November 17, 2014

Plus/Minus Grading Policy and its Impact on WTEP Practices

The largest impact of UW’s Plus/Minus grading policy will be on our requirement that courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher. The GPA equivalent of a C grade is 2.00; the GPA equivalent of a C- grade is 1.67. My recommendation is that we continue to accept a C as our lowest course grade, and that we change the wording in our documents for the sake of clarification, as follows:

1. Program Sheets

Under “Professional Education Requirements” the statement that currently reads “All Professional Ed courses must be completed with a grade of C or better” will be revised to read as follows:

“All Professional Ed courses must be completed with a grade of C or better. Please note that grades of C- or lower will not satisfy this requirement.”

Under Major Content, the statement that currently reads “All major content courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher” will be revised to read as follows:

“All major content courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher. Please note that grades of C- or lower will not satisfy this requirement.”

2. UW Catalog

On page 363 of the UW catalog, under the section “Acceptability of Coursework,” the statement currently reads “The College of Education does not accept transfer credits for Professional Education or content area courses with equivalents at UW when the grade earned was less than a C.” This statement will be revised to read as follows:

“The College of Education does not accept transfer credits for Professional Education or content area courses with equivalents at UW when the grade earned was less than a C. Please note that grades of C- or lower will not satisfy this requirement.”

3. Transfer Handbook

In the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section of the Transfer Handbook, requirements for entering Phase II (EDST 3000) are listed as follows:

Valid WY Substitute Teaching Permit
Grade C or better in WA
Grade C or better in QA
Grade C or better in EDST 2450
Grade C or better in ITEC 2360
Grade C or better in EDST 2480
Grade C or better in EDEX 2484
Junior Standing

This section would be revised to include all of the above, as well as the following statement: "Please note that grades of C- or lower will not satisfy these requirements."

4. WTEP Handbook

In the WTEP Handbook, page 12, a brief overview of WTEP requirements is provided. In this overview is the following statement:
“Complete all professional education and content major courses required in degree program with a grade of C or better”

The following statement would be added: "Please note that grades of C- or lower will not satisfy this requirement."