

**PROCEDURAL SEQUENCE FOR ACADEMIC SENATE APPROVAL OF PROPOSALS**

1. Submit all proposals to the Office of Academic Affairs.
2. The Senate President will log items and forward them to the appropriate Senate Subcommittees.
3. The Senate subcommittee will send the proposals to the Senate. **Only curricular items require being sent to the faculty 10 days (not working days) prior to the general faculty meeting.**
4. Senate proposals will be considered by the Full Faculty.
5. If approved, the proposal will then be forwarded to the Vice Chancellor.

Proposals that require action to approve/disapprove/table or remand will be sent back to the Senate according to the monthly meeting schedule.

TITLE: General Education Waivers  
 SUBCOMMITTEE: Gen. Ed. PROPOSAL #: 99-03

PROPOSAL:  
 Under "general education requirements," second paragraph, first sentence (page 29 of the 1997-99 catalog), that sentence should be changed to read:

"The general education core and distribution requirements set out in sections I and II below are waived for students who already have an associate or bachelor's degree from Montana State University-Northern or another institution, and they have come to Montana State University-Northern to work on another degree." ~~accredited~~

Another qualifier should be added to the second sentence, as follows:  
"If a student's previous degree was earned more than seven (7) years ago, he/she may be required to take additional general education core courses to prepare him/her for the new degree."

**RATIONALE:**  
 The first change seems logical. If this waiver is granted to students who come to Northern for another degree, it should also be available to students who earned their first degree at Northern. The policy is not clear on that issue, however, and previous Northern students have been advised that they have to go back and work on general education requirements that were not part of their first degree.

The second change is an attempt to coordinate this waiver policy with Northern's policy on "catalog of record" for graduation. That policy attempts to insure that students complete a contemporary program of study when they apply for graduation. This additional language supports that philosophy by attempting to insure that contemporary general education core competencies are part of what a student brings to their new program of study. That interest would appear to be particularly important in the areas of computer and mathematics skills. The language is permissive, so that faculty advisors have some flexibility in working with students new to their program.

**ACTION SIGNATURES:**

<u>[Signature]</u> Submitter		Date <u>8/25/99</u>
_____ Department Chair		Date _____
<u>[Signature]</u> Committee Chair	<b>AS AMENDED</b> Approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disapprove _____	Date <u>2/29/00</u>
<u>[Signature]</u> <u>3/22/00</u> Faculty Senate President	Approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disapprove _____	Date <u>3/21/00</u>
<u>[Signature]</u> Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs	Approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disapprove _____	Date <u>4/24/00</u>
<u>[Signature]</u> Chancellor	Approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disapprove _____	Date <u>4/26/00</u>

A Proposed Policy Change. . .

1) the proposed change. . .

Under "general education waivers," second paragraph, first sentence, that sentence should be changed to read:

"The general education core and distribution requirements set out in sections I and II below are waived for students who already have an associate or bachelor's degree from Montana State University-Northern or another institution, and they have come to Montana State University-Northern to work on another degree."

Another qualifier should be added to the second sentence, as follows:

"If a student's previous degree was earned more than seven (7) years ago, he/she may be required to take additional general education core courses to prepare him/her for the new degree."

2) Under rationale or explanation:

The first change seems logical. If this waiver is granted to students who come to Northern for another degree, it should also be available to students who earned their first degree at Northern. The policy is not clear on that issue, however, and previous Northern students have been advised that they have to go back and work on general education requirements that were not part of their first degree.

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