Senate and made available to faculty and students.

7. All colleges and campuses will publish each term a dean's list, consisting of students who achieved a 3.666 term GPA or higher and who completed a minimum of 12 credits on the A-F grading system. There will be a transcript notation for each term that a student achieves the dean's list. Students who have chosen to suppress all their public information (which includes academic awards and honors) will not be included on the published dean's list.

8. **Alternative grading systems.**
   a. Only the Senate Committee on Educational Policy will have the authority to grant to individual colleges or campuses permission to use alternative grading methods outside the provisions of this official University system, for a specified period (but no longer than five years), and only for the purpose of experimenting with a new grading system for possible system-wide adoption. Such permission may be granted if the proposal does not interfere significantly with the registration options of students from other colleges, campuses, and programs. Such alternative systems will be reported for information to the University Senate as soon as permitted and, after the specified period, will be re-evaluated, either to be discontinued, or with University Senate approval on recommendation from the Senate Committee on Educational policy, made part of the system-wide policy. Except for the provisions of this section, no college or program may use any grading system except for the one contained in this policy.
   b. Because alternative grading systems, once used, must be maintained by the University forever afterward to preserve the integrity of the transcripts, the Senate Committee on Educational Policy will rarely grant permission for alternative grading systems. It will consider doing so only when (1) those who propose it can make a persuasive case that the alternative is a more accurate and effective way to measure and record student academic performance, and (2) there is strong reason to believe that the proposal will be useful to all colleges and campuses of the University (except the Law School and Medical School).

**Exclusions**

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

The Law School and the Medical School are exempt from the provisions of this policy, but will report their grading systems, and any changes therein, to the Faculty Senate.

Any other units that believe that the national norms of their profession require a different grading system may make application to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy for an exemption from this policy. The Faculty Senate must approve all such exemptions.

**Reason for Policy**

This policy establishes the grades and symbols that will appear on the University transcript. A standard grading system establishes a common understanding of the meaning of grades and promotes uniformity in assigning them. Defining grades and their associated meaning (grade points and assessment of achievement) allows for comparison and for computation of the term and cumulative grade point average.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.
Forms/Instructions

- ADV 110 - Incomplete Grade Contract

(Restricted Access)

Appendices

- Scholastic Committee Guidelines: Petition guidelines for undergraduate students enrolling in a course a third time
- Student Guidelines: Petition guidelines for undergraduate students enrolling in a course a third time

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Grading and Transcripts

Contacts

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Definitions

Major/program requirements
- Program requirements include those determined as the requirements to complete a major or minor in a department. Program requirements must be completed in addition to the other requirements for a degree (e.g. liberal education requirements).

Scholastic Dishonesty
- Plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Responsibilities
Office of the Registrar
Maintain the transcript

Instructor
Submit final grades within three working days of the last day of final exams.

Student
When courses are offered on both the A-F and S-N grading scale, select the grading scale at registration.

Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: [Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints](#)
- Board of Regents Policy: [Student Conduct Code](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Morris, Rochester](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Grade Accountability: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Teaching & Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)](#)
- Center for Educational Innovation
- Office for Community Standards
- Request for Official Transcript

History

Amended:
October 2018 - Comprehensive Review. Changes the deadline for lapsing incompletes and clarifies the requirements for when an incomplete may be assigned. Reorganizes language according to the commonly understood grading scales of A-F and S-N. Clarifies definitions and limit the use of X and K symbols to approved courses. Minor changes to improve the readability of the policy and ensure that policy language focuses on the topics

Amended:
May 2014 - Major Revision. Moves the drop course date from the eighth week of the class to the tenth week of the class for Morris, Rochester, and the Twin Cities, which allows the student to make a more informed decision about the drop.

Amended:
April 2013 - Minor revision: 2 appendices added - Scholastic Committee Guidelines: Petition guidelines for undergraduate students enrolling in a course a third time and Student Guidelines: Petition guidelines for undergraduate students enrolling in a course a third time

Amended:
April 2010 - Scholastic Dishonesty: Aligns practices across campuses and eliminates a way for students to avoid consequences for cheating by withdrawing from course; Final Grade due date - makes language consistent with related policy and with current practice.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Amended:
September 2009 - Added question 2 to FAQ.

Amended:
April 2009

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

To assure a minimum level of preparedness for University students, each campus of the University of Minnesota is responsible for setting minimum academic requirements for individuals seeking admission to undergraduate degree programs.

For the Twin Cities, Morris, and Rochester campuses, the minimum academic requirements must include:

1. **ENGLISH** - Four years, including writing, literature, and speech. Within the writing component, students may elect work in composition, creative writing, journalism, or research writing. Literature may include both American and world literatures; speech may include both public speaking and debate.

2. **MATHEMATICS**
   a. For students seeking admission before fall 2015: Three years consisting of two years of algebra, one of which must be intermediate or advanced algebra, and one year of geometry.
   b. For students seeking admission fall 2015 and thereafter: Four years, including two years of algebra, one of which must be intermediate or advanced algebra, and one year of geometry.

3. **SCIENCE** - Three years, including at least one course each in the biological and physical sciences, and all three units to incorporate significant laboratory experience. The biological and physical science requirements would most commonly be met by courses in biology, chemistry, and physics. Other courses could include advanced biology, human anatomy and physiology, botany, zoology, geology, and advanced chemistry and physics.

4. **SOCIAL STUDIES** - Three years, including one year each of geography and American history. Geography need not always be taught as a full year course, and may in fact be incorporated in a significant way into other studies; transcripts should indicate specifically which courses meet the geography requirement.

5. **WORLD LANGUAGE** - Two years of a single second language. Language courses may include both those traditionally taught in high schools (for example, Spanish, French, German), as well as those less frequently taught.

6. **ARTS** - One year in the visual or performing arts. It is expected that all arts courses (including band and chorus) will include instruction in the history and critical interpretation of the art form. Courses in the arts should offer students the opportunity to experience the arts directly as creators/performers and as critical, informed observers.

Colleges, departments, or programs may have additional admission requirements.

**Duluth and Crookston Campuses**

Students applying for admission to Duluth must meet the high school preparation requirements specified at [http://www.d.umn.edu/vcaa/HighSchoolPrepRequirements.html](http://www.d.umn.edu/vcaa/HighSchoolPrepRequirements.html). Students applying for admission to the Crookston campus must meet the high school preparation requirements specified at [http://www1.crk.umn.edu/prod/groups/crk/@pub/@crk/@admissions/documents/content/crk_content_147581.pdf](http://www1.crk.umn.edu/prod/groups/crk/@pub/@crk/@admissions/documents/content/crk_content_147581.pdf) (page 3).
Reason for Policy

The high school preparation requirements exist to provide guidance to prospective students and their high school counselors, to help them make informed curricular choices. These requirements were prepared and adopted in conjunction with the Minnesota State College and University system. The requirements are used in evaluating applications for admission, to ensure a minimum level of preparedness for University students. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Could a student be admitted without having met all of the high school preparation requirements?

Yes, it is possible under extenuating circumstances. A student who is missing a high school preparation requirement is not automatically disqualified from consideration for admission. However, admission to the University is competitive and all other factors being equal, the student's application would not be as strong as the application of a student who has completed or exceeded all of the requirements.

Contacts

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</table>
Definitions
There are no definitions related to this policy.

Responsibilities

Admissions Department
Determines which students are offered admission to undergraduate degree programs.

Academic Advisor
Advise students on the coursework needed to satisfy their campus, college, and degree requirements, taking into account the student's prior coursework and background, including high school and any courses at the college level.

Related Information

- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended
December 2011 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision: Math requirement expanded to 4 years of Math for students seeking admission in Fall 2015 and thereafter.

Amended
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Amended
April 2009 - Policy clarified and put in standard format. Added contact information.

Effective:
April 2009

Supercedes:
Joint Preparation Requirements for the Minnesota State Universities and the University of Minnesota
Policy Statement

Authorized University staff and faculty may impose holds on student records for financial, student conduct, or academic reasons. A hold may prevent a student from obtaining an official transcript, registering for courses, or making registration changes.

1. For advising and academic purposes, advisers or authorized collegiate staff may place a hold on the student's record that prevents the student from registering or making registration changes.
2. Authorized University staff or faculty may place a hold on a student's record for a violation of Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code, or for failure to meet financial obligations to the University (for example, unpaid bills, library fees, unreturned keys).
3. The Executive Vice President and Provost and/or Vice President for Clinical Affairs may designate other appropriate reasons for the University to place a hold on a student's record.
4. To resolve a hold and have it removed from the record, the student must first pay the debt owed, correct the deficiency or problem, or be cleared by the Office for Community Standards (or the appropriate office on the system campuses).

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Holds are placed on student records to protect the University's interests, guide or compel student action, and enforce policy. Placing holds is not an arbitrary action. Only certain offices on campus are able to place and/or remove holds.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I learn about any holds on my student record?
   In MyU, you can view your holds and what office is responsible. For more information, use this guide.

2. Can holds be temporarily removed or how do I get an exception to a hold?
   Contact the office responsible for placing the hold to see what the procedures are and whether the hold can be lifted, or whether an exception is possible. If you are unsure of what office is responsible, contact your campus One Stop or Office of the Registrar.

For information on how to resolve past-due bills, visit the One Stop website and contact One Stop Student Services.

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Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this policy.

Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code
- Administrative Policy: Promoting Timely Graduation by Undergraduates: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
• Duluth campus policy: *Holds on Records & Registration*

**History**

**Amended:**
July 2019 - Comprehensive Review. This policy applies to undergraduate students and was modified to:
1. Clarify language regarding who can place and remove holds from student records.
2. Improve organization by removing duplicative language and explain the impact of holds at the beginning of the policy.
3. Add FAQs to address concerns that students need more information on how to learn about holds or resolve holds.

**Amended:**
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

**Effective:**
April 2009
Policy Statement

This policy guides academic units in scheduling the instructional time for a specified number of course credits. Instructional time expectations per credit do not vary with the method(s) of delivery of the course or with the length of the academic term.

1. For all enrollment periods and for all courses, the hours of instructional time for a course must equal at least the number of credits for the course times the number of weeks the course is offered during the full academic term.

2. Instructional time is defined for these purposes as instruction by the instructor(s) assigned to the class as scheduled by the academic department. Instructional time does not include office hours or casual or informal time spent with students.

3. Course proposals must include information regarding instructional time. Proposals must provide significant evidence to justify a schedule that includes fewer total instructional hours than the standard defined in paragraph (1.). Instructional hours of all types equal to or in excess of the standard defined in paragraph (1.) need not be justified.

4. When reviewing a course proposal, college and campus curriculum committees and other approving bodies (e.g., the Council on Liberal Education) must consider the instructional hours in reaching a decision on whether to approve a proposed course; such bodies should normally reject course proposals that have fewer instructional hours than the standard defined in paragraph (1.), barring significant evidence that reduced instructional contact hours are appropriate. In their review, these bodies will also take into consideration the method(s) of delivery of the course (e.g., traditional classroom setting, various distance education delivery methods).

5. Courses for individualized instruction such as directed study, directed readings, and directed research, which require a written contract outlining the responsibilities of the student for the course, are explicitly exempted from this standard, and may have fewer instructional hours per week than the standard.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Instructional time per course credit is defined to provide a consistent minimum expectation for students and faculty. Students and faculty should know in general what time commitment is involved for a specified number of course credits. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission and compliance with the federal definition of a “credit hour” for financial aid eligibility.
There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **FAQ: Instructional Time per Course Credit**

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Definitions

**Instructional time**
Scheduled instruction/teaching by an individual appointed for that purpose.

Responsibilities

**Collegiate and campus curriculum committees**
Review proposed courses in light of conformance with policy; assess the appropriateness of proposed instructional hours. When proposed instructional hours vary from the standard, assess the type of course, and the proposed delivery method.

**Academic Departments**
Follow the established policy for instructional time per course credit when scheduling courses.
Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Academic Unit Authority over the Curriculum and Major: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Expected Student Academic Work per Credit: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Class Scheduling: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended:
April 2016 - Comprehensive Review. Major Revision. Simplifies language for clarity and removes repetitive language. Adds language in paragraph three to include the need for significant evidence to justify proposals with fewer than normal instructional hours. Clarifies the section on individualized instruction to address policy questions regarding these courses.

Amended:
July 2014 - Minor Revision. Primary Contact updated, Statement clarified. Added FAQ, and clarified that instructional time does not vary with the method(s) of delivery or the length of the academic term. Added the following sentence to Reason: "This policy also implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission."

Amended:
April 2013 - Minor Revision. In Policy Statement, 4 and 5 updated to policy address distance education course delivery. Added definitions, responsibilities, FAQ and Related Information.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Amended:
April 2009 - Clarified policy and put in standard format.

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

Undergraduates are expected to maintain continuous registration every fall and spring term from the time they matriculate until they graduate. Students who will not maintain continuous registration for any reason should consult with an advisor about whether to request a leave of absence and determine the financial aid or re-admission implications of not registering.

1. Students in good academic standing will ordinarily be granted a leave of absence upon request, subject to the considerations below. The length of the leave must not exceed four terms (fall and spring terms).
   a. Leaves of Absence should be limited to the following reasons:
      i. Physical or mental health concerns
      ii. Family obligations
      iii. Financial concerns
      iv. Military service
      v. Academics – sequenced courses are not offered for the upcoming term, reconsidering major, academic struggles, etc.
      vi. Career opportunities

   Students with other circumstances should consult with their advisor(s) for appropriate alternatives.

2. Students may return before the expiration of their leave. Whether the student returns early or at the expiration of the leave, colleges may condition the timing of readmission to a program on availability of space.

3. Except as provided in 3a, undergraduates who fail to register for a term (excluding summer) and who have not been granted a leave of absence, or whose leave of absence has expired, will be discontinued.
   a. Morris only: Undergraduates who fail to register for two terms (excluding summer) and who have not been granted a leave of absence, or whose leave of absence has expired, will be discontinued.

4. Students who are discontinued must contact their college office to obtain approval for readmission to a program and register for another term. Students in good academic standing at the time they were discontinued normally will be allowed to return.

5. A student who has left the University without a leave of absence for more than two consecutive terms (not including summer session) may be held to new program requirements upon returning to the University. A student returning within two terms (fall and spring) or less will be allowed to follow the program requirements in place when they left the University.

6. Readmission following a leave of absence or break in enrollment may be denied based on crimes or other serious misconduct that would have been grounds for suspension or expulsion had the student engaged in the conduct while enrolled (see Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code).

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.
Reason for Policy

Periodically students must interrupt their enrollment. Allowing students to take a leave of absence provides students the opportunity to return to the University under the rules and policies in effect when they left. It also allows the University the opportunity to counsel students about the required actions to return to the University. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

- ADV104 - Undergraduate Application for Readmission/Return from Leave of Absence
- OTR007 - Undergraduate Leave of Absence: Twin Cities, Rochester

Appendices

- Student Services Contact Information

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Leave of Absence and Readmission for Undergraduates

Contacts

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Services Contact Information</td>
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<td>Rochester Campus</td>
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<td>507-258-8008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:douglasd@r.umn.edu">douglasd@r.umn.edu</a></td>
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Definitions
Discontinued
Undergraduates who have not been granted a formal leave of absence or who do not register for one term (excluding summer session) will be discontinued (two terms for Morris). Students who are discontinued are no longer active in their program (inactive status).

Leave of absence
Refers to a student’s official permission to leave the University for a set duration of time (no more than four terms).

Matriculate
Students matriculate when they have confirmed their enrollment, satisfied all institutional requirements to enroll, and are eligible to enroll in courses as degree-seeking students.

Readmission or Reactivation
The process of returning to active status at the University following a break in enrollment.

Responsibilities

Colleges/Academic Units
- Create a process for granting and documenting leaves of absence.
- Inform students at the time of their initial matriculation of the consequences of not maintaining continuous enrollment, including whether readmission is dependent on availability of space in the program.
- Inform students of space limitations on readmission/returning from leave.

Students
- Meet with their college advisor and/or student services office to complete a leave of absence form when planning a leave of absence.
- Contact the appropriate college or campus office when seeking to return to the University.

Related Information
- Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code
- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended:
April 2017 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision. 30 Day Review. 1. Document appropriate reasons for a leave of absence. 2. Use “discontinue” language rather than “inactive” language for accuracy about the process. 3. Clarify language regarding semester/term including how terms are counted for leaves and discontinuation.

Amended:
January 2011 - Policy title updated to reflect that Policy applies to Undergraduate students.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

Instructors and academic units are responsible for maintaining records of student work and grade books, as follows:

1. Instructors and academic units should either return submitted student work to the student, or retain it for 30 days after grades for the class are posted to the student’s transcript. This provides students the opportunity to retrieve or review their work, as appropriate.
2. After 30 days, any retained student work may be discarded securely (following applicable University document-destruction procedures).
3. A student may request that retained student work be retained until 30 days into the next semester (not including summer, so a request in the spring would require a unit to hold the work until 30 days into the following fall semester). A student must make this request to the instructor no later than the last day of instruction for the class.
4. Instructors must follow FERPA, Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA) and University policy in retaining and returning student work. For example, student work may not be left in hallways or other public places where anyone may see it.
5. Academic units must retain grade books or their equivalents for a minimum of one year or, if a grade is appealed, until the end of the appeal. Instructors leaving the University must give all grading records to the department.
6. Academic units must also be aware of and follow Administrative Policy: Managing University Records Retention.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth Campus.

Reason for Policy

To comply with state and federal law regarding data privacy and to establish a reasonable time period after the end of a term during which students are able to retrieve or view their work while recognizing the physical storage space limitations in units.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.
Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does this policy apply to online classes or student work submitted electronically?
   Yes. Work may be returned electronically or stored electronically to meet the requirements of this policy.

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Definitions

Student Work
Materials a student has submitted for a class, including but not limited to, papers, projects, exams, problem sets, artwork, and architectural models.

Maintain
The process of keeping student work where it can be safely stored and accessed, whether submitted physically or electronically.

Responsibilities

Academic Units
Maintain grade books or their equivalents for a minimum of one year, or until the end of an appeal if a grade is appealed.

Instructors
Return student work or retain it for 30 days after grades are posted to a student's transcript. Maintain the privacy of student work.
Students
Before the last day of instruction, request their student work be retained for 30 days into the next semester.

Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Managing University Records Retention

History

Amended:
January 2017 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. 1. Clarifies obligations when work has been returned earlier than the 30-day requirement for retention. 2. Revise to use “course” and “class” clearly in policy. 3. Title Change: Maintaining Course Records changed to Maintaining Records of Student Work.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

University policy recognizes that there are a variety of legitimate circumstances in which students will miss coursework, and that accommodations for makeup work will be made. This policy applies to all course requirements, including any final examination. Students are responsible for planning their schedules to avoid excessive conflicts with course requirements.

1. Instructors may not penalize students for absence during the academic term due to the following unavoidable or legitimate circumstances:
   - illness, physical or mental, of the student or a student's dependent;
   - medical conditions related to pregnancy;
   - participation in intercollegiate athletic events;
   - subpoenas;
   - jury duty;
   - military service;
   - bereavement, including travel related to bereavement;
   - religious observances;
   - participation in formal University system governance, including the University Senate, Student Senate, and Board of Regents meetings, by students selected as representatives to those bodies; and
   - activities sponsored by the University if identified by the senior academic officer for the campus or the officer's designee as the basis for excused absences.

2. Voting in a regional, state, or national election is not an unavoidable or legitimate absence.

3. Instructors are expected to accommodate students who wish to participate in party caucuses, pursuant to Board of Regents resolution (see December 2005 Board of Regents Minutes, p 147.)

4. For circumstances not listed in (1), the instructor has primary responsibility to decide on a case-by-case basis if an absence is due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances and grant a request for makeup work.

Notification, Verification of Absences, and Make-up Work

5. Students must notify their instructors of circumstances identified in (1) or other circumstances leading to a request for makeup work as soon as possible and provide information to explain the absence. Some situations will be sufficiently urgent that arrangements for makeup work cannot be made prior to the date of an absence. In such cases, arrangements should be made as soon as possible following the student's return.

6. The instructor has the right to request, and the student must provide if requested, verification for absences, with the exception of a single episode medical absence that does not require medical services.

7. The instructor has the right to request verification for a single episode medical absence if (i) the student has had more than one single episode medical absence in the class, or (ii) the single episode medical absence involves missing laboratory sessions, exams or important graded in-class assignments.

8. The instructor may not penalize the student and must provide reasonable and timely accommodation or opportunity to make up missed work, including exams or other course requirements that have an impact.
on the course grade if the student:
- Was absent due to circumstances identified in (1);
- Has complied with the notification requirements; and
- Has provided verification if the instructor has requested further information.
9. Colleges and academic units may establish more specific criteria for notifying instructors and completing the associated make-up work, especially when the absence involves activities that may not be possible to make up, such as laboratory or clinical sessions and performances.
10. Instructors are not obligated to accommodate a student who has missed so much of the critical components of a course, even for legitimate reasons, that arrangements for makeup work would not be reasonable.

Instructors should take all factors into consideration when determining whether to grant an excused absence and how to make arrangements for makeup work that has an impact on the course grade. If a student has missed a component of the course that cannot be made up in exactly the same manner, the instructor may substitute another activity or assignment in order to assess the missed components. If no substitution can be devised, the missing component(s) cannot be factored into determining that student's final grade for the course.

**Appeals**

If a student believes the student has been wrongly denied the opportunity to make up work due to disagreement with the instructor about the legitimacy or unavoidability of an absence, the student should pursue the student's complaint using the usual process for appeals of student grievances. Chairs and deans who have questions about what constitutes an excusable bereavement absence, religious observance, or eligible dependent illness should consult with the senior academic officer for the campus for resolution of the disagreement.

In accordance with the Administrative Policy: *Addressing Student Academic Complaints*, final authority rests with the senior academic officer for the campus.

**Special Situations**

For health or safety of a campus, the senior academic officer for the campus or the officer's designee may waive the requirement that students provide verification from a health care provider for illness.

**Exclusions**

This policy does not apply to the Duluth campus.

**Reason for Policy**

The University aims to foster an atmosphere of honesty and trust between instructors and their students. It is in both the University's and the student's interest to outline academic protections for students when they miss class for legitimate reasons. This policy places parameters around what is a legitimate absence, and reinforces the responsibilities of the instructor and the student.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **FAQ: Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences**

Contacts

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Definitions

- **Dependent**
  A person, typically a qualifying child or other relative, other than the taxpayer or spouse, who entitles the taxpayer to claim a dependency exemption for tax purposes.

- **Intercollegiate athletics**
  Sports teams organized and funded by the institution through the athletics department. Intercollegiate does not refer to or include recreational sports, intramural sports, club sports, or other special interest sport clubs or organizations.

- **Medical provider**
  A licensed mental health or medical professional including registered nurses (RNs).

Responsibilities

**Instructor**
- Provide timely and clear responses to requests for makeup work for absences.
- Provide reasonable and timely accommodation for makeup work for legitimate absences.
- Maintain consistency in how this policy is applied to all students enrolled in the course.

**Student**
- Plan schedules to avoid excessive conflict with course requirements.
- Notify instructors of circumstances related to absences as soon as possible.
- Provide verification of absence, if requested by the instructor.
Related Information

Related Administrative Policies

- Administrative Policy: Intercollegiate Athletic Events during Study Day and Finals Weeks: Twin Cities, which prohibits intercollegiate athletic competition during study day and finals week except under certain circumstances.
- Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Student Responsibilities
- Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities
- Administrative Policy: Mandatory Attendance at First Class Session and Consequences for Absence

Other Related Information

Board of Regents resolution, December 9, 2005, "Approval of a resolution related to Events and Classes on Precinct Caucus Night", [See pp.147-8].

History

Amended:
July 2017 - Comprehensive review, Major Revision: adding participation in U Senate, Student Senate, and Regents meetings by student reps to the list of approved absences. Specifying when instructors can request verification for “single episode” medical absences. Adding two FAQs about single episode medical absences. Adding an FAQ about student government absences. Adding a definition of a “medical provider”

Amended:
December 2015 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revisions. 1. Organizes the information more logically and includes key subheadings. 2. Expands on the FAQ to incorporate numerous questions and answers received or given over the past years, including information related to family vacations and attendance at weddings. 3. Added new language addressing travel related to bereavement.

Amended:
June 2014 - Comprehensive Review. Clarifies the instructor responsibility for accommodating student absences due to medical conditions related to pregnancy, supporting a request from Kim Hewitt. Moves the sentence re: instructors having the right to request verification to a separate bullet. Adds instructor and student to the Responsibilities section.

Amended:
January 2011 - Comprehensive Review. Expands allowable absences to include caring for student's dependent. Documentation required only when requested by instructor. Responsibility for determining whether absence is legitimate rests with instructor.

Amended:
May 2010 - Expands the application of this policy to final exams, in addition to all course requirements, since legitimate absences can occur anytime during the academic year.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

The University protects the rights of students with respect to their education records. Education records generally include any personally identifiable records maintained about a student by the institution, including academic, disciplinary, and administrative records. Each campus must:

- provide students with an annual notice of their rights,
- regulate access to education records in accordance with law and policy,
- maintain records as required by law and policy,
- provide students with the right to request amendment to their education records and the right to a hearing concerning their education records, and
- provide complete records, from all units at the University, in response to a student's request that records be provided.

Access to student records. University officials may have access to student information, if their responsibilities reasonably require access to that information for educational, administrative, or research purposes in the performance of their job duties. University employees who have access to student education records are obligated to carefully protect them and will be held accountable for safeguarding them. Policy or procedure violations may result in disciplinary action, including possible termination of employment, and applicable civil and criminal sanctions.

Distributing grades. The posting of grades or examination results with personally-identifiable information (i.e., student ID number, Social Security Number, student name) is prohibited. Examinations, papers, blue books, or any other graded materials that contain personally-identifiable student information (i.e., name, student ID number) should be distributed directly to students or made available for pick up in departmental offices in a manner that ensures the privacy of each student's grade.

Student right to review. Students are entitled by law to review portions of their records at the University and to request amendments of such records if the student believes they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student.

Disclosure of student records, including disciplinary background checks. Personally-identifiable student information may only be released under the conditions outlined in the procedures or with the written permission of the student. When a student provides a valid authorization to release student records to a third party, all records that are legally covered by the authorization must be released as requested by the student. Units responding to external requests for information must ensure that the response includes all requested information that exists at the University.

Reason for Policy

This policy implements Board of Regents Policy: Student Education Records, and establishes procedures to ensure compliance with state and federal law governing student education records.

Procedures
• Assuring Student Rights Regarding Education Records
• Accessing and Using Student Education Records
• Releasing Student Information
• Responding to Authorizations to Disclose Student Records
• Students Managing Their Education Records

Forms/Instructions

• UM 1801 - Reference Request and Employee Authorization
  [um1801.doc]
• UM 1711 - Reference Request and Student Authorization
  [requestext.doc]
• FA 857 - Student Information Release Authorization
  [Access Request Form (ARF) on the OIT Data Security page]

Appendices

• Persons And Institutions That May Receive Information Without Student Permission

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

Contacts

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Definitions

Directory Information
• Student's name, address, etc.

Legitimate Education Interest
• An interest in student records for the purpose of performing stated job duties.

Student Applicant
• A person who has applied for admission to a University college. It includes students who are enrolled in a University college and are applying for admission to another University college.

Student Education Records
• Any student record maintained by the institution that contains personally identifiable information.
University Official
University officials are those members of the University whose responsibilities reasonably require access to student records for educational, administrative, or research functions and may include faculty, administration, clerical and professional employees, and other persons who manage student record information.

Responsibilities

Custodian of Education Records
Bring Board of Regents Policy: Student Education Records and other pertinent federal and state laws to the attention of all people who have access to student records. Respond to requests by student to amend an educational record.

Vice Provost & Chancellors
Appoint the custodians of student education records.

Departments with Academic Records
Adopt these administrative procedures or prepare its own departmental procedures that are set forth in the Regents and this policy.

HearingOfficers
Comply with the hearing procedures.

Registered Student
Complete a request to prevent disclosure to prohibit the disclosure of directory information during the term of enrollment.

Office of the Registrar
Publish an annual public notice designating directory information and informing students of their option to prohibit release of directory information.

University Officials
Respond to inquiries about students without their consent if the requested information is a matter of public record or directory information and not suppressed.

Related Information

Statutes:

Related Policies:
- Board of Regents Policy: Student Education Records
- Administrative Policy: Reporting and Notifying Individuals of Information Security Breaches

History

Amended:
October 2009 - Added new procedure: Responding to Authorizations to Disclose Student Records. Title changed from Protecting the Privacy of Student Education Records to Managing Student Records. Clarifying changes made throughout policy.

Effective:
June 2005
Policy Statement

1. Students are required to attend the first class session in order to receive important information about the course from the instructor. Students must attend the first class meeting of every part of a course in which they are registered (including, labs, discussion sections, lectures, and other types of class meetings), unless they have obtained prior approval from the instructor (or department, if appropriate) for an intended absence before the first class meeting. Without such prior approval, a student may lose their place in the class to another student.

2. If a student wishes to remain in a course from which the student has been absent the first day without prior approval, the student must contact the instructor as soon as possible. In this circumstance, instructors have the right to deny access to the class if other students have been added and the course is full. However, instructors should consider extenuating circumstances that may have prevented a student from attending the first class session and from notifying the instructor in advance.

3. Absence from the first class session that falls during a recognized religious holiday (e.g., Rosh Hashanah) does not require instructor approval, but the student must notify the instructor in advance regarding the absence and the reason for the absence. In this instance, the place for the student will be retained. (See Administrative Policy: Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester for further information regarding absences).

4. Students are responsible for officially cancelling their enrollment in any course in which they have enrolled and subsequently been denied enrollment. If any such student does not officially cancel enrollment from the course, the instructor has the choice to either (a) assign a failing grade to the student for that course, or (b) request that the student be disenrolled.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Students are required to attend the first class session to receive important information about the course from the instructor. In addition, because students can enroll and disenroll for courses on-line, the list of registered students fluctuates. A student's presence at the first class session is required to clearly indicate the number of students who are committed to taking the course. Instructors can then determine whether any students who were not able to register for a course because all seats were taken may take the place of students who registered but did not attend the first class session.
Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is it mandatory that a student be removed from a class if the student misses the first class session?
   Instructors are not required to request that the student be removed from the class, but it is their prerogative to make such a request.

2. What is the necessary process for instructors to disenroll students from a course?
   Instructors can contact their college’s student services department or One Stop Student Services to request students be disenrolled for not attending the first class session.

3. How does this policy apply to on-line courses?
   The policy extends to on-line courses as well as traditional in-person courses. Students must attend the first class meeting or obtain permission from the faculty member to be absent. In the traditional classroom courses, attendance means the student is physically present in the course. For courses that are delivered partially or completely online, instructors have discretion to indicate on the syllabus the specific action(s) a student would need to take within a specified time period (e.g., post an online discussion group on academic matters, initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about an academic course topic, submitting an assignment, taking a quiz) in order to be considered as having attended the online course.

4. How does this policy impact students who add a class during the first or second week of the semester?
   Students may generally add open classes without instructor permission during the first week of the term (fall and spring), and with instructor permission during the second week (fall and spring). Students are not required to attend the sessions prior to registration. Students should communicate with their instructor to determine if any graded work has been missed and what makeup work is available.

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Definitions**

**Officially cancel**
Students must cancel (drop) a class if they have been denied enrollment in that course. Students are responsible for dropping a course to officially remove it from their record and may do so online in the course registration system.

**Responsibilities**

**Students**
Attend the first sessions of courses for which they have registered, or seek prior approval from the instructor if they are unable to attend. Use the course registration system to drop a course they have registered for but will not be attending.

**Instructors**
Monitor official course registration lists. Take attendance at first class meeting(s). Respond promptly to students who have contacted the instructor regarding not attending the first class session. Notify students if they have been denied enrollment in a course. Report a failing grade if a student who was denied enrollment in a course does not drop the course, or request that the student be disenrolled.

**Related Information**

- Administrative Policy: [Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester](#)

**History**

**Amended:**
June 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. More clearly specifies the responsibilities of both the instructor and the student. Added instructor responsibility.

**Amended:**
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

**Effective:**
April 2009
Policy Statement

Students are admitted to the campuses and colleges of the University of Minnesota to pursue a baccalaureate degree. Degree-seeking undergraduate students are expected to enroll in and successfully complete courses that will move them toward degree completion in a timely manner. The general benchmark for timely degree completion for students admitted as New High School (NHS) students is four years (8 academic semesters).

A. Declaring a Major

Degree-seeking students are expected to declare and be accepted into a major. The timelines for this declaration are as follows:

1. New High School (NHS) students are expected to declare and be accepted into all intended major(s) and minor(s) (if applicable) no later than the end of their fourth academic term of enrollment after matriculation regardless of total credit completion.
2. New Advanced Standing (NAS) and Inter-University Transfer (IUT) students are expected to declare and be accepted into all intended major(s) and minor(s) (if applicable) as follows:
   - Students entering with 0-26 credits - no later than the end of their fourth semester of enrollment at the University
   - Students entering with 27-59 credits - no later than the end of their third semester of enrollment at the University
   - Students entering with 60 or more credits - no later than the end of their second semester of enrollment at the University.
3. Students failing to declare a major by the end of the term indicated above may have a hold placed on their student record, requiring advisor permission to register. The college may place a hold on the record sooner than the term indicated above, if programmatically warranted.
4. Students may not earn a degree in a program, college or campus to which they are not currently admitted, irrespective of any accumulation of required credits and courses on their record.
5. Colleges and campuses may not award a degree to a student who is not currently admitted to that program, college, or campus as a degree-seeking student.

B. Course Registration

After declaring/being accepted into a major, students are expected to enroll in required major courses and other courses necessary to complete University degree requirements. Students who fail to do so may have a hold placed on their student record, requiring advisor permission to register.

C. Graduation Clearance

1. Students are expected to apply to graduate; the application should be submitted on or before the beginning of the term during which the student expects to complete all degree requirements.
2. Students who have completed the required degree program, college, campus, and University requirements may be cleared for graduation, regardless of whether the student has submitted the application to graduate.

D. Degree Program Requirements

All degree programs must have a curricular sample plan that enables students who enter as NHS to graduate in four years. Such a plan should assume that students will enroll for at least 15 degree-applicable credits per semester, on average, but the plan may not require that students enroll for more than 17 credits per semester, on average.

Reason for Policy

Timely graduation is an underlying foundational principle for undergraduate education at the University. To make the best use of students' resources, as well as University resources, students must pursue their undergraduate degree(s) in a timely fashion and are not allowed to register for courses indefinitely without having a formal plan for timely completion of a degree. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

- Administrative Degree Clearance: Twin Cities, Rochester

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

- Administrative Degree Clearance Matrix

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Administrative Degree Clearance Procedure: Twin Cities and Rochester
- FAQ: Promoting Timely Graduation by Undergraduates: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Contacts

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</tr>
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</table>

Definitions

Degree-seeking student
A student who has been officially admitted to a University of Minnesota college to pursue an undergraduate degree program.

Non-degree student status
Non-degree students are not officially admitted into a University of Minnesota degree program for the semester(s) of course enrollment. Non-degree status includes those students who are admitted for a future semester and students who are degree-seeking at another institution, but taking classes at the University of Minnesota.

New High School (NHS)
Students who have graduated from high school but have not previously matriculated to another post-secondary institution. (They may have earned college credits while they were enrolled in high school, for example AP credits or credits through PSEO.)

New Advanced Standing (NAS)
Students who have graduated from high school, who have previously matriculated at another post-secondary education institution where they earned credits.

Inter-University Transfer (IUT)
Students who have matriculated at one University of Minnesota campus where they earned credits, and are now enrolling at a different University of Minnesota campus.

Academic Major
A student's main field of specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. The major is recorded on the student's transcript.

Academic Minor
A student's declared secondary field of study or specialization during the student's undergraduate or graduate studies. A minor typically consists of a set of courses that meet specified guidelines and is designed to allow a sub-major concentration in an academic discipline or in a specific area in or across disciplines. The minor is recorded on the student's transcript.

Responsibilities

College
- Establish the curricula and the requirements for majors and minors
- Periodically review student records to determine student progress in meeting degree requirements
- Monitor major declaration benchmarks
- Determine if a student has met all of the requirements to receive a degree
- Clear the student to receive the degree

Student
- Maintain regular communication with an academic advisor
- Declare a major
- Register for courses that allow for progress toward timely graduation
- Apply for graduation

Related Information

- Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation
History

Amended:
January 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision. 1. Incorporates content from Declaring and Pursuing
and Undergraduate Degree, which will be retired. 2. Provides more detail around the expected timelines for
declaring the major. 3. Specifies that a hold may be placed on a student record if the declaration of the major is
not timely. 4. Requires degree programs to have curricular sample plans to graduate in four years.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Amended:
April 2009 - Clarified policy and put in standard format. Added contact information.

Effective:  
April 2009

Supercedes:
Policy of Academic Progress of Undergraduates
Providing In-progress Notifications on Academic Performance: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement

1. Instructors are required to provide in-progress notifications for all 1-XXX courses to students who, on the basis of performance to date in the course, appear to be in danger of receiving a grade of D, F, or N. Such notification will be provided to students within a timeframe to allow them to improve their academic performance or to withdraw by the withdrawal deadline. In-progress notifications will not be recorded on transcripts.
   
   a. Crookston campus only: Instructors are required to provide in-progress notifications for every student in all 1-XXX & 2-XXX courses for A, B, C, D, F, S, N grades, utilizing the PeopleSoft system in MyU. Such notification will be provided no later than the seventh week of class, and earlier if possible, to allow students to improve their classroom performance or to withdraw by the eighth week. Mid-term grades will not be recorded on transcripts.

2. Instructors are encouraged to provide in-progress notifications for all courses and all students.

3. The provision of in-progress notifications is a courtesy to the student. Failure to receive an in-progress notification or a decline in a student's academic performance after a notification has been issued does not create the right for a student to contest a grade in a course.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Studies of student learning underscore the importance of frequent and timely feedback as an important contribution to success in student learning. Past experience shows that for students in academic difficulty, a timely notification about performance can result in appropriate corrective action. In-progress notifications also help advisers develop strategies for academic success with their advisees.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.
Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can instructors in classes other than 1xxx issue in-progress notifications?
   Yes, any instructor teaching any level course has the ability to send in-progress notifications.

2. How do instructors issue an in-progress notification?
   In-progress notifications are accessed via the Faculty Center. Each course will have a midterm grade roster (PeopleSoft terminology) available in the grading tab in Faculty Center.

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Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this policy.

Responsibilities

Academic Unit
   Ensure that course level, registration and eligibility criteria for these courses are communicated.

Related Information

- In-progress notifications FAQ

History
Amended:
June 2018 - Added Crookston provision (1a) to Policy Statement.
Amended:
February 2015 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. Added Responsibility. Title change.
Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.
Effective:
April 2009
Resolving Alleged Student Conduct Code Violations

Policy Statement

Each campus will develop and maintain fair processes for resolving complaints against students and student groups under Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code. These processes will emphasize student development through understanding and accepting responsibility for personal behavior, while protecting community interests and due process. Each campus’s disciplinary process will

- provide fair notice to students of alleged violations of Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code;
- provide privacy in accordance with applicable state and federal laws;
- provide access to at least one advisor throughout the disciplinary process as permitted by campus procedures;
- provide timely notice of any meeting or proceeding;
- provide the range of possible sanctions;
- encourage informal resolution of alleged violations without the need for a hearing;
- permit students the opportunity for a formal hearing upon request;
- provide timely and equal access to information that will be used during disciplinary hearings;
- provide prompt and fair resolution;
- encourage informal resolution of alleged violations without the need for a hearing;
- provide for a preponderance of the evidence (i.e., more likely than not) standard of proof throughout the disciplinary process;
- provide one campus-wide appeal of a finding of violation of the Code;

In addition to the previous elements of the process, for cases involving alleged violations of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, or relationship violence, each campus’s disciplinary process will also

- be conducted by officials who receive annual training on the issues related to sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, and relationship violence, on how to conduct an investigation, and on how to conduct a hearing process that protects the safety of all parties and promotes accountability;
- provide equitable access to a formal hearing and to a campus-wide appeal by both the respondent and the complainant;
- allow equitable access to at least one advisor at meetings and hearings throughout the disciplinary process for both the complainant and the respondent; and
- provide to both the respondent and the complainant simultaneous written notice of:
  - the results of any disciplinary proceeding;
  - the procedure for the respondent and the complainant to appeal the results of the disciplinary proceeding;
  - the final results after appeal.

Each system campus will provide a hearing body (comprising a hearing panel or hearing officer) to conduct hearings requested by students and student groups. The hearing body may differ depending on the nature of the alleged violation and the college/campus of which the student is enrolled. Specifically, individual colleges may establish their own hearing body to determine responsibility related to intra-college cases of scholastic dishonesty (that is, cases that involve the college’s student within the college’s own course).

This Administrative Policy only applies where a sanction is sought for an alleged violation of Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code. Professional and graduate programs may have their own supplemental codes to address additional behavioral requirements in their programs. Likewise, certain administrative programs, such as housing and residential life, student activities offices, and learning abroad offices, may establish and apply their own codes of conduct and hearing procedures. If sanctions are sought for an alleged violation of Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code, then the hearing procedures must comply with the requirements of this policy.
Reason for Policy

This administrative policy implements Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code. It provides a framework for each campus to resolve complaints about violations of Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code.

Procedures

- Student Conduct Code Procedure: Twin Cities
- Resolving Non-Academic Student Conduct Code Violations - Crookston
- Student Academic Integrity Misconduct Procedures - Morris
- Student Conduct Code Procedure - Morris
- Student Behavior Committee Hearing Procedures - Morris
- Student Conduct Committee Hearing Procedures - Crookston
- Student Conduct Code Procedure: Duluth
- Student Conduct Code Procedures: Rochester

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

- Academic Integrity Violation Files: Morris
- Committee on Academic Integrity Order of Proceedings: Morris
- Committee on Academic Integrity Pre-Hearing Conference: Morris
- Student Proctors and Graders: Morris
  - Campus Committee on Student Behavior Hearing Procedures: Twin Cities
  - Student Sexual Misconduct Subcommittee Hearing Procedures

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

Contacts

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### Campus Contacts

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### Definitions

**Advisor**
Person who advises the complainant or respondent, as permitted by campus procedures, through the disciplinary process. An advisor may be an attorney, union representative, advocate, support person, or other individual or any other individual of the student's choosing with the exception of those who are witnesses with information about facts material to the underlying case. In cases of Sexual Misconduct please refer to [Roles and Responsibilities of Advisors](#).

**Complainant**
An individual is a “complainant” under this policy when the person has reported prohibited conduct under Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code.

**Respondent**
An individual is a “respondent” when the University learns that the individual is alleged to have engaged in conduct that could constitute prohibited conduct under this policy.

**Student groups**
Student-led groups that are registered pursuant to campus policies.

### Responsibilities

**Chancellors**
Ensure the establishment and maintenance of appropriate disciplinary procedures on their campus.

**Provost**
Ensure the establishment and maintenance of appropriate disciplinary procedures on the Twin Cities Campus.

### Related Information

**Board of Regents Policies**
• Board of Regents Policy: Conflict Resolution Process for Student Academic Complaints
• Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code

Administrative Policies

• Administrative Policy: Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Relationship Violence
• Administrative Policy: Reporting Suspected Misconduct

Other Related Information

• Office for Community Standards: Disciplinary Process

History

Amended:
January 2019 - Comprehensive Review. This policy was amended to align with the Administrative Policy entitled Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Relationship Violence. Additionally, the policy was edited to remove redundancy and provide more clarity to the reader.

Amended:
March 2014 - Comprehensive Review, Major Revision: 1. This policy version includes a new section that outlines required elements of a campus disciplinary process related to allegations of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, or relationship violence. 2. Provides for one campus-wide appeal for the reporting party to align with recent law changes in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

Effective:
March 2008 - Administrative Policy to implement Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code.
Policy Statement

A. Examinations During the Term

1. Examinations during the term (e.g., mid-terms) will normally be given only during the regular class sessions, except that make-up exams may be given at other times arranged to accommodate student class schedules. Exams may be held at times other than the regularly scheduled class period only under unusual circumstances, and only if approved by the dean of the college in consultation with the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education or the appropriate decision-making office on the system campuses. Any regularly scheduled examination to be held outside of regular class time must be listed in the published class schedule.

2. Accommodation must be provided by the examining department(s) to any student who encounters an academic conflict, such as between an examination scheduled outside of regular class time and the regular class period of another course, or between two exams scheduled to be held simultaneously outside of regular class time.

3. Comprehensive examinations, which require reflection, study, and application of the work of the entire semester, are strongly encouraged, but must be given during the final examination period. The only examinations allowed during the last week of classes are those equivalent in scale, scope, length, and percent of grade to other examinations given in that class during the term. Although late-semester examinations may rely on cumulative knowledge of the work of the course during the semester, such examinations must not be comprehensive in nature if they are given prior to the final examination period. In a course where only one examination is given during the term, that examination must be given during the final examination period.

4. Take-home examinations are specifically exempted from this section of the policy.

B. Final Examinations

1. All classes that normally permit undergraduates to enroll will follow the standard examination schedule. Final examinations on the Twin Cities campus will extend over a six-day period. It is not a violation of this policy for a faculty member to use secure online test-taking, authorized by the academic unit, that permits students to take an exam at a time of their choosing rather than at a scheduled final examination time.

2. Final examinations normally will be two clock hours (120 minutes) long.

3. Instructors may schedule longer examinations with the approval of their department, which will arrange longer use of the examination room with the appropriate campus scheduling office. Instructors and departments must decide in advance of scheduling a course if the examination is to exceed two hours, and must work with the campus office that schedules central classrooms on scheduling the location of the exam. Any examinations that exceed two hours must be noted in the class schedule, in order that students are informed and can try to fit the longer examination in their schedule of final examinations. Accommodation must be provided by the examining department to any student who encounters a conflict with another final examination because of this lengthened examination time.
4. Instructors may offer take-home final examinations (but see 7(c) below).
5. For courses that do not run for a full semester, the final examination will be administered (or due, in the case of take-home or other out-of-class examinations) on the last day of the course, except that short courses that end with the semester may use the final exam time scheduled for that course.
6. The requirement that the final examination period on the Twin Cities campus be six days will not apply to units that have been granted an exemption from the University calendar by the Senate Committee on Education Policy.
7. Final examinations at times other than regularly scheduled:
   a. Examinations outside the final examination period. Instructors are permitted to schedule their final examinations outside of the scheduled examination days only under extraordinary circumstances and with the approval of their dean and the campus academic officer. (For the Twin Cities, this is the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education.)
   b. Moving an examination within the final examination period. When an instructor and students conclude they wish to move the final examination for the course to a different time and/or day during the final examination period, the change must be (1) proposed by the instructor, (2) have the concurrence of the department chair, and (3) must be approved unanimously by written secret ballot by students in class when the vote in taken.
   c. Laboratory practicums may be given during the final week of classes during the normal lab period, and take-home or other out-of-class finals may be distributed prior to the final exam period but may not be due before the scheduled final exam for that course.
   d. Students with final examination conflicts, or with three (or more) final examinations in one calendar day, will be expected to notify and provide documentation to instructors as soon as possible during the term. Instructors are expected to make appropriate accommodation to eliminate the conflict. In the event none of the instructors agrees to make appropriate accommodation, the student should contact the student’s advisor. If a student has three or more examinations in one day because one exam date was changed, the instructor who changed the exam must make the accommodation. Note: this section does not cover cases where a student has three (or more) examinations within a 24-hour period, only cases where the student has three (or more) examinations from morning to evening the same day.
   e. Summer term final examinations. Final examinations for summer terms will be scheduled during the regular meeting time of the course on the last day.

C. Study Days

Each campus will decide whether or not to have a Study Day; when the calendar permits, a Study Day should be added to the schedule. For campuses that choose to have one, the final examination period will begin on the second day after classes end, with the day after classes designated as a Study Day. In the event classes end on a Friday, final examinations will not start until the following Monday and Saturday and Sunday will be designated Study Days.

D. Classes and Events During the Study Day/Finals Period

1. No classes will be permitted after the last scheduled day of instruction for that term/semester for any course that normally includes undergraduate students. Instructors may not schedule classes on a Study Day.
2. Instructors may not hold a regular class during the final examination period (which can interfere with students’ other exams) and may not hold a class during the first hour of the examination period and then conduct the final examination during the remaining hour(s).
3. No University-sponsored extra-curricular events, which require the participation of students, may be scheduled from the beginning of Study Day to the end of Final Examinations. Exceptions to this policy may be granted ONLY by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy. Instructors must provide an alternative and timely opportunity for students to complete course requirements they were unable to complete because of an absence permitted by this policy.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.
Special Situations

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy has the authority to grant waivers to the provisions of this policy, and will report such waivers to the Faculty Senate at its next meeting.

Reason for Policy

This policy defines exams and outlines common scheduling practices and guidelines to allow students and faculty to plan for Study Day and examinations with a minimum of scheduling conflicts.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

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<td><a href="mailto:douglasd@r.umn.edu">douglasd@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definitions
Study Day
A day designated in the Academic Calendar reserved for study, which occurs immediately before finals period or during finals period; no required classes or exams may be scheduled on a Study Day.

Responsibilities
There are no specific responsibilities associated with this policy.

Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences

History

Amended:
May 2016 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. 1. Clarifies that a course with a single exam must have the exam during the finals week. 2. Replaces “coordinate campuses” label with “system campuses”. 3. Provides clarity around the final exam period. May not necessarily be a final exam week.

Amended:
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
April 2009
Policy Statement

Introduction

The University facilitates international travel and education abroad by students for University purposes, while encouraging sound health, safety, and security measures that minimize risks to the traveler and institution. This policy includes the minimum pre-departure requirements and minimum requirements while abroad. The education abroad office on each campus may have additional requirements. For the purposes of this policy, there are four levels of facilitation:

- **Notifying**: communicating existing information about an opportunity or potential opportunity abroad not organized by or affiliated with the University of Minnesota, without specifically recommending it.
- **Supporting**: encouraging, guiding, or enabling (through financial support, guaranteeing of credit, degree requirement fulfillment, signing of forms or materials) the participation in an opportunity abroad that is not organized by or affiliated with the University of Minnesota.
- **Promoting**: distributing and/or creating specialized print, web, and other materials that contain information about a University of Minnesota affiliated opportunity or potential opportunity abroad not organized by the University of Minnesota where the intent is to encourage participation in that opportunity.
- **Organizing**: creating, developing, or maintaining an opportunity abroad by University of Minnesota faculty or staff when the opportunity would not exist without such an organization. Examples of activities include, but are not limited to, developing an application or application criteria, setting up exchange criteria, pricing an opportunity, or booking travel or on-site logistics on behalf of the student(s).
  - **NOTE**: All University units organizing undergraduate credit-bearing student travel abroad must work with the Learning Abroad Center or Carlson Global Institute on the Twin Cities campus or the appropriate education abroad office on their campus to complete the organizing requirements.

Units Pre-Travel and Program Planning Requirements – Vary Based on Level of University Facilitation (as defined above)

**Notifying**: All University units (including campuses, colleges, departments, centers, offices, other operational units, and education abroad offices) must do the following when notifying student travel abroad:

- notify students of the Student Pre-Travel Requirements listed below;
- only notify students of opportunities abroad if they have knowledge that the opportunity is of sound academic value for which there is a compelling academic connection; and
- attach the disclaimer below on communication of all types, including verbal communication:

“This education abroad opportunity is not affiliated with the University of Minnesota and has not been fully vetted. Notification of an opportunity should not be construed as an endorsement by the University of Minnesota. For more information regarding participation on an education abroad opportunity, contact the Learning Abroad Center or the Carlson Global Institute on the Twin Cities campus. All other campuses should consult the appropriate education abroad office on their campus.”
Supporting: All University units (including campuses, colleges, departments, centers, offices, other operational units, and education abroad offices) must do the following when supporting student travel abroad:

- notify students of the Student Pre-Travel Requirements listed below;
- support students through the process of participation (“supporting a student through the process of participation” includes signing forms—or guiding students to the proper resources to do so—as required and appropriate, and supporting students upon return regarding issues such as credit transfer, etc.); and
- provide students with a 24-7 University emergency contact.

Promoting: All University units (including campuses, colleges, departments, centers, offices, other operational units, and education abroad offices) must do the following when promoting student travel abroad not organized by the University of Minnesota:

- notify students of the Student Pre-Travel Requirements listed below;
- support students through the process of participation (“supporting a student through the process of participation” includes signing forms—or guiding students to the proper resources to do so—as required and appropriate, and supporting students upon return regarding issues such as credit transfer, etc.);
- provide students with a 24-7 University emergency contact;
- complete a due diligence review of all affiliates, providers, and/or programs prior to promotion (see Administrative Procedure: Preparing for Student Travel and Education Abroad – Units); and
- ensure appropriate contracting of affiliates or providers prior to promotion;

Organizing: All University units (including campuses, colleges, departments, centers, offices, other operational units, and education abroad offices) must do the following when organizing student travel abroad:

Prior to student recruitment:

- obtain International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC) approval before promoting any program in a USDOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory location and
- complete a due diligence review of all affiliates, providers and/or programs prior to promotion (see Administrative Procedure: Preparing for Student Travel and Education Abroad – Units).

Prior to student departure:

- support students through the process of participation (“supporting a student through the process of participation” includes signing forms—or guiding students to the proper resources to do so—as required and appropriate, and supporting students upon return regarding issues such as credit transfer, etc.);
- provide students with a 24-7 University emergency contact;
- ensure appropriate contracting of affiliates or providers;
- develop a 24-7 contact protocol and emergency plan;
- implement a system for gathering and accessing independent student travel information during program dates (if applicable) so that program leaders or University staff can contact students in an emergency;
- ensure completion of the student requirements; and
- ensure completion of faculty/staff leader requirements, where relevant.

Faculty/Staff Program Leader Requirements:

University Faculty/Staff Program Leaders must, prior to departure:

- complete the program leader registry process, which includes the program leader acknowledgement form;
- complete the program leader health and safety training within 12 months prior to the program departure date;
- complete the program leader companion process, if applicable; and
- ensure programs have a) two program leaders; OR b) one program leader with onsite partner who has agreed and is able to provide program support.

Education Abroad Offices

In addition to the requirements above, each education abroad office in the system must also:
- register students for USDOS Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) or advise them on self-registry;
- implement the student health disclosure form and process;
- implement consistent processes for any participant under the age of 18;
- implement the student behavior review and Code of Conduct policy/process; and
- for any program with a program leader, assist the program leader with the following requirements:
  - completion of the program leader registry process, which includes the program leader acknowledgement form;
  - completion of the program leader health and safety training within 12 months prior to the program departure date;
  - implementation of the program leader companion process, if applicable; and
  - verification that programs have a) two program leaders; OR b) one program leader with onsite partner who has agreed and is able to provide program support.

**Student Pre-Travel Requirements**

University-purpose student travel abroad that is either non-credit bearing or consists exclusively of graduate student travelers does not require collaboration with an education abroad office. All students must complete the following requirements in advance of University-purpose travel:

- register their travel officially with the University;
- sign a Student Release and Waiver detailing their academic, financial, behavioral, travel risk, and health-related responsibilities while abroad;
- complete the mandatory online health and safety orientation;
- receive University-approved international travel, health, and security insurance (enrollment upon completion of registration process);
- ensure an appropriate emergency communications plan is in place; and
- when applicable, obtain International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC) approval.

Students working through an education abroad office will complete the above requirements through a program application process. All other students will complete these requirements through the [Student International Travel Registry](#).

All student travelers are strongly encouraged to:

- discuss independent travel plans with a University faculty and/or staff member prior to confirming travel plans;
- address any health and safety concerns prior to departure (e.g., check-ups, immunizations);
- register with the USDOS Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP); and
- review the U.S. Department of State (USDOS), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and World Health Organization (WHO) resources for their planned destination.

**Travel Approval**

The University does not encourage travel to any country or location designated as Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS).

**Pre-Approval of Student Travel**

Any student planning to travel for University purposes, as well as any faculty or staff member planning to lead or travel with any University students, to a USDOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory location must obtain approval from the International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC). Units who wish to organize an education abroad opportunity in a USDOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory location must receive ITRAAC approval prior to promotion. The University, in its sole discretion, may deny approval for international travel. In addition, travelers may be required to submit a request for permission to travel to locations or participate in programs that pose a specific health, safety, or security concern as indicated by authorities other than the U.S. Department of State, such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), non-U.S. government authorities (e.g., Australian or Canadian authorities), and University of Minnesota authorities.

**Suspension of Travel**
ITRAAC will review student travel currently in process when a significant health or safety concern arises regarding that travel including new and renewed USDOS Travel Advisories, travel warnings from the CDC or WHO, natural disasters, wars or other political disturbances, or other indicators of potential health or safety threats. The University, in its sole discretion, may withdraw approval for international travel at any time.

While Abroad

Students and faculty/staff/units traveling with students and/or organizing, promoting, or supporting student programs abroad must keep their 24/7 University emergency contact apprised of any changes to their address and contact information while abroad. Changes should be submitted as soon as possible and at a minimum within 24 hours of the change taking effect.

Students are held to Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code while abroad for University purposes in addition to any additional codes of conduct or behavior codes from the University unit organizing, promoting, or supporting travel or the education abroad office, affiliate, or host.

Students are not permitted to drive motor vehicles (including but not limited to electric or gas-powered scooters, motorbikes, motorcycles, and cars) while participating in an education abroad opportunity.

Faculty and staff may not drive vehicles in which students are passengers abroad without an approved exception from the Office of Risk Management and Insurance in advance of departure from the U.S. Faculty and staff who need transportation for students must either use public transportation or hire a local driver/vehicle.

Travel in Violation of this Policy

Students who choose to travel in violation of this policy are acting outside the control and responsibility of the University. If the travel is occurring during a required term, the student must take a leave of absence from the University, where possible. Students on leave of absence from the University are not eligible for financial aid, scholarship, travel stipends, and other University supports including credit. If a leave of absence is not an option, students who travel in violation of this policy risk losing their student status.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to personal, non-University travel by students. For information on reimbursement for travel and faculty and staff travel requirements, see Administrative Policy: Traveling on University Business.

Reason for Policy

This policy endeavors to support education abroad by balancing the educational value of participation in international activities with the potential risks to the welfare and safety of students.

Procedures

- Travel Approval (ITRAAC)
- Preparing for Travel and Education Abroad (Students)
- Preparing for Student Travel and Education Abroad (Units)

Forms/Instructions
UM 1895 - Notification of Travel During Education Abroad Program

- Emergency Plan Template
- ITRAAC Application Process
- International Travel, Medical and Security Insurance (CISI)
- Program Leader Acknowledgement Form
- Release and Waiver for Education Abroad:
  - For activities through an education abroad office: OGC-SC245
  - For activities NOT through an education abroad office: OGC-SC246

Appendices

- International Health Insurance Eligibility Requirements
- University Policy Process Flowchart: Student International Travel and Education Abroad

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Student Travel and Education Abroad

Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax/Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact</td>
<td>Kevin Dostal Dauer</td>
<td>612-625-5107</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dauer001@umn.edu">dauer001@umn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-education Abroad Office travel registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Abroad Programs Offices</td>
<td>Crookston: Learning Abroad Office</td>
<td>218-281-8442</td>
<td>218-281-8588 <a href="mailto:umclabrd@umn.edu">umclabrd@umn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duluth: International Programs and Services</td>
<td>218-726-8764</td>
<td>218-726-7352 <a href="mailto:studyabroad@d.umn.edu">studyabroad@d.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morris: Academic Center for Enrichment (ACE)</td>
<td>320-589-7014</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ummace@morris.umn.edu">ummace@morris.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twin Cities: Learning Abroad Center</td>
<td>612-626-9000</td>
<td>612-626-8009 (fax) <a href="mailto:UMabroad@umn.edu">UMabroad@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twin Cities: Carlson Global Institute</td>
<td>612-625-9361</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cgi@umn.edu">cgi@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergencies Abroad - Students</td>
<td>University 24-7 international emergency phone</td>
<td>612-301-2255</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definitions

University-Purpose Education Abroad Travel

Travel by students (both for credit and not for credit) that is affiliated with the University in any way. This includes, but is not limited to:

- travel through a sponsored or affiliated program of a University education abroad office;
- travel through unit-organized or promoted education abroad programs or activities.
- travel to a University or unit exchange partner;
- travel as part of, or in support of, a University research activity;
- travel for University credit;
- travel that fulfills a degree requirement (including internships, field studies, service learning, research);
- travel that fulfills University contractual agreements;
- professional development opportunities promoted by or supported by any University unit (including conference attendance);
- travel for which you are acting as a representative of the University;
- travel for University athletics;
- travel supported by University funding including grant awards, scholarships, informal financial awards, and financial aid;
- travel with, or organized by, a University faculty or staff member; and
- travel with a University Campus Life Program.

Students traveling abroad for University purposes are held to this policy within the dates of their activity. Thus, they must follow this policy for any weekend or overnight travel taken during the activity. See definition of non-University travel below for more information on when this policy does not apply. Notified travel that fits any of the above criteria remains subject to this policy.

Campus Life Program (CLP)

A voluntary association comprised primarily of students whose activities, operations, and decision-making processes are directly governed by University academic or administrative departments and for which the University is ultimately responsible. Campus Life Programs (CLPs) must be affiliated with a University of Minnesota academic or administrative department and have a designated University faculty or staff advisor. The sponsoring or affiliated department, through the designated faculty or staff advisor, is responsible for ensuring compatibility between the group’s operations and actions and University interests. The CLP and its advisor must comply with all policies and procedures for Campus Life Programs, as identified within student group and University policies. University Recognized Organizations (UROs) at Morris are treated like CLPs for the purpose of this policy.

Education Abroad Program

An education abroad program at the University of Minnesota must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- meets the definition for University-purpose education abroad travel within this policy;
meets the definition for “Organizing” a program within this policy;
• some portion of the activity takes place outside of the continental United States, Alaska, or Hawaii;
• has a defined start and end date;
• has multiple student participants;
• frequently engages participants onsite in group activities that share common learning or experience outcomes; and
• participants are not pre-selected but are able to apply to participate (subject to defined eligibility requirements).

Faculty and Staff
Full and part-time faculty, including adjunct faculty and staff employees at the University. Graduate assistantship appointments and other appointments that require student status are not considered employees for the purpose of this policy. Where faculty and staff are also taking classes, they are faculty/staff when traveling for work and a student when traveling for education/coursework.

International Travel
Travel to any country (including Mexico and Canada) or territory outside the continental U.S. (such as American Samoa, Guam, Midway Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Wake Island) is considered international travel for purposes of this policy and CISI insurance. Travel to Alaska and Hawaii is not considered international travel.

International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC)
Committee responsible for reviewing all proposed student travel to USDOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory locations and other locations that pose a specific health, safety, or security concern as indicated by authorities other than the U.S. Department of State, such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), non-U.S. government authorities (e.g., Australian or Canadian authorities), and University of Minnesota authorities. Committee has University-wide jurisdiction and its decisions apply uniformly to all campuses. Composed of the Associate Vice President and Dean for International Programs (Chair), the General Counsel, the Associate Dean of Graduate Education, and the Vice President for Health Sciences (officials may delegate their responsibilities to others within their areas of authority and consult other administrators, faculty, and experts as they choose). The Dean of the School of Public Health will serve on the committee whenever a decision is being considered to cancel or suspend an education abroad opportunity for public health reasons.

Non-University-Purpose Travel
Travel that is not related to the University in any way. This means travel that is not in support of University business, programs, or education and for which the University assumes no control or responsibility, and therefore this policy does not apply. Examples include:

• Registered Student Organization travel (see definition below) that is not otherwise funded or supported by the University (see University-Purpose Education Abroad Travel above);
• Personal travel such as vacation;
• Personal travel before or after a University/education abroad activity.

Students traveling abroad for University purposes are held to this policy within the dates of their activity. Thus, any weekend or overnight travel taken during the University-purpose activity dates is subject to this policy.

Program Leader
Designated individual who oversees education abroad program and is physically present on-site for the duration of the program. Every program must have at least one program leader who is a University of Minnesota faculty or staff member. Undergraduate students may not serve in the role of program leader.

Registered Student Organization (RSO)
A voluntary association comprised primarily of students that does not have a direct relationship to the University. Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) are independent and autonomous from the University and are responsible for managing their own affairs. RSOs are not units or agents of the University, and they should not represent themselves as such. Events and activities conducted by RSOs are not considered University sponsored under this policy. RSOs will comply with all policies and procedures for RSOs, as identified within student-group and University policies.

Sponsored or Affiliated Programs through Education Abroad Offices
Sponsored programs are study abroad experiences developed, administered, and evaluated by an education abroad office. Affiliated programs are administered by other institutions/organizations and approved by the University (students will receive support and services from the education abroad office, and credits will be posted as resident credit).

Students
Any undergraduate, graduate, or professional student enrolled in a degree program, credit bearing non-degree program, professional certificate, or executive education program at the University (including residents and fellows). Students traveling as part of assigned duties within an assistantship are considered students and not employees for the purpose of this policy.
Unit
A campus, college, department, program, research center, institute, business center, office, or other operating unit.

Unit-Notified Travel
Student education abroad travel that resulted from notification by a University faculty or staff member. Notification consists of sharing existing information about an opportunity or potential opportunity abroad that is not organized by or affiliated with the University of Minnesota. Notification requires disclaimer language found in this policy and should not specifically recommend the opportunity.

Unit-Supported Travel
Student education abroad travel supported by a University unit by encouraging, guiding, or enabling (through financial support, guaranteeing of credit, degree requirement fulfillment, or signing of forms or materials) the participation in an opportunity abroad that is not organized by the University of Minnesota. Units are required only to notify students of the student requirements in this policy.

Unit-Promoted Travel
Student education abroad travel promoted by a unit through the distribution and/or creation of specialized print, web, and other materials that contain information about a University of Minnesota affiliated opportunity or potential opportunity abroad that is not organized by the University of Minnesota where the intent is to encourage participation in that opportunity. Attaching the notification disclaimer to an existing communication piece does not mean the piece is being promoted.

Unit-Organized Travel
Student education abroad organized by a University of Minnesota unit. The unit created, developed, or maintained an opportunity abroad and the opportunity would not exist without such organization. Examples of activities include, but are not limited to, developing an application or application criteria, setting up exchange criteria, pricing an opportunity, or booking travel or on-site logistics on behalf of the student(s). Units are required to comply with the Procedure: Preparing for Student Travel and Education Abroad (Units) and, for all undergraduate student travel abroad, work through one of the University's education abroad offices.

U.S. Department of State (USDOS) Travel Advisories
The USDOS has issued Travel Advisory Levels for all locations outside the United States. There are two types of Travel Advisories:

- Country-wide Travel Advisories—each country in the world has a designated advisory level from 1 (Exercise Normal Precautions) to 4 (Do Not Travel).
- Regional Travel Advisories—select countries have within-country advisories that pertain to localities or sub-sections where higher levels of vigilance are recommended.

Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisories are issued when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable and lead the State Department to recommend that Americans avoid or consider the risk of travel to that country or location. They are also issued when the U.S. Government’s ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff. See list of all Travel Advisories at https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html.

Responsibilities

Associate Vice President and Dean for International Programs
Promote the global dimensions of teaching, research, and engagement across all colleges and campuses of the University. Chair the International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC).

Director of International Health, Safety, and Compliance, GPS Alliance
Provide background information on specific health and safety risks and participate in the decision whether to cancel or suspend education abroad opportunities. Call a meeting of the International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC). Notify unit and/or program directors when an educational opportunity has been suspended or canceled by the committee and when ITRAAC approves applications to travel to a USDOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory location or other locations that pose a specific health, safety, or security concern as indicated by authorities other than the U.S. Department of State, such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), non-U.S. government authorities (e.g., Australian or Canadian authorities), and University of Minnesota authorities. A member of the Director’s staff will provide assistance to ITRAAC applicants and facilitate ITRAAC reviews of applications.

Education Abroad Offices
Ensure compliance with University policy for all programs and activities they support. Serve as a resource to units, faculty, and staff planning international activities.
The Following are the Education Abroad Offices:

- Carlson School of Management Global Institute
- Crookston Learning Abroad Office
- Duluth International Programs and Services
- Morris Academic Center for Enrichment
- Twin Cities’ Learning Abroad Center

Export Controls Officer and Designated Cuba Representative

Review and approve proposed student travel to embargoed countries and work with travelers to apply for any licenses needed for U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba. Advise on any restrictions that may apply during travel to embargoed countries.

Faculty, Staff, and Units Supporting, Promoting, or Organizing Student Travel Abroad

Ensure compliance with University policy before and during organizing or promoting travel or leading student travel abroad.

International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC)

Determine when to cancel or suspend education abroad opportunities because of significant health or safety risks to students at any time. In the members’ absence, appoint alternates to serve on the ITRAAC. Make exceptions to suspension of education abroad opportunities and approve applications for travel to US DOS Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory locations or other locations that pose a specific health, safety, or security concern as indicated by authorities other than the U.S. Department of State, such as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), non-U.S. government authorities (e.g., Australian or Canadian authorities), and University of Minnesota authorities on a case-by-case basis.

Office of General Counsel (OGC)

Create and approve the student release and waiver. Serve on the International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Committee (ITRAAC). Work with the International Health, Safety, and Compliance Director to review mandatory health and safety orientation, assist faculty and staff with related questions and resources while abroad.

Office of Risk Management and Insurance (ORM)

Regularly review and approve the University’s mandatory international travel, health, and security insurance. Work with the International Health, Safety, and Compliance Director to review mandatory health and safety orientation and assist faculty and staff with related questions and resources while abroad.

Purchasing/Travel Services

Advise University faculty and staff on appropriate contracting procedures for activities involving travel or purchasing. Assist those traveling for University purposes on a variety of travel items. Ensure the integrity, accountability, and efficiency of purchasing processes.

Students

Complete the requirements detailed in this policy and procedures before departure on international travel. Take independent measures to promote one’s own safety, the safety of fellow travelers, and the safety of the broader University community including consulting with experts on the region of travel, as appropriate. Abide by the University Student Code of Conduct while abroad.

24/7 Emergency Contacts

Be available to support the traveler 24/7 during their education abroad opportunity and collaborate with and report all traveler health and safety incidents to the International Health, Safety, and Compliance (IHSC) team. More details can be found at: http://global.umn.edu/travel/emergency/24_7_contact.html

Related Information

Board of Regents Policies

- International Engagement and Education
- Student Conduct Code

Administrative Policies

- Export Controls
- Leave of Absence and Readmission for Undergraduates: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Leave of Absence and Reinstatement from a Leave: Graduate Students
- Purchasing a Professional Service
- Traveling on University Business
Other Policies

- Student Conduct Code for Education Abroad
- Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Relationship Violence

Related Websites

- Global Programs and Strategy Alliance
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Overseas Security Advisory Counsel (OSAC)
- U.S. Department of State - Travel Advisories
- World Health Organization (WHO)

History

Amended: June 2019 - Comprehensive Review. Major revision.

1. Adds four definitions of the level of program facilitation (notify, support, promote, organize) including requirements of units pending their level of support.
2. Includes an undergraduate requirement of working through an education abroad office that the requirements only to for-credit programs.
3. Requirements units organizing education abroad opportunities to implement a travel tracking system for students doing independent travel during program dates.
4. Specifies that program leaders must receive health and safety training within 12 months of the start of their program (which has already been the standard practice.)
5. Defines the use of the Travel Registry for students not working through an education abroad office.
6. Updates the term label from Travel Warning language to Travel Advisory language.

Amended: October 2014 - 1. Adds the involvement of the collegiate dean(s) in any situation where ITRAAC is considering a rejection (or request to delay travel) of an application submitted by a graduate student. 2. Explicitly notes the role of the Vice President for Academic Affairs when consensus cannot be reached. 3. Standardizes processes carried out the education abroad offices across the University system. 4. Clarifies the pre-travel and program planning requirements for units and students. 5. Adds a new requirement that units may not promote or organize an education abroad opportunity for undergraduates unless they work through an education abroad office. Title changed from Education Abroad Opportunities: Addressing Health and Safety Risks to Student Travel and Education Abroad: Health and Safety

Amended: January 2009 - Statement and Responsibilities clarified, Updated Contacts section, Updated procedures, and added Appendix: International Insurance Eligibility Requirements.

Amended: January 2007 - Statement, definitions and responsibilities and procedures rewritten.

Effective: February 2004

Policy published publicly April 2005
Policy Statement

Instructors are required to develop a course syllabus for each offering of a course and communicate the syllabus to students unless the course is offered to an individual student (e.g. directed study, readings or research courses that require contracts between the student and instructor). For the purposes of this policy, a syllabus is a written or electronic document that contains information students need to know in order successfully to complete the work of the course.

Each syllabus includes two types of information. First is information specific to the course such as its title, goals, readings, assignments and instructor. Second is information informing students of University policies that may have an impact on their participation in the course. This information includes, for example, the University grading system, a disabilities statement, and how to resolve problems between students and instructor.

A. Syllabus Requirements: Information Specific to the Course

The elements listed in this section of the policy are required. This information may also be distributed or provided by the department or college if done so routinely and explicitly. (For additional recommendations for good practice in teaching, see Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).

1. Catalog information such as the course name, department, number, meeting time, meeting place, and credits.
2. Instructor's name and contact information.
3. Course pre-requisites if any exist.
4. Course goals and objectives. (For undergraduate courses on the Twin Cities campus, instructors are encouraged to identify learning and development outcomes addressed by the course. See the Administrative Policy: Undergraduate Student Learning and Development Outcomes: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
5. Required and recommended materials and, if necessary, the location of materials. After the second week of the term, minor, but not major, changes in the assigned readings may be made (see Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
6. General description of assignments, papers, projects, exams and other student work with a schedule of approximate due dates and relative weight in the grade. Minor but not major changes may be made to assignments after the second week of the term.
7. Description of any course meetings that occur outside of the regularly scheduled class time (see Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
8. Attendance requirements and penalties if any (see the Administrative Policy: Enrolling in Overlapping or Back-to-back Classes: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
9. Statement on extra credit. If an instructor wishes to offer what is commonly known as extra credit opportunities for students in a class to allow them to improve their grade, those opportunities must be
announced and made available to all students. (This provision does not address the option of increasing
the number of credits a student may earn for the course.)
10. Policy for making up missed exams and grading late work.
11. The date, time and place of the final examination if one is scheduled. Instructors who schedule final exams
that are longer than two hours must provide alternative testing times for students who have other final
exams scheduled during that time (see the Administrative Policy: Scheduling Examinations, Final

B. Syllabus Requirements – Policy Statements

Instructors must have as part of the syllabus copies of, references to, or statements on the following and are
encouraged to discuss elements of the policies particularly applicable to their course (see Appendix - Recommended
Policy Statements for Syllabi):

1. Grade definitions from the Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris,
   Rochester.
2. Scholastic Dishonesty (see Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code and the Administrative Policy:
4. Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code; Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Student
   Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)
5. Board of Regents Policy: Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Relationship Violence
7. Board of Regents Policy: Disability Services
8. Statement about the availability of mental health and stress management services.

The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost will prepare electronic copies of these policy statements for
instructors to incorporate into syllabi. Instructors are encouraged to provide paper copies of these policies to
classes with first-year students.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

Students need a consistent level of basic information about the content and expectations for each course in which
they are enrolled. This policy outlines the minimum components of a syllabus and notes recommended policy
statements for inclusion, to ensure that instructors communicate course requirements to students in writing and in
a timely manner. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher
Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.
Appendices

- Recommended Policy Statements for Syllabi

Frequently Asked Questions

There are no FAQs associated with this policy.

Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact(s)</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ropers@umn.edu">ropers@umn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Crookston Campus</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester Campus</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lcarrell@r.umn.edu">lcarrell@r.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definitions

There are no definitions related to this policy.

Responsibilities

There are no specific responsibilities related to this policy.

Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action
- Board of Regents Policy: Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Stalking and Relationship Violence
- Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code
- Administrative Policy: Enrolling in Overlapping or Back-to-back Classes: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Scheduling Examinations, Final Examinations, and Study Days: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Unit Responsibilities: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
• Administrative Policy: *Teaching and Learning: Student Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)*
• Administrative Policy: *Undergraduate Student Learning and Development Outcomes: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*
• Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

**History**

Amended:
- October 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

Amended:
- December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Effective:
- April 2009
Policy Statement

Instructors have a responsibility to establish and maintain a civil, productive, inclusive, and stimulating learning environment. Both instructors and students have a fundamental obligation to respect the instructional setting as a place for civil, courteous discourse. Instructors have a responsibility to accommodate students with documented disabilities and are encouraged to invite students to talk or communicate with them about such circumstances.

Instructors have a responsibility to accommodate legitimate student absences and student exam conflicts in accordance with the policies (1) Intercollegiate Athletic Events During Study Day and Finals Week, (2) Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences, and (3) Scheduling Examinations, Final Examinations, and Study Days.

Instructor Responsibilities

A. Provide Course Information

Instructors are responsible for providing accurate and timely information about their courses to prospective students, current students, and relevant members of the University community.

1. Instructors must provide academic units and students with accurate course descriptions in a timely fashion. Instructors should use official information tools, to provide information about courses to students.
2. The course descriptions available in University catalogs and/or in the Course Guide must be generally consistent with the content of the actual course taught, though the content may vary somewhat with the individual instructor and across sections.
3. At the beginning of each course, instructors must communicate the course objectives. Class activities should be directed toward the fulfillment of these objectives and student performance should be evaluated in relationship to these objectives.
4. If an instructor changes the course requirements or materials, students should be given timely notice consistent with the magnitude of the change (e.g., a few days of notice for an additional article to read or a few weeks of notice if a paper is added). No major change (e.g., adding a research paper or major examination) should be imposed after the second week of the semester.
5. In accordance with Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts, instructors must inform students in their classes of the methods to be used in determining course grades, i.e., evaluation criteria and the contribution to the final grade of each graded component.
6. At the beginning of the course, instructors must inform students of any requirements related to regular course attendance and participation.
7. At the beginning of the course, instructors must inform students of any special attendance requirements. This includes, insofar as possible, specific dates, times, and places of additional outside-of-class work such as field trips, study sessions, or extra class meetings, and whether or not attendance at these additional
activities will be reflected in the grade. If an instructor schedules mandatory activities that occur outside the regularly scheduled class time, information about these activities must be included on the syllabus and, when possible, in the class schedule.

8. Instructors should discuss scholastic dishonesty and what it means in the context of their class (e.g., whether collaboration is permitted and limits on it, requirements about and methods for citing sources, whether direct quotes are allowed and to what extent, receiving or giving aid on tests, and using electronic aids or communications during exams when prohibited).

B. Provide Students with Access to and Feedback on Their Work

1. Instructors must evaluate examinations and other student work with sufficient promptness to enhance the learning experience. Instructors must promptly return examinations or permit students to review their exams to request clarification of grades.
2. Instructors should specify the process and schedule for returning student work during the semester. Term papers and comparable projects are the property of students who prepare them (see Board of Regents Policy: Copyright.) Instructors who desire to retain a copy for their own files should state their intention to do so.
3. Instructors are strongly encouraged to provide sufficient graded feedback early in the term and before the deadline for withdrawing from classes to enable students to assess their progress in the course.
4. Instructors must turn in grades within three business days after the last day of final examinations.
5. Instructors must provide mid-term alerts to students in 1-xxx courses who are at risk of failing a class, in accordance with the provision of the policy on Mid-term Alerts.

C. Secure Handling of Examinations

Instructors must maintain the security of student examinations both before and after exams are given. For those using a University office, such as the Office of Measurement Services (OMS), for scoring answer sheets, instructors or their designate (departmental office employee or teaching assistant) must submit examination answer sheets in the manner prescribed by that office.

D. Observe Scheduled Class Times

1. Instructors are expected to meet their classes at the scheduled times, to be prepared for all class sessions, and to start and end classes at the scheduled times.
2. When instructors know in advance that they will be unable to attend particular class sessions, they are responsible for working with their academic unit to make appropriate alternate arrangements.

E. Observe Office Hours or Appointment Times

Instructors must schedule and keep a reasonable number of office hours or appointment times for student conferences. The minimum number of office hours or appointment times may be defined by the academic unit.

F. Report Scholastic Dishonesty

Instructors are obligated to report suspected scholastic dishonesty to their departments and to the appropriate office on campus (on the Twin Cities campus, the Office for Community Standards; at Morris, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; at Rochester, the Office of Student Affairs; and at Crookston, the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Student Life).

G. Maintain an Appropriate Learning Environment

Instructors should take appropriate steps to have removed from class students who disrupt the educational process because of discourteous, threatening, harassing, or other aggressive behavior. "Appropriate steps" may include calling the University Police.

H. Maintain the Classroom Environment
Instructors are expected to leave the classroom and its equipment in good order (e.g., white/blackboards clean, chairs arranged, electronic equipment shut off).

**Academic Unit Responsibilities**

**A. Maintain an Appropriate Schedule**

1. Courses must be offered on a schedule, and frequently enough, to permit students to graduate in a timely fashion. All undergraduate departments must have a four-year graduation plan in place and must have course offerings that support it.
2. Classes must be offered at standard times. Failure to observe standard class periods leads to inefficient use of classrooms and is disrespectful of students and faculty; students are forced to be late to other classes, and faculty access to classrooms they need is reduced.
3. Academic units are responsible for retaining course records in accordance with Administrative Policy: *Maintaining Records of Student Work*.

**Exclusions**

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

**Reason for Policy**

This policy clarifies and outlines responsibilities, to provide clear expectations for the instructor and the instructor's department and college. Faculty and students need a common understanding of their responsibilities for the learning process. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**

There are no forms associated with this policy.

**Appendices**

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **How do these instructor responsibilities apply to courses in which instruction is provided by more than one individual, for example, a course in which a faculty member and teaching assistants share responsibilities?**
The person in charge of the course (e.g., the lead instructor, course coordinator, faculty member supervising teaching assistants who work with the faculty member within a course) is responsible for ensuring that standards and policies are applied consistently to all students enrolled in the course. The lead instructor is responsible for communicating this information to teaching assistants, responding to questions, and ensuring a common understanding among everyone who is part of the instructional team for the course.

## Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact(s)</td>
<td>Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn</td>
<td>612-624-1328</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(undergraduate)</td>
<td></td>
<td>612-625-2815</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Twin Cities Campus Procedures</td>
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## Definitions

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using course materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, misrepresenting, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

## Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

## Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: [Copyright](#)
- Board of Regents Policy: [Student Conduct Code](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester](#)
• Administrative Policy: Maintaining Records of Student Work: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
• Administrative Policy: Teaching and Learning: Student Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)
• Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation

History

Amended:
  September 2014 - Added clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.
Amended:
  December 2013 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. Includes language from the retired policy on classroom environment.
Amended:
  December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.
Amended:
  April 2009 - Clarified policy and put in standard format. Added contact information.
Effective:
  April 2009
Supercedes:
  Classroom Expectations Guidelines
Teaching and Learning: Student Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible University Officer(s):</th>
<th>Policy Owner(s):</th>
<th>Policy contact(s):</th>
<th>Date Revised:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Vice President and Provost</td>
<td>Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education</td>
<td>Jessica Kuecker Grotjohn, Karen Starry, Maggie Towle</td>
<td>Sep 16, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effective Date: Apr 15, 2009

Policy Statement

1. **Satisfying prerequisites.** Students should not register for courses in which they lack the prerequisites unless they have permission from the instructor.

2. **Responsibility for class work.** Students are responsible for knowing all information contained in the syllabus. Students are responsible for meeting all course requirements, observing all deadlines, examination times, and other course procedures.

3. **Attending class.**
   a. Students are expected to attend all meetings of their courses. They may not be penalized for absence from class, however, to participate in religious observances, for approved University activities, and for other reasons in accordance with the policy on Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences. Students should notify instructors as soon as possible about such absences. (See Administrative Policy: Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
   b. Students must attend the first class meeting of every course in which they are registered unless(1) they obtain approval from the instructor before the first meeting or (2) they provide notice to the instructor they must miss class because of a recognized religious holiday (see the policy on Mandatory Attendance at First Class Session and Consequences for Absence). Otherwise, they may lose their places in class to other students. (See Administrative Policy: Mandatory Attendance at First Class Session and Consequences for Absence: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).
   c. Students are responsible for being on time and prepared for all class sessions.

4. **Maintaining academic integrity.** Students are expected to maintain academic integrity, including doing their own assigned work for courses. If it is determined that a student has engaged in scholastic dishonesty, the instructor may impose an academic consequence (e.g., giving the student a grade of "F" or an "N" for the course), and the student may face additional sanctions from the University. (See Board of Regents Policy: Student Conduct Code, Section VI, Subd 1, Scholastic Dishonesty, and Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester).

5. **Seeking help and accommodation.**
   a. Students are responsible for seeking academic help in a timely fashion.
   b. Students who need special accommodations are responsible for working first with the relevant University offices and then with the instructor at the beginning of the course.

6. **Respecting intellectual property.** Students may not distribute instructor-provided notes or other course materials, except to other members of the same class or with the express (written) consent of the instructor. Instructors have the right to impose additional restrictions on course materials in accordance with copyright and intellectual property law and policy. Students may not engage in the widespread distribution or sale of transcript-like notes or notes that are close to verbatim records of a lecture or presentation.

7. **Keeping classroom in good order.** Students may be responsible for helping straighten up a classroom at the end of a class period, if requested to do so by the instructor. Keeping a classroom in good order includes taking away or disposing of everything one came in with, such as pop cans/bottles, food containers/wrappers, newspapers, etc. Students must also not deface or damage classrooms or classroom furniture or equipment.
8. **Use of personal electronic devices in the classroom.** Instructors determine if personal electronic devices (such as cell phones and laptops) are allowed in the classroom. Students may be directed to turn off personal electronic devices if the devices are not being used for class purposes. Students are not permitted to record any part of a class/lab/other session unless explicitly granted permission by the instructor. If the student does not comply, the student may be asked to leave the classroom.

9. Guests may not be brought to class without permission from the instructor.

**Exclusions**

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

**Reason for Policy**

This policy clarifies and outlines student responsibilities and expectations for enrollment and participation in a course. Faculty and students need a common understanding of their responsibilities for the learning process. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

**Procedures**

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

**Forms/Instructions**

There are no forms associated with this policy.

**Appendices**

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **Is it permissible for a student to bring the student's child to class?**

   All guests, including a student’s family members, may not attend class with the student without permission from the instructor.

**Contacts**

<table>
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<td><a href="mailto:jtangqui@crk.umn.edu">jtangqui@crk.umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definitions

**Prerequisite**
A course that is a necessary requirement before subsequent advanced courses.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**
Plagiarism; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using course materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, misrepresenting, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities are specified in the Policy Statement.

Related Information

- Board of Regents Policy: [Student Conduct Code](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Mandatory Attendance at First Class Session and Consequences for Absence: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Teaching and Learning: Instructor and Department Responsibilities (Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester)](#)
- Administrative Policy: [Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences](#)
- [Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation](#)

History

Amended: September 2014 - Clarifications related to Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements.

Amended: May 2013 - Major Revision, Comprehensive Review.
1. Incorporates language from two related policies (Appropriate Use of Class Notes and Course Materials, and Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom). These policies are proposed for elimination.
2. Expands the language around academic integrity. The reference now is on scholastic dishonesty, which would include cheating, plagiarism, etc.

Amended: December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

Amended: April 2009 - Clarified policy and put in standard format. Added contact information.

Effective: April 2009

Supercedes: [Classroom Expectations Guidelines](#)
Policy Statement

The Transfer Authority on each campus will identify those institutions from which credit can be transferred and determine whether course work is college level. If questions arise with regard to transfer of specific courses, the Transfer Authority will confer with the appropriate college or departmental faculty. The following will apply.

1. Credit for course work taken at other institutions will be transferred subject to the following considerations:
   - the mission of the institution from which credits would be transferred;
   - the comparability of the course work with University course work; and
   - the appropriateness of the course work for meeting baccalaureate degree requirements at the University.

2. The University will not accept any transfer course with less than a “D” grade. Once a course has been accepted for transfer to a University of Minnesota campus, all colleges and programs on that campus will honor this decision. A transfer course with a grade of less than C- (less than D for Crookston) will not count toward satisfying a major or a minor requirement, but will count toward total credits. Credits from technical schools may be considered for transfer when appropriate to a student's University of Minnesota degree program. Credit is not normally transferred from specialized or proprietary institutions, military training, or industry-based education programs.

3. Credit granted by another institution for nontraditional experiences, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), military training, will be re-evaluated for content and comparability. Evaluation is based upon the standards set by the Transfer Authority on that University of Minnesota campus.

4. Religious studies courses transfer if they are not doctrinal, confessional, or sectarian in nature. Religious studies courses from public institutions transfer without special review; religious studies courses from all other institutions will be evaluated by appropriate college or departmental faculty.

5. Transfer credits become applicable to a University of Minnesota degree program or certificate program only after the student has been admitted as a degree-seeking student or admitted to the certificate program.

Exclusions

This policy is not applicable to the Duluth campus.

Reason for Policy

This policy specifies where authority resides for decisions regarding transferability of credit and outlines the guidelines surrounding the transfer of credits from other institutions, to ensure that courses transferred demonstrate equivalence with University of Minnesota courses and are of equivalent rigor to courses offered on the University campus to which the course is being transferred. Clear information is critical for students planning to
transfer credits to the University. This policy implements criteria and requirements for accreditation established by the Higher Learning Commission.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are the grades in transfer credits from another institution included in a student's cumulative University of Minnesota grade point average (GPA)?

   No. Only those credits earned from the University of Minnesota will be used in calculating the cumulative GPA. However, the transfer credits from the other institution may be used to fulfill degree requirements, where allowed by the department, college, or campus.

2. I am a transfer student who received credit at another institution for my scores on Advanced Placement (AP) exams. Does that credit automatically transfer to the University of Minnesota?

   No. Each University of Minnesota campus determines its standards for granting credit based upon AP exam scores. Your AP scores will be evaluated according to the University campus standards, and credit will be awarded based upon those standards.

3. Are courses transferring among University of Minnesota campuses treated differently than transfer courses from outside the University of Minnesota?

   The difference is that all University courses are recorded on a student's transcript and the grades on these courses automatically factor into the student's University cumulative GPA.

   Like transfer courses from other institutions, the applicability of courses from another campus to a particular degree program is determined by the particular program, college, and campus requirements.

Contacts

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<tr>
<td>Twin Cities Campus Procedures</td>
<td>Heidi Meyer</td>
<td>612-625-7325</td>
<td><a href="mailto:meyer119@umn.edu">meyer119@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Definitions

**Regional Accreditation**
Regional accreditation is *educational accreditation* of colleges, and universities in the *United States* by one of the six regional accreditors. Each regional accreditor encompasses the vast majority of *public* and *nonprofit* private educational institutions in its region. They accredit, and include among their members, *public* and *private* universities, colleges, and institutions of *higher education* that are academic in nature. For more information about regional accreditation, please see the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, at [http://www.chea.org/Directories/regional.asp](http://www.chea.org/Directories/regional.asp)

### Responsibilities

**Transfer Authority**
The Transfer Authority at each campus has the following responsibilities:
- Identifies institutions from which credit can be transferred and determines whether course work is college level.
- Confers with the appropriate college or departmental faculty with regard to transfer of specific courses.
- Maintains detailed transfer tables to document transferability of specific courses from other institutions.

The Transfer Authority for each campus is listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Transfer Authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twin Cities Campus</td>
<td>Office of Admissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crookston Campus</td>
<td>Office of the Registrar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester Campus</td>
<td>Office of Admissions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris Campus</td>
<td>Scholastic Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Related Information
- Twin Cities Campus Transfer Credit Practices
- Crookston Transfer Credit Practices
- Morris Transfer Credit Practices
- Rochester Transfer BSHS Admissions
- Rochester Transfer Guides
• **Administrative Policy:** *Credit and Grade Point Requirements for an Undergraduate (Baccalaureate) Degree: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*

• **Administrative Policy:** *Credit for Nationally-Recognized Exams for Undergraduate Students: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester*

• **Higher Learning Commission, Criteria and Requirements for Accreditation**

## History

**Amended:**
March 2014 - Comprehensive Review. Minor Revision. The policy now clarifies that the decisions made regarding a transfer of undergraduate credit, pertains to that campus. It also specifies that the student must be degree-seeking or admitted into a certificate program to have the credits transferred.

**Amended:**
December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.

**Amended:**
April 2009 - Clarified policy, and put into standard format. Added contact information.

**Effective:**
April 2009

**Supercedes:**
*Transfer of Credits*
Undergraduate Degrees with Distinction and Degrees with Honors: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester

Policy Statement


   a. Any campus may offer both degrees with honors and degrees with distinction, only one, or neither.
   b. A student may obtain both a degree with honors and a degree with distinction, if offered by the campus from which the degree is awarded.
   c. For the purpose of awarding degrees with honors and degrees with distinction, the overall performance of degree candidates on each campus will be judged in relationship to the performance of degree-seeking students on that campus, not in relationship to other University students.
   d. To qualify for either a degree with distinction or a degree with honors, a student must have completed 60 or more semester credits at the University of Minnesota. For the purposes of meeting the grade point average (GPA) standards set forth in this policy, only University of Minnesota course work will factor into the GPA calculation.
   e. It is the expectation of the Faculty Senate that in general, a campus will not award degrees with honors and with distinction, in total, to more than approximately 10 - 15% of any graduating class.
   f. The University transcript will contain a brief explanation of the difference between a degree with distinction and a degree with honors.
   g. The Senate Committee on Educational Policy will review annually data on the number and percentage of students on each campus who receive degrees with distinction and degrees with honors.

2. Degrees with Distinction

   a. The initiative in establishing degrees with distinction will lie with the campuses concerned and must be approved by the chief academic officer on the campus.
   b. To graduate "with distinction," a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.750 or higher at the time the student graduates. To graduate "with high distinction," a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.900 or higher.
   c. The grade point average is the sole determinant of the granting of degrees "with distinction" or "with high distinction." Campuses may choose to offer only degrees "with distinction" or only degrees "with high distinction," but in either case they would be subject to section 2(b) of this policy.

3. Degrees with honors and campus honors programs

   1. The requirements for a degree with honors will not consist of only the accomplishment of a designated amount of course work or achievement of a stipulated grade point average, but will also include a definite standard of excellence in scholarship with specific evidence of ability to accomplish independent or original work. To obtain a degree with honors, the student must participate in a fully developed campus honors program.
   2. The initiative for establishing degrees with honors (that is, cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude) will lie with each campus and must be approved by the senior academic officer on the campus.
Qualifications for degrees with honors must meet the requirements of sections 3(b-d) of this policy.

3. A campus desiring to grant degrees with honors must propose an honors program, specifying how honors students are to be selected, the nature, depth, and breadth of the honors requirements, and the general requirements for obtaining a degree cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude.

4. The minimum cumulative grade-point average in courses taken after the completion of 60 semester credits will be 3.500 to obtain a degree “cum laude,” 3.666 for a degree “magna cum laude,” and 3.750 for a degree “summa cum laude.” Campuses have the authority to adopt higher grade-point averages. Students whose GPA is 0.100 or less below one of these three bands may be considered for the band above based on exceptional thesis work, the standards for, and process of evaluation for, to be determined solely by the campus honors program.

5. Campuses will attempt to ensure that there is reasonable consistency across units in the amount of work required of its students to obtain degrees with honors.

Reason for Policy

Students who achieve high academic performance as evidenced in their grade point average or who participate in an honors program (either University or campus based) receive recognition on their transcripts and diplomas. The standards for graduating with distinction and/or honors need to be clearly articulated so they can be applied consistently, and so students know what is required to achieve these recognitions.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

- FAQ: Undergraduate Degrees with Distinction and Degrees with Honors

Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary Contact(s)</td>
<td>Sue Van Voorhis</td>
<td>612-625-8098</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vanvo002@umn.edu">vanvo002@umn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
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<tr>
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<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin Cities Campus</td>
<td>Twin Cities Students should contact their college Student Services Contact. Stacey Tidball</td>
<td>612-626-0075</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Definitions

**Graduating with Distinction**
Degree with distinction indicates graduation with a high cumulative grade point average; the words “with distinction” or “with high distinction” are printed on the transcript and on the diploma.

**Graduating with Honors**
Degree with honors indicates completion of the campus-specific requirements for the honors program, and is noted on the transcript and on the diploma.

**The Honors Program (Morris)**
Successful completion of the Honors Program, an interdisciplinary curriculum team-taught by faculty from across the campus, provides the student a degree 'with Honors' in recognition of the student's achievement.

**University Honors Program (Twin Cities)**
The University Honors Program (UHP) is a selective program that provides an enriched and intellectually stimulating academic experience for University of Minnesota, Twin Cities students and provides a path toward graduation with Latin Honors. The UHP provides a unique set of experiences for students including tailored curricular offerings, personalized academic advising, and a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities. Students are either offered admission to UHP upon acceptance to the University or can apply for admission to UHP as a current student.

**Graduating with Latin Honors (Twin Cities)**
Graduation with Latin Honors (cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude) is available to those students who have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have completed the requirements of the University Honors Program. Students who have met the requirements may be considered for the following Latin Honors Graduation Levels:
- cum laude: 3.500 GPA or higher
- magna cum laude: 3.666 GPA or higher
- summa cum laude: 3.750 GPA or higher
Students whose GPA is 0.100 or less below one of these three bands may be awarded Latin Honors based on exceptional thesis work as determined by the student's campus honors program.

Responsibilities

There are no specified responsibilities associated with this policy.

Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Grading and Transcripts: Twin Cities, Crookston, Morris, Rochester
- Crookston Campus: Degree with Distinction
History

Amended:
   January 2019 - Comprehensive Review. The revision would allow degrees to be awarded with honors in cases where a student has exceptional thesis work but missed the GPA cut-off by a small margin (0.100).
Amended:
   January 2011 - Title modified so to clarify that Policy applies to Undergraduate Degrees.
Amended:
   December 2009 - Policy now applies to Crookston.
Effective:
   April 2009
Policy Statement

The University provides students with an email account upon matriculation to the institution. This account is free of charge and remains available at minimum while the student is enrolled or is active in their degree program.

The University-assigned student email account is the University's official means of communication with all students. Students are responsible for all official information sent to their University-assigned email account. If a student chooses to forward messages to another account, the student is still responsible for all information, including attachments.

Reason for Policy

Email is the primary method of communication between students and the University. It is imperative that students understand that information will be communicated to them via their University-assigned email account while they are students. New students are informed that their University-assigned email account is the primary means of communication from the University community and that they will be held responsible for the information in the email.

Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are other forms of communication (e.g., social media, texting, or websites) considered official communications?
While the content found in these forms of communication should match information included in emails sent to students, the email is considered the official information.

2. **Can faculty or staff use an alternative email address for students?**

   In order to be certain that private student information is secure, any messages that contain private student data need to be sent to the student's umn.edu email account, which meets the security and authentication standards. Similarly, staff and faculty should use their umn.edu accounts for business purposes.

3. **May students forward their umn.edu email to another email address?**

   Yes. However, students are still responsible for the official communications sent to their University email account and should be aware that email forwarding could cause information to be missed due to spam filtering or other forwarding issues.

### Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
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<th>Phone</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Information</td>
<td>Susan Van Voorhis</td>
<td>612-624-1111</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Morris</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Definitions

**Student**

Any undergraduate, graduate or professional student. Student status starts upon matriculation.

**Matriculation**

The time when a student has met all conditions to enroll such as submitting any required deposits or final transcripts.

### Responsibilities

**Faculty and staff**

Communicate information to students via email with sufficient time for the student to act upon/respond to the information included in the message.

**Student**

Routinely check assigned University of Minnesota email account to review relevant information.

**Registrars on each campus**

Maintain policy. Respond to student requests.
Related Information

- Administrative Policy: Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources
- Administrative Policy: Accessibility of Information Technology
- Internet Account Initiation
- Account and email account activation/de-activation information

History

Amended:
January 2018 - Comprehensive Review: Changes to clarify language about the reason for the policy and language about when this policy applies (timing of when the email account is available, when students should expect this account to be used.)

Amended:
December 2013 - Comprehensive review, minor revision. Improves the clarity of the policy by minor adjustments to the language and a new FAQ.

Amended:
April 2008 - This policy now applies University Wide, rather than to the Twin Cities Campus Only.

Effective:
September 2001
# Withholding Diplomas and Official Transcripts from Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible University Officer(s):</th>
<th>Policy Owner(s):</th>
<th>Policy contact(s):</th>
<th>Date Revised:</th>
<th>Effective Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Executive Vice President and Provost</em></td>
<td><em>Director, Office of the Registrar</em></td>
<td><em>See Contacts Section</em></td>
<td>Jul 2, 2019</td>
<td>Dec 1, 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Policy Statement

The University will not issue diplomas or official transcripts to students with financial obligations of $200 or more, or to students who have not satisfied student conduct or academic integrity sanctions.

Once a student satisfies the financial obligation or the outstanding sanction, the responsible office will remove the hold and the Office of the Registrar may issue the diploma and/or the official transcript.

## Reason for Policy

The University expects students to meet any financial and/or student conduct and academic integrity obligations to the institution, both during their enrollment and upon graduation. Withholding the diploma and official transcript for not meeting these responsibilities is consistent with these expectations.

## Procedures

There are no procedures associated with this policy.

## Forms/Instructions

There are no forms associated with this policy.

## Appendices

There are no appendices associated with this policy.

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How is a student notified that the student will not be receiving a diploma or an official transcript due to these obligations?**
Students are informed of the holds on diplomas and official transcripts via MyU. Additionally, students are notified when placing transcript orders or requests for duplicate diplomas.

2. **Will a student's degree still be posted to the record if money is owed or a student conduct sanction is not met?**

Yes, the degree will be posted, but a diploma will not be issued.

3. **Can holds be temporarily removed or how do I get an exception to a hold?**

Contact the office responsible for placing the hold to see what the procedures are and whether the hold can be lifted, or whether an exception is possible. If you are unsure of what office is responsible, contact your campus One Stop or Office of the Registrar.

For information on how to resolve past-due bills, visit the [One Stop website](#) and contact One Stop Student Services.

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### Definitions

**Financial Obligation**
Students that owe a minimum of **to the University student account.**

**Student conduct and academic integrity sanction**
A sanction imposed upon a student for violation of the Board of Regents Policy: [Student Conduct Code](#).

### Responsibilities

**Registrar**
Notify faculty, staff and students of the policy of withholding diplomas and official transcripts.

**College or department**
Advise students of the policy on the policy of withholding diplomas and official transcripts.

**Campus Collections Office**
Determines if diploma can be issued based on satisfactory payment of financial obligations.

**Office for Community Standards (OCS) - Twin Cities Campus**
Determines if diploma or transcript can be issued based on satisfactory resolution of obligation.

### Related Information
History

Amended:
July 2019 - Comprehensive Review:
1. Minor language changes for readability
2. Update FAQ to reflect current system (MyU) and better address questions raised during consultation
3. Retire outdated procedure

Amended:
December 2013 - Comprehensive Review, Minor Revision. Provides additional guidance to the students who have a hold on their record through a new FAQs.

Amended:
December 2009 - Changes withholding of "degrees" to withholding of "diplomas and official transcripts";
Improves satisfaction of student conduct or academic integrity sanctions by expanding the policy to address these types of obligations; Aligns with practices of our peer institutions.

Effective:
December 2004