

(1) PROPOSED NEW TEXT

3.X.X Undergraduate Catalog Policy

Undergraduate students are expected to complete the curriculum in the catalog in effect at the time they first become a student. Individual exceptions to those requirements can be made by the appropriate academic department and college by communicating them to the Registrar. Per 3.1.4.2, students are expected to maintain continuous attendance while pursuing their undergraduate degree, but may take an approved Leave of Absence for up to two continuous years. Students who return from an approved Leave of Absence maintain their catalog of entry. Students who leave for more than two consecutive calendar years without an approved Leave of Absence or officially withdraw from the University must return under the current catalog requirements. Students who are allowed to return after being academically disqualified from attendance maintain their original catalog requirements, so long as it is within two consecutive calendar years.

Catalog year is applied at the degree level and applies to all curricula attached to that degree, such as majors, minors, and concentrations. Students may elect a later catalog under which to fulfill the degree requirements; they may not elect an earlier catalog, nor use a combination of requirements from different catalogs. Students adding an additional degree or certificate may follow a different catalog for the second program of study, but must fulfill all additional curriculum requirements outlined in the additional catalog. Students have the option to adopt more current catalog requirements for graduation, but cannot go backwards. Once a student selects a more current catalog, they are unable to return to their previous catalog requirements. Similarly, if a student requests to change to an academic program that is available in the more current catalog but is not available in their catalog, then the student must adopt all requirements outlined in the more current catalog. A subsequent change to a different major will not allow the student to return to their previous catalog.

In cases where the fulfillment of degree requirements is due to pending transfer credit or degree exceptions from the college or department, the Registrar will allow the student to retain their original catalog requirement to receive their degree, so long as it aligns with 3.20.1.

(2) PROPOSED NEW TEXT WITH MARKUP

Not applicable as this is a new policy

(3) ORIGINAL TEXT

Not applicable as this is a new policy

(4) EXPLANATION FOR NEEDED CHANGE

In order to ensure that students' degrees reflect the current state and so that departments can reliably teach out programs after changes are made, the University needs a policy governing which catalog year requirements students are held to.

(5) EXPLANATION FOR WHY CHANGE ADDRESSES ISSUE

No current policy exists that clearly specifies which catalog year students are required to follow.

(6) PROPOSAL HISTORY

Fathima Wakeel, Chair, Education Policy Committee, final revision: Mar. 13, 2025

Educational Policy Committee discussion, revision, and vote: Mar. 6, 2025

Educational Policy Committee discussion: Feb. 20, 2025; Mar. 6, 2025

(7) PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE

End of AY 24-25

(8) IMPACTS ON OTHER PARTS OF R&P

R&P numbering and potential cross-listing will be impacted as this is a new proposed policy.