
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING REGULATIONS

Subject: Undergraduate Degree Requirements

Number: UW Regulation 2-103



I. PURPOSE

To establish the undergraduate degree requirements for the University of Wyoming, including concurrent majors, dual degrees, second bachelor's degrees, interdisciplinary degrees, affiliated programs, and minors.

II. DEFINITIONS

Correspondence: Coursework taken at a distance via non-electronic mail.

Major: A degree-seeking student's primary field of study.

Undergraduate Degree: The degree conferred on a student upon completion of the prescribed program of study, including all University, college, and departmental requirements. At the undergraduate level, the degree is baccalaureate, and may include the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Fine Arts, or the Bachelor of Music.

III. UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A. General Standards

1. Undergraduate degrees will be conferred only upon persons who have been accepted into a degree program offered by a college or school of the University, and who demonstrate successful completion of all university and college or school requirements established by appropriate regulations or publication in the University Bulletin. Individual students are responsible for ascertaining specific requirements for the degree sought, as well as compliance with published procedures.
 - a. To be eligible for degree candidacy at the University of Wyoming, a person must have made application for admission to the Office of Admissions, must have been admitted as a student, and must have been accepted into a degree program within a college of the University.
 - b. A student admitted to degree candidacy must meet all requirements appropriate to the degree set forth in the regulations existing at the time

of the student's entry into candidacy for the degree. Students failing to complete degree requirements within a reasonable period of time forfeit any right to graduate under the requirements in effect at the time of their admission to degree candidacy.

2. Satisfaction of academic requirements must be demonstrated by appropriate entries upon the official transcript of a student's academic work maintained by the Registrar of the University.
3. Academic requirements established by Colleges and Schools shall specify the number of credit hours to be earned for receipt of a degree within the major sought by a student. Colleges may establish requirements for areas of study and specific courses as a part of offered degree programs. Requirements may include academic work for which credit is not awarded.
4. Successful completion of academic requirements shall be based upon grades assigned by faculty responsible for the academic offering or work. Grades assigned to students shall represent the individual faculty member's evaluation of the student's work as described in UW Regulation 2-113. A grade of "F" signifies no credit is earned for the completed academic work. Within limitations set forth in UW Regulation 2-106, grades of "S" (Satisfactory) or "U" (Unsatisfactory) may be assigned. (For matters related to assignment of grades, see UW Regulation 2-106, Authorization for Use of "S-U" Grades; UW Regulation 2-110, Change of Recorded Grades; and UW Regulation 2-111, Assignment and Removal of the Grade of I (incomplete).)
5. Credit applicable towards a degree may be earned or awarded through (1) classes taken on campus, virtually or at distance settings (including recognized academic courses under concurrent faculty general supervision such as internships, clerkships, clinical experience, cooperative programs, etc.); (2) credit by examination; (3) portfolio evaluations, as provided in UW Regulation 2-202; and (4) acceptance of transfer credit from accredited colleges or universities, including Wyoming Community Colleges. The following limitations apply:
 - a. Credit by Examination and Portfolio Evaluations: Such credit may be awarded to students in accordance with the provisions of UW Regulation 2-202 (Assessment of Prior and Sponsored-Experiential Learning). All credit assigned for experiential learning based upon portfolio evaluations is excluded from the minimum credit hour requirements set forth in section C below.

- b. **Transfer Credit:** The college or school from which a degree is sought must approve the transfer credit and whether it satisfies degree requirements. Students classified as juniors or seniors must obtain approval of the Dean of the College or School to take lower division level courses at a two-year college which they desire to apply towards their University degree program.
- 6. Not more than 24 semester hours of correspondence enrollment courses may be used toward fulfilling requirements for a bachelor's degree.
- 7. The last credit applicable to degree requirements must be earned from the University of Wyoming with the following exception: students of senior standing may complete degree requirements elsewhere by obtaining special permission of the department head, adviser, and college dean, and filing an application for a degree before enrolling elsewhere.
- 8. Students will not receive university credit for language courses below the 4000 level in their native language.
- 9. Students will be required to complete assessment activities as determined by the University of Wyoming prior to the awarding of degrees.
- 10. University, college and major requirements: As listed in the *General Bulletin* when the student matriculates into a particular major. If a student is absent from the University of Wyoming for one academic year or more, then the student may be required to meet any new requirements that have been developed since the original matriculation date.
- 11. Any exceptions to undergraduate degree requirements may be granted by the President or Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- 12. Other requirements appropriate to the various undergraduate degrees shall be established by the colleges and schools. All requirements and appropriate implementing procedures shall be published in the University Bulletin as directed by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

B. Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirements

- 1. A student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.000 or better based upon credit hours attempted through the University of Wyoming.
- 2. Calculation of the cumulative grade point average shall be in accordance with UW Regulation 2-109 (Scholastic Probation, Suspension, Reinstatement and Academic Renewal for Undergraduate Students).

C. Minimum Credit Hour Requirements

1. A minimum of 30 credit hours must be earned from the University of Wyoming. All students must complete a minimum of 42 upper division semester credit hours to afford individual programs the ability to determine their own requirements and/or satisfy accreditation requirements. 30 hours of this upper division requirement must be earned from the University of Wyoming. Credit by examination does not count towards the required 30 hours of residency credit.
2. Undergraduate students may count hours earned in graduate level classes toward their undergraduate degree upper division credit requirement.

D. State and Federal Constitution Instruction and Examination Requirement

1. Wyoming State statute (W.S. § 21-9-102) requires that each student receive instruction in the essentials of the United States and Wyoming constitutions.
2. This requirement is satisfied by courses approved by the University Studies Committee as meeting statutory requirements. A grade of "C" or better must be earned in the class.

E. University Studies Degree Requirements

1. Specific courses which satisfy general education requirements are identified and approved by the college course and curriculum committees and the University Studies Committee. Only those courses meeting baseline learning outcomes (see UW Regulation 2-105) shall satisfy these requirements.
2. It is the responsibility of the individual colleges to review and adjust their degree requirements or course offerings when necessary to assure completion of general studies requirements.

F. Application for Undergraduate Degree

Application for Undergraduate Degree: Prospective undergraduate degree candidates shall apply for graduation in a manner outlined by the Registrar's Office.

G. Clearance of Debts Owed the University

Degrees, or other evidence of completion of academic credits, will not be provided to students who have failed to pay requisite fees or other financial obligations owed to any division or unit of the University. The Vice President for Administration may approve alternative means by which payment of monies owed to the University

may be guaranteed for payment and permit students to receive degrees and transcripts of academic work.

IV. CHARACTERISTICS OF MULTIPLE/CONCURRENT MAJORS

Definition: One (1) baccalaureate degree (BA, BS, et al) earned with multiple majors.

- A. The student must meet University requirements once.
- B. The student must meet all college and major requirements of the major the student designates as the “primary” major.
- C. In the event that a student acquires a dual major, the baccalaureate degree (BA, BS, et al) of the student’s primary major will appear on the diploma.
- D. For accreditation purposes, certain colleges/majors may restrict which major/college is designated as the primary college/major.

V. CHARACTERISTICS OF MULTIPLE/DUAL DEGREES

Definition: Two (2) or more baccalaureate degrees (BA, BS, et all) earned.

- A. The student must meet University requirements only once.
- B. Multiple baccalaureate degrees (BA, BS, et al) and diplomas will be awarded.
- C. Both/all college and major requirements must be completed.
- D. The student must complete at least 30 credit hours more than the requirements of the baccalaureate degree curriculum requiring the least number of credits.

VI. CHARACTERISTICS OF SECOND BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Definition: Must have already completed one (or more) bachelor’s degree(s) at UW or elsewhere.

- A. University requirements must be met.
- B. All of the college and major requirements must be met.
- C. Second degree may have the same title (BA, BS, etc.) and may be in the same college or school as the first degree. In the case of the same college, the second degree must be in a different major.

- D. All previous UW undergraduate coursework is included in the calculation of the cumulative GPA.
- E. Courses applied to the first degree may be repeated as part of the second degree, but the original grade and grade point average in the original degree will not be changed.
- F. Must complete a minimum of 30 UW credit hours beyond the hours required for the first degree. At least 12 of these hours must be at the upper division level.

VII. CHARACTERISTICS OF MINORS

Colleges define minors with minimum attributes and credit requirements.

- A. A student may earn minors in one or more colleges or schools.
- B. A minimum of 12 hours (with a grade of “C” or better in all courses) must be earned.
- C. Individual departments may elect to restrict the number of credit hours that may count simultaneously toward both the student’s major and the minor.
- D. An academic adviser will be assigned for the minor.
- E. Approval is required from both the major department and the minor department.
- F. The minor will be indicated on the academic transcript, but not on the diploma.
- G. The minor must be completed with or prior to the graduation date associated with the student’s major.

Responsible Division/Unit: Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Source: None

Links: <http://www.uwyo.edu/regs-policies>

Associated Regulations, Policies, and Forms: None

History:

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