

Note: Proposed additions are indicated as shaded and bolded text; proposed deletions are indicated as shaded and strike-through text.

Proposed Policy Revisions Approved by the Graduate Council

Change to Policy on Transfer Credit (including OSU courses)

The entire existing text can be found online at <http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/ChapterDetail.aspx?key=38#top>

Current Policy on Graduate Transfer courses:

Students who wish to transfer graduate credits from other schools must provide transcripts for courses already completed to the Graduate School prior to the submission of a study program. Undergraduate students at OSU may receive credit for graduate courses (500 and 600 level) in excess of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree. Graduate courses taken at OSU while the student was a non-degree graduate student, a post-baccalaureate student, a professional degree-seeking student (PharmD or DVM), or an undergraduate student, are considered transfer courses.

Courses to be transferred **must be graduate level** with letter grades of B (3.00) or better. It is the responsibility of the student wishing to transfer the course to provide the necessary documentation to satisfy the OSU guidelines.

Graduate courses may be transferred if:

1. the work is appropriate to and will be placed on the student's graduate certificate or degree program;
2. the transfer is approved by the student's committee (for degree-seeking students), by the major program or department, and by the Graduate School; and
3. grades of B (3.00) or better have been earned.

Proposed revisions:

Students may only transfer course credits from regionally accredited institutions (or equivalently recognized institutions outside the U.S.). Students who wish to transfer graduate credits from other institutions must provide transcripts for courses already completed to the Graduate School prior to the submission of a study program. Undergraduate students at OSU may receive credit for graduate courses (500 and 600 level) in excess of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree. Graduate courses taken at OSU while the student was a non-degree graduate student, a post-baccalaureate student, a professional degree-seeking student (PharmD or DVM), or an undergraduate student, are considered transfer courses.

Courses to be transferred **must be graduate level.** ~~with letter grades of B (3.00) or better.~~ It is the responsibility of the student wishing to transfer the course to provide the necessary documentation to satisfy the OSU guidelines.

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- ~~1. the work is appropriate to and will be placed on the student's graduate certificate or degree program;~~
- ~~2. the transfer is approved by the student's committee (for degree-seeking students), by the major program or department, and by the Graduate School; and~~
- ~~3. grades of B (3.00) or better have been earned.~~

All courses on a program of study require final approval by the student's program of study committee and the Graduate School. Committees are free to deny inclusion of any course if they believe that the earned grade is not sufficient; the course is not appropriate, sufficiently current, sufficiently rigorous based on syllabus content; or for any other reason. To be considered for inclusion on a graduate program of study, OSU courses whether taken as either an enrolled graduate student or pre-graduate admission, must have an earned grade of C or better. To be considered for inclusion on a graduate program of study, courses from another institution (transfer courses) must have an earned grade of B minus or better.

Note:

- The remainder of the policy remains unchanged.
- Revisions to the policy will be effective the term following passage by the Faculty Senate.

Change to Policy on Pursuit of the Second PhD

The existing text can be found online at <http://catalog.oregonstate.edu/ChapterDetail.aspx?key=36>.

Current Policy on admission for a second PhD degree:

The doctor of philosophy degree is the highest academic degree granted by North American universities. It is a research degree designed to prepare a student to become a scholar; that is, to discover, integrate, and apply knowledge, as well as communicate and disseminate it. The doctor of philosophy degree is to be distinguished from other doctorates such as the MD, JD, or EdD degrees, which are designed for professional training or which focus on applied rather than basic research. As is the common practice of most North American universities, Oregon State University seldom approves requests for pursuit of the second PhD.

The Graduate Dean will determine whether or not a student may be admitted for the second PhD. The dean may seek the advice of the Graduate Council in the deliberation of these cases.

Proposed revisions:

The doctor of philosophy degree is the highest academic degree granted by North American universities. It is a research degree designed to prepare a student to become a scholar; that is, to discover, integrate, and apply knowledge, as well as communicate and disseminate it. The doctor of philosophy degree is to be distinguished from other doctorates such as the MD, JD, or EdD degrees, which are designed for professional training or which focus on applied rather than basic research. ~~As is the common practice of most North American universities, Oregon State University seldom approves requests for pursuit of the second PhD.~~

~~The Graduate Dean will determine whether or not a student may be admitted for the second PhD. The dean may seek the advice of the Graduate Council in the deliberation of these cases.~~

Students may enroll for a second PhD degree if they have previously obtained a PhD from OSU or elsewhere. Concurrent pursuit of dual PhD degrees is not allowed. In the case of a student pursuing a second PhD degree, requirements for the second PhD must be met without overlap with the first PhD degree including, but not limited to: successful completion of a second preliminary exam, a separate thesis with no overlap with the first PhD thesis, a final defense exam for the second PhD, a different major advisor from the first PhD, a thesis committee of different faculty than the first PhD degree (although some, but not complete,

overlap between committee members would be acceptable in the case of two PhD degrees from OSU), and all other requirements for the second PhD degree program. Courses from the first PhD degree relevant to the second degree may be allowed to transfer between the two degrees. However, the student's program of study committee must approve all course transfers, should pay particular attention to the relevancy, overlap, and currency of any courses to be transferred from one PhD degree to another, and are advised to proceed conservatively when approving course transfers from a first PhD to a second PhD degree.

Note: Revisions to the policy will be effective the term following passage by the Faculty Senate

Rationale: Current policy requires special permission for a student to enroll for a second PhD if they already have one from any university. The Graduate School has been routinely granting this permission and OSU currently has one student pursuing two concurrent PhD degrees. The Graduate Council wanted to provide more specific instructions in these cases.