

Winthrop University – Academic Council

Friday, January 28, 2022

2:00pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Agenda

- I. Minutes from November 12, 2021 meeting – approved in advance via email
- II. Welcome from the Chair (Alice McLaine)
- III. Remarks from the President of the Council of Student Leaders (Erin Emiroglu)
- IV. Proposal from the Student Success and Retention Workgroup to move the withdrawal deadline from the 60% point to the 66% point in the semester (Tourgee Simpson)
 - A. Proposal below.
- V. Proposal from the registrar to revise the policy for transferring work from other institutions following suspension from Winthrop (Gina Jones)
 - A. Proposal below.
- VI. Budget Discussion
- VII. Announcements and Adjournment
 - A. Next meeting February 11, 2022

Proposal to Academic Council to Move Withdrawal Deadline Effective for Fall 2022

Submitted by the Student Success and Retention Workgroup

- **Motion:** “Motion to move the withdrawal deadline from the 60% point to the 66% point in the semester.”
- **2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog revision to *Withdrawal from Courses* regulation:** “If the withdrawal is completed during the first ~~60%~~ 66% of the instructional days of a particular course, the grade of N is assigned, indicating that no credit is awarded. Withdrawal from a course may not occur after ~~60%~~ 66% of the instructional days of the course have been completed, unless documented extenuating circumstances should warrant withdrawal from the course with the assignment of an N grade.”
- **Impact:** The S/U is tied to the withdrawal deadline, so changing the withdrawal deadline will also move the S/U deadline. Students would have an additional week to meet with their advisor to discuss S/U and withdrawal options. The new deadline would still be prior to the start of early registration for the following semester.
- **Justification:**
 - The decision to S/U or withdraw requires intentional consultation (between Advisor/Advisee) due to the impact on degree progress and fulfillment of major requirements.
 - Many students don't see their advisors until the advising period mid-semester.
 - Students need additional time to meet with their advisor and make an informed decision.
 - E.g., for fall 2021, advising opened Oct. 20th and the S/U & withdrawal deadline was Oct. 22nd
 - Decisions to S/U or withdraw should be combined with discussions about course selection for the following semester(s), as those decisions may have implications for the courses students need to enroll in.

Proposal to modify Suspension policy as it pertains to transfer credit.

Academic Eligibility (Probation and Suspension)

Students enrolled at Winthrop University must earn a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.00 in order to avoid being placed on academic probation (or suspension). The first semester a student's cumulative grade-point average falls below a 2.00, he or she is placed on academic probation.

Students on academic probation may not enroll in more than 15 semester hours. A student on academic probation whose semester grade-point average is 2.00 or higher is not suspended at the close of that semester even though the cumulative grade-point average remains below 2.00. The student may continue enrollment on academic probation. The student is removed from academic probation at the close of a semester in which the cumulative grade-point average meets or exceeds 2.00.

Undergraduate special students are not subject to academic eligibility while in this classification.

Credit awarded by examination and hours earned with a grade of S are used in determining classification but not in determining the grade-point average. A student's eligibility in a given semester cannot be influenced by the change of a grade awarded in any semester prior to the previous semester, except in the removal of an incomplete grade.

When a student is on probation, a subsequent violation in the next fall or spring semester of enrollment results in a first academic suspension for the immediately succeeding regular academic semester and any intervening summer session. Students who are readmitted after suspension are readmitted on academic probation. Failure to meet the specified minimum cumulative grade-point average during this semester results in a second suspension for one calendar year.

Readmission for a second time again places the student on academic probation. Failure to achieve the specified minimum cumulative grade-point average after the second suspension results in permanent dismissal from the University.

Students enrolled in the summer session are not subject to probation or suspension at the end of the summer term, but students who are on probation may be returned to good standing.

~~Credit earned at any other institution while a student is ineligible to enroll at Winthrop University cannot be applied to any degree at Winthrop University.~~

The recommendation is to remove the last statement which does not allow students to attend another institution while on suspension. The reasoning behind the request is that it is not in keeping with other universities' institutional policies and does not take into account all the reasons students do not succeed at Winthrop, many of which have nothing to do with whether they can do the work. Students face many obstacles including financial, family, and health issues which keep a student from success. At times, a student may need to move closer to home to deal with these issues.

The following colleges allow transfer credit while students are serving a suspension:

College	Notes
Clemson	<p>Per Registrar, Debra Sparacino: We encourage students to take courses elsewhere while on suspension, as long as they connect with their advisors and do the appropriate approval form (Approval of Credit to Earned at Another School.) Since their record would be inactive while they are away, we would not transfer in the credits until the student returns to Clemson.</p> <p>https://www.clemson.edu/academics/eligibility/index.html ; https://www.clemson.edu/registrar/documents/credits-taken-elsewhere.pdf</p>
Lander	<p>Per the Registrar, Kelly Proctor: Students are allowed to take courses elsewhere during their suspension period. If a student is suspended after the spring semester, they are allowed to take summer classes at Lander to try to improve their cumulative institution GPA.</p> <p>Policy is on page 41 in the Undergraduate Catalog.</p> <p>https://www.lander.edu/sites/default/files/Documents/Academics/Catalog/Lander_University_2021-2022_Undergraduate_Catalog_2.pdf</p>
UNCC	<p>Per Registrar, Jon Reece: UNCC encourages students to take coursework elsewhere. More specifically, they encourage them to attend a community college and get their Associate Degree if they don't already have one.</p> <p>https://ninercentral.charlotte.edu/grades-transcripts-graduation/academic-suspension (Note: North Carolina has a transfer agreement with all NC technical colleges.)</p>
James Madison University	<p>“You may wish to consider taking courses at another institution for transfer credit at JMU. To do this, you must complete paperwork with the JMU Registrar prior to enrolling in the course(s) to verify that the courses will be accepted by JMU. These courses cannot be used to raise your GPA at JMU, but may be considered when evaluating your re-enrollment.”</p> <p>https://www.jmu.edu/acstudserv/standing.shtml</p>
Francis Marion University	<p>After the third academic dismissal, the student will not be considered for readmission into the University unless she/he is eligible for the Academic Renewal program and has earned an Associate of Science or Associate of Arts Degree from another accredited institution.</p> <p>https://www.fmarion.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Final-Catalog-2021-2022-web.pdf , p. 57</p>
Coastal Carolina University	<p>Credits earned at other institutions while a student is on academic suspension from Coastal may be applied towards a degree from Coastal Carolina University, provided the coursework meets all transfer eligibility and degree program requirements.</p> <p>https://www.coastal.edu/registrar/academicprobationsuspension/</p>
East Carolina University	<p>During the time you are suspended, you may attend a regionally accredited institution and transfer credits back to ECU. If you attend another university during suspension, you must have a 2.5 GPA on all transferable credit to be eligible to apply for re-admission to ECU. Credit will be awarded for all transferable courses for which a grade of C (2.0) or better was earned.</p> <p>https://registrar.ecu.edu/good-standing-warning-probation-and-suspension-faqs/</p>