

GRADUATE FACULTY COUNCIL DOCUMENT NO. 725 APPROVED APRIL 21, 1997

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS AND
REQUIREMENTS OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL TO CHANGE THE MAXIMUM
CREDITLOAD REGULATIONS

Current Graduate School Regulation Concerning Maximum Creditload

Students may not register for more than 12 graduate credits in a semester or 9 graduate credits in the eight-week summer session or a total of 12 graduate credits in all sessions between the conclusion of Semester II and the beginning of Semester I. Credits taken on an audit basis are counted when determining a graduate student's creditload.

Graduate students in good academic standing who are involved in taking undergraduate certification coursework, in making up deficiencies, or those who have exceptional circumstances resulting in special hardship, must appeal to the Graduate School Student Services for permission to carry more than the maximum creditload. Only individual student appeals are reviewed; requests for "blanket" approvals for groups of students are not considered. Each individual student appeal must be submitted to the Graduate School Student Services prior to the beginning of the enrollment period in which the student wishes to register for a credit overload. Each appeal must be accompanied by recommendations from the major professor and/or the graduate program unit explaining the reasons for the appeal and its justification.

Students who enroll for more than the maximum creditload without permission will have the courses dropped by the Graduate School to reduce their courseload to the maximum allowed.

Summary of Proposed Change

- The proposed change will exclude the following courses from being counted in determining maximum creditload: audit, 928 Sport and Recreation courses, and 0-credit colloquium\seminar courses.
- It will also clarify criteria used for "good academic standing."

Justification for the Proposed Change

- The proposed change will allow a more accurate reflection of a student's graduate workload.
- Excluding courses taken for audit, 928 Sport and Recreation courses, and 0-credit colloquiums\seminars from the maximum course load determination will save students, faculty, and the Graduate School work in preparing and reviewing appeals for overload credits.
- A description of the "good academic standing" criteria will clarify who is eligible to appeal to carry more than the maximum creditload.

Proposed Graduate School Regulation Concerning Maximum Creditload

Students may not register for more than 12 graduate credits in a semester or 9 graduate credits in the eight-week summer session or a total of 12 graduate credits in all sessions between the conclusion of Semester II and the beginning of Semester I. Courses taken on an audit basis, 0-credit colloquia/seminars, or 928 Sport and Recreation courses are not taken into consideration when determining a graduate student's creditload.

Graduate students who are involved in taking undergraduate certification coursework, in making up deficiencies, or those who have exceptional circumstances resulting in special hardship, must appeal to Graduate School Student Services for permission to carry more than the maximum creditload. Appeals will only be considered for students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and no outstanding incompletes on their record. Only individual student appeals are reviewed; requests for "blanket" approvals for groups of students are not considered. Each individual student appeal must be submitted to the Graduate School Student Services prior to the beginning of the enrollment period in which the student wishes to register for a credit overload. Each appeal must be accompanied by recommendations from the major professor and/or the graduate program unit explaining the reasons for the appeal and its justification.

Students who enroll for more than the maximum creditload without permission will have the courses dropped by the Graduate School to reduce their courseload to the maximum allowed.

Recommendation for Action:

The Committee on Regulations and Requirements recommends that the adoption of the above changes concerning maximum creditload begin with the 1997-98 academic year.