

November 30, 2018
Post-UCC and APC Discussion and Approval

**Request for University Curriculum Committee Review:
Earning Credit While Under Suspension**

Summary of This Request:

The University of Florida currently operates under a policy that prohibits accepting credit earned at another institution while a student is suspended or dismissed from the University of Florida. This policy was first included in the UF Catalog in the 1966-1967 academic year.

The Offices of Academic and Undergraduate Affairs are asking the University Curriculum Committee to reconsider this policy in light of the dramatic shift since 1967 in philosophies driving the University's and State of Florida's educational regulations, policies, and practices. This request includes suggested wording to replace the current policy for the Committee's consideration.

Current Wording:

The earliest records of discussion on this topic are two reports from 1962 Faculty Senate meetings, urging a change in the practice of considering credit taken by UF students at other institutions while they were in suspension status at UF. While not entirely clear, the motivation for the policy (as reflected below) was likely to relieve burden on the UF Petitions Committee. Our University of Florida record shows a request to Faculty Senate to include the wording below in the 1967-1968 Undergraduate Catalog, and this wording has henceforth remained the same

EARNING CREDIT WHILE SUSPENDED

A student under any kind of suspension at the University of Florida may not earn credit toward a degree at the University of Florida by taking work in residence at another institution or through extension or correspondence courses.

However, a student suspended while in the lower division who subsequently graduates from an accredited Junior College may appeal to the Petitions Committee for reinstatement. The Petitions Committee may then, upon the recommendation of the upper division school or college concerns, admit the student on academic probation to that school or college. Credits earned by such students while under suspension from the University of Florida may be transferred in accordance with other rules and regulations of the University of Florida.

Rationale for Change:

It is important to note that this policy pre-dated the creation of a state articulation standard that requires state colleges and universities to accept credits earned at other state institutions under the common course numbering system. It also conflates suspension for both academic

and behavioral reasons. UF now makes clear distinctions between these two in our other policies.

Currently, the Florida Articulation Agreement (6A-10.024, <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=6A-10.024>) facilitates transfer of credit among FCS and SUS institutions. Furthermore, unlike when the current regulation was created, UF students today are no longer suspended for academic performance reasons. Suspension now is reserved for student conduct-related issues. Thus, discouraging suspended students from pursuing enrollment at other institutions, a possible effect of the current policy, may in some instances be counter to our UF spirit of facilitating student growth and progression towards degree, responsible citizenship, and a productive career. It is in clear violation of the requirements of the Articulation Agreement. The Articulation Agreement follows the same basic principles as UF's current suspension policies. It does allow a postsecondary institution to deny admission or continued enrollment based on an applicant's past misconduct or when past actions have been found to disrupt or interfere with the orderly conduct, processes, functions or programs at any other postsecondary institution. The proposed changes to our current policy, therefore, will retain a student's right to file a request through the UF Petitions Committee and continue to allow the University to deny transfer of credit from another institution in misconduct cases.

Proposed New Wording:

A student under any kind of suspension at the University of Florida may earn credit toward a degree at the University of Florida by taking courses at another institution. Upon the student's reinstatement to the University of Florida, the University will accept credit from courses that fall under the Florida statewide course numbering system. A reinstated student may follow standard practice of consulting the student's degree-granting unit to consider whether credit for courses not under the state course numbering system and earned while suspended will be accepted. Credits earned at another institution and accepted by the University of Florida will not count towards the UF GPA calculation but will factor into the student's total credit hour count towards excess hours.