

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Academic Policy Committee

February 28, 2022

1 pm

MS Teams

MINUTES

Present: W. Choi, B. Church, K. Cosier, D. Romain Dagenhardt, T. Freiburger (x-o), M. Haigh, K. Hildebrandt, T. Howard (x-o), C. Law, D. Van Kerkvoorde
Guests: None

I. *Call to Order.* M. Haigh called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm

II. *Automatic Consent.*

- A. Agenda approved as amended, postponing item III.A to the March 28th meeting.
- B. Minutes of January 31, 2022, approved as presented.

III. *Unfinished Business.*

- A. Grade Appeal Policy – D. Clark asked to defer to the March meeting.
- B. Academic Year Calendar and Final Exam Period- K. Hildebrandt presented two matters for the APC’s consideration: 1. Adding language to clarify online courses final exams and 2. final exams schedule. K. Hildebrandt presented language for the online final exams. CURRENT LANGUAGE for item #4
Unless specifically noted at the time the course is listed in the Schedule of Classes, it shall be assumed that courses taught entirely online will not have in-person final examinations that can only be completed on campus.
PROPOSED UPDATE
Unless specifically noted at the time the course is listed in the Schedule of Classes, it shall be assumed that courses taught entirely online will not have in-person final examinations that can only be completed on campus. It is also assumed that online asynchronous courses will have asynchronous exams. If instructors of online courses wish to have in-person exams or synchronous exams for asynchronous courses, they must indicate that in the Schedule of Classes at the time of publication and notify the Registrar’s Office so they can be included in the final exam schedule.
C. Law moved and B. Church seconded approving the language as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
K. Hildebrandt shared research about Saturday/Sunday final exams and noted that most do not hold exams on the weekend. UW Madison does not specify in their exam schedule that Sundays are excluded and provide a date range that includes Sunday. Since this issue has not reached a large-scale level of concern at UWM, the APC agreed not to consider changing the current final exam schedule at this time.

IV. *New Business.*

- A. Incomplete Grades Policy (SAAP 1-13) revisions- M. Haigh shared revisions to the policy and main arguments against permitting Incompletes in S/U courses from Jason Puskar, Graduate School:
Blocked Enrollment: The policy on incompletes states, “A student may not register for a course in which an “I” remains on record.” Because most S/U courses are dissertator courses, a student who gets an I in the fall section of a 990 dissertator course will be barred from enrolling in the spring section, even though required to do so by System

policy. A U is far less consequential and no impediment to continuation.

Blocked Graduation: Receiving a U in a S/U course has no impact on graduation.

However, a student is blocked from graduation as long as an I is on the transcript by the terms of the Incomplete policy. As a result, issuing an I in an S/U course is actually a more severe and consequential option than a U. It is also potentially a method by which an advisor could block a student from graduating, even though even the most unprepared students technically has the right to declare a defense date and take their chances. Unless changed by the instructor beforehand, after a year the I automatically turns to a PI, at which point graduation is possible again. **Ambiguity about**

“completion”: In dissertator credit courses, it’s rarely clear what completeness means.

There’s no syllabus, rarely written requirements, and frequently not even a verbal agreement about how much, exactly, should get finished. **PAWS Functionality:** Partly because giving I grades in S/U courses would cause problems, there is no functionality in PAWS for issuing them.

- B. Concurrent Degrees Policy- K. Hildebrandt presented revised policy with recommended changes from the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). She noted that if the new policy was adopted, SAAP 1-14, Majors in two different schools/colleges would be negated and need to be eliminated. C. Law moved and B. Church seconded approving Concurrent Degrees Policy as revised. Motion passed unanimously.

- V. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.