



**ARMSTRONG ATLANTIC
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Graduate Curriculum Subcommittee
University Hall 282
Minutes, November 20, 2009

PRESENT: Brenda Logan, Anita Nivens (Chair), Regina Rahimi, Elwin Tilson, Phyllis Panhorst (Catalog Editor)

ABSENT: Carol Andrews, Kalenda Eaton, Sabitra Brush,

GUESTS: Jill Bell, James Brawner, Judy Ginter, Pam Magliulo

CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 2:19 by Dr. Anita Nivens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The minutes of October 30, 2009 were approved with amendments from the Graduate Affairs Committee.

ITEMS

The following items from the College of Education are recommended to the Graduate Affairs Committee for approval.

I. College of Education

A. Middle and Secondary Education

1. Delete the following course:

~~**MGSE 6300 Best Practices & Research in Middle Grades Education**~~ — ~~**1-V-1**~~

Rationale: The content of this course is addressed in MGSE 6000: Middle Level Theory and Practice.

Effective Term: Fall 2010

2. Change the hours of the following course:

MGSE 6750 Graduate Internship **0-3-3 0-V-4**

Rationale: Field experiences are a significant requirement for pre-service teacher candidates. Changing the hours better reflects the requirements of the internship.

Effective Term: Fall 2010

3. Modify the Program of Study for the Master of Arts in Teaching- Middle Grades Education

Major Field Courses		
EDUC 6000	Professional Orientation to Teaching	3
EDUC 6100	Technology Applications for Teachers	2
EDUC 6200	Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment	3
EDUC 6300	Educating Students with Disabilities in the General Education Classroom	3
Middle Grades Courses		16 hours
MGSE 6000	Middle Level Theory and Practice	3
MGSE 6100	Understanding the Nature and Needs of the Adolescent Learner	3
MGSE 6300	Best Practices and Research in Middle Grades Education	1
MGSE 6400	Classroom Management	3
MGSE 6500	Instructional Approaches to Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum	3
MGSE 6750	Graduate Internship	3 4
Methods Courses		6 hours
MGSE 5300G, MGSE 5400G, MGSE 5500G, and/or MGSE 5600G		
TOTAL.....		33

II. College of Science and Technology

The following item was withdrawn by the Department of Mathematics for further consideration.

A. Mathematics

1. MATH 6750 INTERNSHIP – STUDENT TEACHING 0 – V – 3

**Prerequisite: Completion of all coursework for teaching certification
Supervised field-based teaching experiences providing the opportunity to
use knowledge and skills in the 6-12 public school setting.**

Rationale: This course is needed for post-baccalaureate students wishing to attain certification for teaching mathematics in grades 6-12.

Effective Term: Spring 2010

CURCAT

Major Department: Mathematics

Can Course be repeated for additional credit: No

Maximum Number of Credit Hours: 3
Grading Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Instruction Type: Field Experience

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Graduate Probation/Dismissal Proposal

There was discussion of the Graduate Probation/Dismissal Proposal put forward by Registrar Judy Ginter and charged to the Graduate Curriculum Subcommittee by the Graduate Affairs Committee for review and recommendation. (see Attachment 1)

Under the current policy, a graduate student with at least 9 credit hours and less than a 3.0 GPA is automatically put on academic probation. Because academic probation is not triggered until 9 credits are taken, this can cause problems with students who take fewer than 9 credit hours per semester. A graduate student taking only one 3-credit class per semester could take classes for three semesters before they are put on academic probation, and then go for another 3 semesters before they are academically dismissed. Additionally, the current policy cannot be coded into Banner, so graduate records need to be reviewed manually every semester.

The policy put forward by Ms. Ginter reads as follows:

A student will be placed on academic probation if the student's cumulative GPA is less than a 3.0 or if the student earns a grade of D or below (D, F, WF, U) in any course. A student will be academically dismissed if the student is placed on probation for any two semesters. (Any other continuation requirements will be monitored within the department.)

There was discussion of whether or not a grade of U should be in the policy. This could cause particular problems in the Nursing Department and possibly other departments because of the way the U is utilized. The consensus was that the U should be excluded, since it does not count in the GPA.

Another point of discussion was whether the policy should be worded "any two semesters," or "two consecutive semesters." There was a feeling that "any two semesters" could cause problems, particularly if the second semester meeting policy criteria were the student's final semester. It was decided that "two consecutive semesters" would be more desirable, and that it could be revisited later if it did not seem to be meeting student and university needs.

It was moved, seconded, and approved to recommend the following amended policy to the Graduate Affairs Committee:

A student will be placed on academic probation if the student's cumulative GPA is less than a 3.0 or if the student earns a grade of D or below (D, F, WF) in any course. A student whose cumulative GPA is less than a 3.0 or who earns a grade of D or below (D, F, WF) for two consecutive semesters will be academically dismissed. A department may have more stringent requirements than this policy.

In a side note, it was mentioned that many graduate students do not realize there is a graduate catalog containing policy and other important information.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis L. Panhorst
Graduate Catalog Editor

Graduate Probation/Dismissal Proposal

Current PolicyAcademic Probation and Standing

Any degree-seeking or teacher certification graduate student who falls below a 3.0 overall grade point average upon completion of nine semester hours approved by their academic department will be placed on academic probation. In order to have the academic probation removed, a 3.0 overall grade point average must be earned upon completion of an additional nine semester hours. Failure to achieve a 3.0 overall grade point average after the additional nine semester hours will result in the student being academically dismissed from the School of Graduate Studies. As a courtesy, the School of Graduate Studies will notify graduate students in writing through the AASU email system at the end of the semester they are placed on academic probation; however, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of their graduate grade point average at all times. Academically dismissed students must appeal for re-admission or reinstatement. There is no guarantee that a student will be reinstated into the School of Graduate Studies. Appeal decisions are determined by the student's academic department and the School of Graduate Studies will notify the student in writing of this decision. Graduate appeal forms may be obtained from the School of Graduate Studies.

Any certificate-seeking, non-degree or undeclared graduate student who falls below a 3.0 overall grade point average at the end of any semester will be placed on academic probation. The student will have one semester, or no more than 9 semester hours, to return to a 3.0 overall grade point average and have the academic probation removed. Failure to achieve a 3.0 grade point average after one semester or a total of 9 graduate hours, of academic probation will result in the student being academically dismissed from the School of Graduate Studies. Certificate-seeking students are also allowed to appeal their dismissal. Appeal forms may be obtained from the School of Graduate Studies. Non-degree seeking and certificate seeking students must have a minimum of a 3.0 to graduate or to receive a certificate.

Gut feeling about policy

My initial reaction to this policy was that it is bad because it allows a student to complete a lot of graduate work (18 or more hours) before being dismissed.

Policies of other schools

School	Policy	Readmit
AASU	Degree Seeking or teacher certification students : probation - cum < 3.0 after complete 9 hours; take 9 more hours; dismissal if cum < 3.0 at 18 or more attempted hours. Certificate-Seeking students : probation - cum < 3.0; dismissal - cum < 3.0 after one semester or no more than 9 hours	no specific time period given
The College of New Jersey	probation - cum < 3.0; suspension - cum < 3.0 after semester of probation	after one calendar year if approved

Attachment 1

Marshall University	probation - cum < 3.0; re-evaluated after 9 semester hours - programs have different policies	no
University of North Alabama	probation - cum < 3.0; suspension - cum < 3.0 after 9 hours of probation or C or below on more than 6 hours	no specific time period given
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	probation - cum < 3.0; suspension - cum < 3.0 after 2 semesters of probation or if term gpa < 3.0 while on probation	no specific time period given
Valdosta State	probation - one grade of C; dismissal - any two grade combination of D, F, WF, or U or cum < 2.51	no specific time period given
Western Connecticut State	probation - cum < 3.0; suspension - cum does not improve after 1 semester of probation or cum < 3.0 after 2 semesters of probation	no specific time period given
University of Central Oklahoma	probation - cum < 3.0 after complete 9 hours; enrollment limited to 9 hours max Fall/Spring or 6 hours Summer; suspension - cum < 3.0 after probation semester or cum < 2.0 any semester	after 1 term
Youngstown State	suspension - cum < 3.0 for 2 semesters or fail comp exams 3 times	after 1 year, not to same program
University of South Alabama	probation - cum < 3.0; suspension - cum < 3.0 after 2 semesters of probation or if term gpa < 3.0 while on probation	
Northern Kentucky University	probation - cum < 3.0; dismissal - cum < 3.0 after 9 hours; probation only once -- if cum < 3.0 again, dismissed	after 1 term
University of Louisiana Monroe	dismissed if cum < 3.0 for 2 consecutive semesters or for any grade of D or F	no specific time period given
Columbus State	probation - C or below in 2 courses or cum < 3.0; dismissal - C or below in 3 or more courses or cum < 3.0 after 9 sem hours on probation	after 2 terms
Indiana University - South Bend	probation - cum < 3.0; dismissal - cum < 3.0 after next semester or discretion of dean	no
Auburn University - Montgomery	probation - cum < 3.0; dismissal - cum < 2.5 or any 3 semesters of probation (not consecutive)	no specific time period given

AASU Graduate Record Audit

I looked at the records of graduate students who attended AASU either F07 or S08 and whose most recent cum gpa is less than 3.0. I saw:

- Lots of students with Fs and WFs are in Good Standing;
- Most students with Fs and WFs did not return;
- Good Standing and Academic Probation were not consistently applied to students with less than 9 hours (all should be GS);
- Students had attempted the following number of hours before they were dismissed: 33 (2), 35, 36 (2), 39, 48, 61, 65;
- One student (907090050) was dismissed 5 times, 4 times in consecutive semesters;
- One student (907028794) attempted and withdrew from 2 classes in four consecutive semesters; he successfully completed his 9th class before failing 3 classes in the following semester;
- 5 students graduated with a cum gpa less than a 3.0.

Proposed Policy

A student will be placed on academic probation if the student's cumulative gpa is less than a 3.0 or if the student earns a grade of D or below (D, F, WF, U) in any course. A student will be academically dismissed if the student is placed on probation for any two semesters. (Any other continuation requirements will be monitored within the department.)

Rationale

- A graduate student must have a 3.0 cum gpa to graduate. If the gpa falls below a 3.0 at any point in the student's career, they should be placed on probation.
- When I audited the records, there seemed to be a very high correlation between earning grades of less than C and not returning to or graduating from the program.
- Our policy is lenient compared to those of other schools.
- We need a policy that we can monitor and enforce. Now we can identify the students who have a gpa < 3.0, but then we must count credits to determine which policy to apply to them. Mistakes have been made.

Proposed Banner Rules

Term	Status	Seq #	Cum hours		Type	Cum GPA	
			Low	High		From	To
201008	GS	1	0	99	Graded	3	4
	P1	2	0	99	Graded	0	2.99
	G1	3	0	99	Graded	3	4
	P2	4	0	99	Graded	0	2.99
	G2	5	0	99	Graded	3	4
	D1	6	0	99	Graded	0	2.99
	G3	7	0	99	Graded	3	4

D2 8 0 99 Graded 0 2.99

Pop sels or reports will need to be written to identify the students who have earned grades of D or below. We will have to code these students manually.

Survey results for whether graduate students can repeat courses

School	Allow Repeats	How GPA computed	Other conditions
AASU	Y	last grade	
The College of New Jersey	N		
Marshall University	N		
University of North Alabama	Y	?	only Fs; max = 1
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	Y	all grades	advisor approval only
Valdosta State	Y	all grades	
Western Connecticut State	N		
University of Central Oklahoma	Y	all grades	
Youngstown State	Y	all grades	must repeat D or F; max = 1
University of South Alabama	N		
Northern Kentucky University	Y	last grade	only Cs or Fs; max = 2; specific course only once
University of Louisiana Monroe	Y	all grades	dean approval only
Columbus State	Y	last grade	
Indiana University - South Bend	N		
Auburn University - Montgomery	Y	all grades	must repeat < 2.0