

# **Faculty Senate Graduate Affairs committee**

## **May 4, 2016**

### **Policy on Awarding Credits Toward Multiple Graduate Degrees**

Regarding the awarding of credits toward multiple degrees and/or programs, the Graduate Affairs Committee proposes the following restrictions apply:

1. In dual degree programs—multiple degrees and/or programs in the same or closely related field(s) in which specific coursework makes up an integral part of both degrees and/or programs—some coursework may satisfy the credit requirements of both programs.
2. In no instance shall credit for a single course satisfy the requirements of more than two degrees and/or programs.
3. In order to earn two or more distinct master degrees, the student must satisfy all credit requirements for both degrees and/or programs. Coursework satisfying degree requirements for two degrees and/or programs will follow the college's transfer policy for graduate degrees (see page 12 of the Graduate Catalog). As such:
  - If two degrees and/or programs require 30 credits each, then a maximum of 6 credits may satisfy the requirements of both degrees and/or programs.
  - If two degrees and/or programs require 33 or more credits each, then a maximum of 9 credits may satisfy the requirements of both degrees and/or programs.
  - In the case of two degrees and/or programs with different credit requirements, the total number of credits of coursework that may satisfy the requirements of both degrees and/or programs will be restricted to the allowable credits of the program with the lower total credits required (i.e., if a student pursues a 30-credit program and a 33-credit program, a maximum of 6 credits may be used to satisfy the requirements of both degrees and/or programs.)

### **Admissions and Academic Progress**

1. An applicant to a dual degree program must be admitted to each degree program individually and identify intentions to pursue a dual degree path so that, upon admission, appropriate advisement and academic planning can take place.
2. An applicant to a dual degree program who is admitted to one program but not the other has the option of entering the program that offered admission to earn a single degree.
3. The applicant to a dual degree program will submit one application fee and, upon acceptance, one tuition deposit.
4. A student currently enrolled in the first year of one participating program in a dual degree program may apply for admission to the dual degree program. Admission is not open to students who have already completed one of the degrees.
5. The grade point average in each program of a dual degree program will be computed separately, and a student must meet the minimum standard in each program to continue in the dual degree program.
6. Each student enrolled in a dual degree program will be assigned an academic adviser for each degree. Each adviser will facilitate the completion of a program of study form for that program.

