

The SAASC convened on Thursday, April 4, 2019 to consider a proposal from Brian Jackson, Chair of the Graduate Council, to revise Senate Rule 4.2.5.2 regarding the Graduate School's transfer of credit policy.

Attendance: Susan Effgen, Azhar Swanson, Kevin Donohue, Tom Troland, Rebekah Epps, Brad Kerns, Herman Farrell (Chair)

Procedure:

Kevin Donohue acted as facilitator of the proposal.

Discussion:

This proposal involves the elimination of the 9 credit hour cap on graduate courses that a baccalaureate student (non-degree seeking post-grad) may transfer and use in a UK graduate degree program. It is unclear as to why there ever was such a 9 credit hour limitation. In practice, the Graduate School and DGS's have approved transfers exceeding the 9 credit hour limit. The proposal was initially offered to the Senate Council and SAASC with the policy rationale but with no proposed revisions to Senate Rule 4.2.5.2 (Memo dated 11/22/18). Subsequently, Dr. Jackson forwarded proposed language and after some editing changes, the attached revisions to SR 4.2.5.2 were considered by the SAASC.

Vote:

A motion was made and seconded that the SAASC approve the proposal, noting that editorial changes would be worked out with the Chair of the SAASC and Dr. Jackson.

The vote in favor of the proposal was unanimous.

4.2.5.2. Postbaccalaureate Student

Students who hold a baccalaureate degree and who wish to take graduate courses ~~with no intention of pursuing a higher degree in a program without enrollment in a graduate degree-granting program or graduate certificate program~~ may apply for admission as a postbaccalaureate student.

~~A postbaccalaureate student may take an unlimited number of courses. If the student later decides to work toward a degree, only nine hours of credit earned with a grade of A or B may be transferred into a program with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Dean of the Graduate School. The time limit for the intended degree will begin from the term of the first course transferred~~

A post-baccalaureate student may take an unlimited number of graduate-level courses. If the student later decides to work toward a graduate degree, the number of UK graduate credit hours eligible for transfer will be determined by the Director of Graduate Studies and subsequently approved by the Dean of the Graduate School. Only courses assigned a grade of B or better can be transferred. Courses must have been taken no more than 10 years (master's/specialist) or 8 years (doctoral) prior to the semester the transfer is requested.

Permission to enter any graduate class as a postbaccalaureate student will be granted only if the student meets the prerequisites and if space is available.

Transfer of Credit Policy

Jackson, Brian A.

Wed 4/3/2019 10:03 AM

To: Donohue, Kevin <kevin.donohue1@uky.edu>; Farrell, Herman <herman.farrell3@uky.edu>;

Good morning gentlemen:

Please find my answers to the questions posed below.

Many thanks!

Brian

1. What is the proposer's motivation for the change (problem to be solved, benefit to students, faculty, university)?

This proposal was in part an extension of a request from Senate Council to clarify the policy on utilization of course credits to meet the requirements for both a graduate certificate and graduate degree. The key recommendations were:

1. If a student begins coursework for a graduate certificate and then chooses to pursue a graduate degree in the same field, with approval of the program, certificate coursework taken to that point, and all subsequent coursework required for certificate completion can also count toward the graduate degree.
2. There should be no limit to the number of hours that can be applied to both the degree and the certificate (unless the program/certificate owners specify otherwise). All but three of the available certificates require 15 or fewer hours for completion; many have at least one certificate specific course (practicum, capstone etc.) which would likely not be applicable to master's/doctoral degree requirements. Consequently, in the vast majority of cases it is likely that 12 credit hours or less would be eligible for transfer/double-counting.

The proposed change to the transfer of credit policy would apply primarily to two groups, post-baccalaureate students who have accumulated more than 9 credit hours of coursework that could be directly applicable to a given degree program, and students who begin a particular graduate degree program, accumulate a significant number of credit hours and then elect to change program.

2. What was sent to our committee, was wording that we think came from the current graduate bulletin with an explanation of proposed changes and examples. What changes would you recommend for the bulletin wording to incorporate the change?

The modified Graduate Bulletin Transfer of Credit policy would state:

Transfer of Credits There is no limit to the number of credit hours of graduate coursework taken at the University of Kentucky that can be transferred into master's degree program or transferred into a doctoral program to help fulfill the pre-qualifying coursework requirement. For graduate coursework taken at another accredited institution in the United States, a maximum of 9 hours (or 25% of regular course degree requirements) may be transferred into a master's degree program. Similarly a maximum of 9 hours (or 25% of the credit hours needed to fulfill the pre-qualifying residency requirement) may be transferred into a doctoral degree program.

The following rules also apply to credit transfer:

- Course credits applied toward a previously awarded graduate degree cannot be transferred.
- Transfer of independent work, research, thesis, or dissertation credit is not permitted.
- Short courses lasting fewer weeks than the number of credits may not be transferred.
- A student must have been in graduate status at the time the courses were taken.
- A student must be in good academic standing at the time of transfer.
- Only courses assigned a B grade or better can be transferred.
- Courses must have been taken no more than 10 years (masters) or 8 years (doctoral) prior to the semester the transfer is requested.

3. More relevant for the senate, would be changes to senate rule 4.2.5.2

The relevant paragraph in that section states:

A post-baccalaureate student may take an unlimited number of courses. If the student later decides to work toward a degree, the number of UK credit hours eligible for transfer will be determined by the Director of Graduate Studies and subsequently approved by the Dean of the Graduate School. The time limit for the intended degree will begin from the term of the first course transferred

We assume you will append an exception for transfer credit hour limit for courses taken at UK. Will there be any adjustment to the referenced "time limit" in this case? Please word accordingly. [No change]

If you can get this back to me by the next SAACS subcommittee meeting (March 21, 4PM, 106 Fine Arts Building), we can bring it up for discussion and hopefully move it closer to being ready for presentation to the full senate for a vote. You and/or a representative are welcome to attend that meeting for the discussion.



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DATE November 22, 2018

TO: Jennifer Bird-Pollan
Chair, Senate Council

FROM: Brian A. Jackson
Chair, Graduate Council

SUBJECT: Transfer of Credit Policies

Following our meeting in September of this year, the Graduate Council submits the following policy recommendations regarding transfer of credit and applicability of credits toward both a graduate certificate and graduate degree.

1. The current policy regarding transfer of credit is as follows:

Upon request of the DGS, a total of 9 hours (or 25% of regular course degree requirements) may be transferred into a master's degree program. A total of 9 hours (or 25% of the credit hours needed to fulfill the pre-qualifying residency requirement) may also be transferred into a doctoral degree program. The transferable hours include all post-baccalaureate work, graduate work taken at another regionally- accredited university or as a student in another graduate program at the University of Kentucky.

Graduate Council proposes that the 9 hour (25%) restriction should be removed for transfer of University of Kentucky credits. The standard policy should remain in place for transfer from all other institutions. The exact number of transferable credits would be a decision made by each graduate program.

2. Students pursuing graduate certificates fall into three categories:

- A student with a bachelor's degree but not currently enrolled in a graduate program at UK.
- A student currently enrolled in a graduate program at UK wishing to pursue a graduate certificate housed within the same graduate program.
- A student currently enrolled in a graduate program at UK wishing to pursue a graduate certificate housed within a different graduate program (or an unaffiliated interdisciplinary certificate).

All certificate-seeking students must apply to and be admitted into the certificate (even if housed within the students graduate degree program). Enrollment is displayed on the transcript.

Graduate Council supports the continuation of the following existing (unofficial) policies:

1. A student may begin coursework for a graduate certificate and then choose to pursue a graduate degree in the same field. With approval of the program, certificate

coursework taken to that point, and all subsequent coursework required for certificate completion can also count toward the graduate degree.

2. A student may begin coursework for a graduate degree program and also earn a graduate certificate en passant by virtue of completing the graduate degree.
3. There should be no limit to the number of hours that can be applied to both the degree and the certificate (unless the program/certificate owners specify otherwise). All but three of the available certificates require 15 or fewer hours for completion; many have at least one certificate specific course (practicum, capstone etc.) which would likely not be applicable to master's/doctoral degree requirements. Consequently, in the vast majority of cases it is likely that 12 credit hours or less would be eligible for transfer/double-counting.