# PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN PROGRAM

**UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**

University of North Carolina at Wilmington  
Wilmington, NC 28403

**Type of program change proposed (check all that apply)**

| Establishment, dissolution, division, or consolidation of academic departments or other degree-granting entities |
| Establishment, dissolution, or revision of academic degrees, including majors, minors, and certificate programs |
| Policies for maximum and minimum hours required for majors, minors, and certificates |
| Total number of hours required for graduation |
| University-wide competency requirements (other than basic studies, oral communication intensive, or computer competency) |
| Course prefixes |
| Curricular conflicts between schools and/or colleges |
| Other general curricular policies which have total university impact |

**Description of proposed program change:**

See attached; To comply with UNC System Regulation 400.1.5 is amended January 2018.

**Signature of Department Chairperson:**  
Signature of Dean:  
Date:  

**Action of the University Curriculum Committee:**  
Approved  
Signature of the UCC Chairperson:  
Date:  

UCC Approved: 4/01
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Signature of Department Chairperson: [Signature]
Signature of Dean: [Signature] Date: 9/7/18

Motion to Approve was not seconded; no committee action

Action of the University Curriculum Committee: [Signature] Date: October 17, 2018

Signature of the UCC Chairperson: [Signature] Date: November 1, 2018

UCC Approved: 4/01
Requirements for a Double Major or a Double Degree

A student may elect to major in two separate disciplines on the condition that the student meets all requirements for each major. A student who completes 424-120 hours and all requirements for more than one major in the same baccalaureate program will have only one degree conferred, but all majors will be printed on the transcript.

A student who completes 124 120 credit hours and meets all requirements for majors in different baccalaureate programs may have both degrees conferred. A student may not simultaneously receive two different baccalaureate degrees within the same department (e.g., a B.S. and a B.A. degree).

Requirements for Graduation

Application for graduation must be filed in the Office of the Registrar on or before the dates specified in the university calendar. Online applications may be submitted from www.uncw.edu/reg. A $6 diploma fee is added to the student’s account at application time.

Students may qualify for the bachelor’s degree by completing successfully (1) the university studies requirements, (2) the residency requirement, (3) an approved course of study in an academic major, (4) a minimum of 124 120 semester hours of credit, and (5) a minimum grade point average of 2.00.
Regulation Related to Fostering Undergraduate Student Success

I. Required Semester Credit Hours for Baccalaureate Degree Programs

Baccalaureate degree programs shall require no more than 120 semester credit hours. An institution with compelling reasons as to why a program's requirements must exceed 120 semester credit hours may petition to have an exception approved by its board of trustees. Compelling reasons include, but are not limited to: programmatic accreditation standards; licensure requirements; and other state, federal, or professional regulations.

An institution must report any exceptions granted by its board of trustees, and the reasons for those exceptions, to the Board of Governors and the president by the end of calendar year 2018 and annually thereafter.

Any program authorized by the Board of Governors to require 135 semester credit hours or more shall be officially designated as a five-year baccalaureate program.

A. Constituent institutions shall observe these regulations in all proposals for new degree programs.

B. This section applies to individual baccalaureate degree programs, not to credit hour requirements for students who earn more than one major.

C. Constituent institutions must publicize the required number of semester credit hours and projected length of full-time enrollment required to obtain each baccalaureate degree in both printed and online catalogs. During new student orientation sessions and in publications for students and parents, constituent institutions must provide a description of factors that may prolong the length of time to complete a degree.

D. General Administration will maintain a catalog of all active baccalaureate degree programs and their required hours, and the Board of Governors will periodically review compliance with this 120-credit limitation, including approved exceptions to that limitation.

This section is effective as of the beginning of the fall 2019 semester, and shall not affect the credit hour requirements in place at the time of registration for students who registered at a constituent institution prior to the fall 2019 semester. Students who registered at a constituent institution prior to the fall 2019 semester will have the option to elect into the fall 2019 catalog.

II. Student Success Policies

Constituent institutions must have policies addressing student success, including Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing.

A. Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing. Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing are determined by:
   1. Cumulative Grade Point Average; and
   2. Ratio of attempted to completed semester credit hours.

B. The implementation of these criteria shall include the following:
   1. Upon initial admission to a UNC campus, a student is in Good Academic Standing.

   2. All undergraduates in the University of North Carolina system must earn and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to be considered in Good Academic Standing. Constituent institutions may choose to utilize term GPA in determining Good Academic Standing.
On behalf of Academic Affairs

I’d like to revisit the 120 hours catalog language as the standard for UG degrees—

We could not get a second for moving the proposed language forward at our initial meeting—our chair was not yet in place and committee had some specific questions and concerns I have been looking into.

1) Will this effect the surcharge policy? Isn’t that based on an “overage” %? This proposal will not effect or move the 140 hour surcharge rules the system has in place. As UG Dean, we have been requesting for some time the system raise or eliminate this policy because it discourages degree completion. I hope instituting this lower floor on UG degrees might down the road help us put pressure on that rule.

2) System rules, constitutionally, per the UNC policy manual and regulations, are that they set degree hour rules in terms of upper, lower limits, empowering campuses to register exceptions. Specifically, regulations of Academic Program Planning, 400 II A 2—constituent institutions “must comply with regulations on fostering undergraduate student success that limit the number of baccalaureate degree program credit hours to no more than 128 (now 120) ...” Although we are one of only three campuses in the system that doesn’t set the standard UG degree at 120, this rule was never an issue for us because they set the maximum at 128.

3) My own reluctant conclusion (because I think our past practice was not inhibiting student success in any appreciable way and because I am concerned that 120 hours will discourage student participation in high-impact practices (ie. Internships, independent studies, undergraduate research opportunities, and study-abroad) is that this committee has the responsibility of approving the catalog language to bring us into compliance with this system regulation.

4) I suggest the committee consider approving that language with the following resolution:
   While this senate recognizes the necessity of complying with system regulations in this matter, we as a body are concerned with the effects on UNCW programs designed with our longstanding 124 credit requirement at the undergraduate level. We are also concerned about the effects of this reduction on student participation in study-abroad, independent study and undergraduate research internship and practicum opportunities where these are not degree requirements, and other high-impact practices, as well as double majoring and minoring where this would be a good choice for students. For these reasons we resolve:
   1) To encourage advisors at all levels to support students not only in degree completion, but also in careful academic planning and participation in high impact practices.
   2) To continue to review general education and degree programs for opportunities to “build in” to major requirements valuable high-impact practices.
   3) To petition the system office to consider exemptions from the 140 hour surcharge for credit hours that this campus designates as high-impact, including practicum and internships, study abroad experiences, as well as independent studies and honors theses.