

Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action

MOA – 18/05

Creation of Undergraduate GPA Revision Policy

Name of Council(s)/Committee(s):
Professional Concerns Committee

Approval Date:

Implementation Date:
Upon Administrative Approval

RECOMMENDATION:

The Professional Concerns Committee recommends the creation of a one-time GPA Revision policy for students who change major to a major in a different department or academic unit.



9/19/18

Robert Eversole, Chair, Professional Concerns Committee

Date:

Approve Disapprove Other Action

Comments:

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, amended MOA-18/05 was approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Board on 4/26/19.



4/26/19

Richard A. Gershon, WMU Faculty Senate President

Date

Approve Disapprove Other Action

Comments:



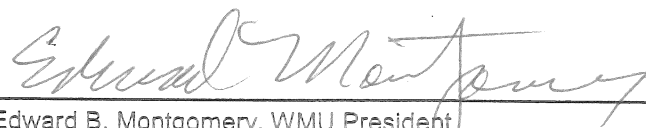
5.9.19

Jennifer P. Bott, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

Approve Disapprove Other Action

Comments:



5/13/19

Edward B. Montgomery, WMU President

Date

Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action

MOA – 18/05

Creation of Undergraduate GPA Revision Policy

Name of Council(s)/Committee(s):
Professional Concerns Committee

Approval Date:

Implementation Date:
Upon Administrative Approval

RECOMMENDATION:

The Professional Concerns Committee recommends the creation of a one-time GPA Revision policy for students who change major to a major in a different department or academic unit.



9/19/18

Robert Eversole, Chair, Professional Concerns Committee

Date:

Approve Disapprove Other Action
Comments:

Approved by the Faculty Senate on December 6, 2018



2/6/2019

Richard A. Gershon, WMU Faculty Senate President

Date

Approve Disapprove Other Action
Comments:

Jennifer P. Bott, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date

Approve Disapprove Other Action
Comments:

Edward B. Montgomery, WMU President

Date

**Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action**

MOA – 18/05

Creation of Undergraduate GPA Revision Policy

RATIONALE

Western Michigan University currently has mechanisms in place for students who do not perform up to their potential. Students can repeat a limited number of courses and replace the grade that they previously earned. Students who find themselves in more difficulty have the opportunity to apply for academic forgiveness after spending four years away from the university; this policy allows students to remove a **limited and defined** number of credit hours of **E or X** from their grade point average calculation.

The existing WMU policies do not adequately address the situation of a student who finds that they lack the skills and abilities required to successfully complete the major they first selected when starting their undergraduate studies. Students who find themselves in this situation cannot successfully repeat challenging courses, as the reason they were not successful was not due to a lack of effort, but to a lack of skills and abilities. In many cases, these students can successfully complete the requirements for a different major, but are at a disadvantage because of courses on their transcript from their first major negatively influence their GPA.

The impact of courses in the previous major can limit these student's ~~career or graduate school options~~. For these students, their ~~major only~~ mistake **was that they were** pursuing a major that they were not capable of completing. If these students had started at another institution, WMU would not include the courses from that institution in their grade point calculation. As these students started at WMU, the only way they can get a "fresh start" in a new major is to leave the University for four years and apply for academic forgiveness, or to transfer to a new university.

RECOMMENDATION

The Professional Concerns Committee recommends the creation of a one-time GPA Revision policy for students who change major to a major in a different department or academic unit.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Add the following language to the Undergraduate Catalog in the section Academic Regulations, after Repeated Course:

GPA Revision for Change of Major

Undergraduate students may apply **one time** for a GPA Revision when changing a major. GPA Revision allows the student to request that up to three courses may be removed from the GPA Calculation. **The courses must be from a declared major, prerequisite, or cognate in that major where the grade of E or X was earned. The courses also must be taken in the student's first three semesters at WMU. No other courses or grades may be considered for GPA Revision.**

Undergraduate students seeking a GPA revision for a change of major must meet the following **additional** criteria:

- Have not earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University
- Have not previously received GPA revision for a change of major
- The new major must be in a different department or academic unit

Additional **specific** requirements for a GPA Revision are:

- A maximum of three courses may be removed from the students' GPA calculation, including repeats of the same course.
- Courses where there is a finding of responsibility for an academic integrity violation may not be removed from the GPA calculation.
- The credits earned for these classes will also be removed from the student's academic record.
- There will be no refund of tuition or fees for courses removed from the GPA Revision.
- All grades will remain on the official transcript and will not be calculated in the GPA or credits earned. However, the course work will still count towards the maximum timeframe for Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- The office of Financial Aid will determine how the proposed GPA revision impacts Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Students requesting a GPA Revision **must** ~~should~~ contact the director of advising for the college in which the new major resides **and obtain approval for the transfer**.

PROCEDURES

The attached form is recommended for implementation of the GPA Revision policy.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5256
(269) 387-4300
www.wmich.edu/registrar

Undergraduate GPA Revision Request for Change of Major

Undergraduate students seeking a grade point average revision for change of major must meet the following criteria:

- Have not earned a bachelor’s degree from Western Michigan University
- Have not previously received GPA revision for change of major
- The new major must be in a different department or academic unit

Please print clearly

Student Name (Last):	(First):	(M.I.):	Date of Birth:	WIN:
Address:		City:	State:	Zip Code:
Previous Major (Banner Code and Title)		New Major (Banner Code and Title)		

Terms of GPA revision for change of major:

- A maximum of three courses **taken within the first three semesters of attendance at WMU** may be removed from the students GPA calculation, including repeats of the same course **as long as those courses are from a declared major, prerequisite, or cognate in that major where the grade of E or X was earned. No other courses or grade may be considered for GPA Revision.**
- Courses where there is a finding of responsibility for an academic integrity violation may not be removed from the GPA calculation.
- The credits earned for these classes will also be removed from the student’s academic record.
- There will be no refund of tuition or fees for courses removed from the GPA Revision.
- All grades will remain on the official transcript and will not be calculated in the GPA or credits earned. However, the course work will still count towards the maximum timeframe for Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- ~~The office of Financial Aid will determine how the proposed GPA revision impacts Satisfactory Academic Progress.~~

Please print clearly

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Term	Grade

Approval from Director of Advising for New Major

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Important ~ please read and sign.

I am requesting that a GPA revision be applied to my Western Michigan University transcript. I acknowledge that I meet the criteria for GPA Revision and accept the terms listed above.

I affirm that there were no findings of responsibility for an academic integrity violations for any of these courses.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approval from Financial Aid

~~Granting the student a GPA Revision as detailed on the front of this form may impact the student's academic progress in the following manner:~~

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return completed form to:
Registrar's Office
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5256

<p><i>Office of the Registrar Use Only</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No Academic Integrity Violations <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied Processed by:</p>
