

(1) PROPOSED NEW TEXT

3.21 Graduate Studies Regulations

3.21.1 Graduate Admissions

Undergraduate students who have achieved junior standing and a grade point average of 3.0 or greater may petition the Committee on the Standing of Graduate Students (SOGS) for permission to register for graduate level coursework. Undergraduate students may also request permission from the college administering the graduate program to apply course credits taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. The following guidelines should be followed:

1. No undergraduate student may take 400-level courses during a term where the student's total credits are greater than 18 (including audits), with the exception of students enrolled in a 4+1 program.
2. Students requesting a second 400-level course in a given term must petition the Standing of Graduate Students committee and may not register for more than 15 credits total in that term, with the exception of students enrolled in a 4+1 program.
3. An undergraduate student may request permission to use no more than 12 credits taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. These courses must be at the 300 and 400 level and beyond all undergraduate degree requirements. Courses at the 200 level must be approved by the course instructor, department chairperson, and the appropriate college dean to be considered eligible for graduate program credits. The course credits may not have been submitted as part of the requirements for a previous degree. A grade of B or better must be attained.
4. Students who elect to pursue a graduate degree at Lehigh University must apply to their program of interest through the graduate application process. Students may elect to reserve credits either before or after their official graduate application is completed, but before the baccalaureate degree is awarded.
5. All students receiving a graduate degree must be enrolled at least one full semester or summer as a regular-status graduate student prior to the awarding of a graduate degree.

3.21.1.1 Accelerated 4 + 1 Programs

Students who are completing the undergraduate portion of their 4 + 1 program may register for 400-level courses through the process of the college in which the graduate program will be completed. Students may take a maximum of 18 credits when enrolled in two 400-level courses and may petition to overload when enrolled in one 400-level course. Students in these programs may begin their graduate-level coursework when they enter their second year of attendance at Lehigh, and attain Sophomore standing, in consultation with their undergraduate major advisor.

(2) PROPOSED NEW TEXT WITH MARKUP

3.21 Graduate Studies Regulations

3.21.1 Graduate Admissions

Undergraduate students who have achieved junior standing and a grade point average of 3.0 or greater may petition the Committee on the Standing of Graduate Students (SOGS) for permission to register for graduate level coursework. Undergraduate students may also request permission from the college administering the graduate program to apply course credits taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. The following guidelines should be followed:

1. No undergraduate student may take 400-level courses during a term where the student's total credits are greater than 18 (including audits), **with the exception of students enrolled in a 4+1 program.**
2. Students requesting a second 400-level course in a given term must petition the Standing of Graduate Students committee and may not register for more than 15 credits total in that term, **with the exception of students enrolled in a 4+1 program.**
3. An undergraduate student may request permission to use no more than 12 credits (~~with a maximum of 6 credits at the 400 level~~) taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. These courses must be at the 300 and 400 level and beyond all undergraduate degree requirements. Courses at the 200 level must be approved by the course instructor, department chairperson, and the appropriate college dean to be considered eligible for **a** graduate program credits. The course credits may not have been submitted as part of the requirements for a previous degree. A grade of B or better must be attained.
4. Students who elect to pursue a graduate degree at Lehigh University must apply to their program of interest through the graduate application process. Students may elect to reserve credits either before or after their official graduate application is completed, but before the baccalaureate degree is awarded.
5. All students receiving a graduate degree must be enrolled at least one full semester or summer as a regular-status graduate student prior to the awarding of a graduate degree.

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(3) ORIGINAL TEXT

3.21 Graduate Studies Regulations

3.21.1 Graduate Admissions

Undergraduate students who have achieved junior standing and a grade point average of 3.0 or greater may petition the Committee on the Standing of Graduate Students (SOGS) for permission to register for graduate level coursework. Undergraduate students may also request permission from the college administering the graduate program to apply course credits taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. The following guidelines should be followed: 1. No undergraduate student may take 400-level courses during a term where the student's total credits are greater than 18 (including audits). 2. Students requesting a second 400-level course in a given term must petition the Standing of Graduate Students committee and may not register for more than 15 credits total in that term. 3. An undergraduate student may request permission to use no more than 12 credits (with a maximum of 6 credits at the 400 level) taken as an undergraduate toward a graduate degree. These courses must be at the 300 and 400 level and beyond all undergraduate degree requirements. Courses at the 200 level must be approved by the course instructor, department chairperson, and the appropriate college dean to be considered eligible for a graduate program credits. The course credits may not have been submitted as part of the requirements for a previous degree. A grade of B or better must be attained. 4. Students who elect to pursue a graduate degree at Lehigh University must apply to their program of interest through the graduate application process. Students may elect to reserve credits either before or after their official graduate application is completed, but before the baccalaureate degree is awarded. 5. All students receiving a graduate degree must be enrolled at least one full semester or summer as a regular-status graduate student prior to the awarding of a graduate degree.

(4) EXPLANATION FOR NEEDED CHANGE

With the increased numbers of students enrolling in 4+1 programs, our current policies around undergraduate enrollment in graduate-level courses are presenting administrative barriers that are not sustainable. The addition of a policy streamlining these processes will make the entire process easier for students and departments, while decreasing the burden for SOS and SOGS as well.

(5) EXPLANATION FOR WHY CHANGE ADDRESSES ISSUE

The modified language streamlines the enrollment processes for undergraduate 4+1 students into graduate courses, thus making the processes easier for students, departments, SOS, and SOGS.

In paragraph "3.21.1 Graduate Admissions" in point #1 and point #2 "with the exception of students enrolled in a 4+1 program" was added to make 3.21.1.1 a complement (rather than a contradiction) of that prior text. The list was also reformatted to make it easier to read.

(6) PROPOSAL HISTORY

Jenna Lay, Vice-Chair, Faculty Senate, edit to final revision to include caveat in #2 as well as #1 (with approval of chairs of GRC and EdPol): October 8, 2025

James Gilchrist and Chris Liang, Co-Chairs, Graduate Research Committee, approval of final revision: October 7, 2025

Marina Puzakova, Chair, Education Policy Committee, final revision: October 2, 2025

FSEC Discussion and return to Ed Pol/GRC: August 29, 2025

Fathima Wakeel, Chair, Education Policy Committee, final revision: April 28, 2025

Educational Policy Committee discussion of revision and vote: April 24, 2025

Educational Policy Committee discussion: February 6, 2025; February 20, 2025; March 27, 2025

GRC discussion: January 28, 2025

Discussion by 4+1 subcommittee: Fall 2024, January 2025

Decision to form a 4+1 subcommittee comprising Michael Dills-Allen, Linda Bell, and members of EdPol and GRC: August 29, 2024

Educational Policy Committee initial discussion (remaining from 2023-2024 agenda items): August 29, 2024

(7) PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE

December 2025

(8) IMPACTS ON OTHER PARTS OF R&P

There is an added sub-section to section 3.21.1, but there should be no impacts on R&P numbering or cross referencing.