

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Curriculum Proposal Form #6
Other Curricular Action

Effective Term: 2097 (Fall 2009)

Description of Action: Deficiencies

Sponsor(s): Susan Wildermuth
Department(s): Communication
College(s): Arts and Communications

Proposal Information:

(Procedures can be found at <http://acadaff.uww.edu/Handbook/Procedures-Form6.htm>)

Proposal:

We would like to clarify our department's policy on the deficiency courses that we require for those entering our MS in Communication program without the requisite background in communication. Here is the old policy:

FROM:

Students admitted to the degree program must demonstrate an appropriate background through undergraduate coursework or professional experience. Students found to lack preparation for advanced level course work will be required to complete undergraduate foundation coursework as follows:

A. For both emphases, undergraduate coursework in communication theory and communication research methods or their equivalents, is required.

B. For students in the Corporate Communication emphasis who wish to concentrate on Corporate Communication, course work equivalent to SPEECH 327, Introduction to Organizational Communication, is required.

C. For students in the Mass Communication emphasis, course work equivalent to either SPEECH 131, Introduction to Mass Communication, SPEECH 232, Foundations of Electronic Media, or SPEECH 431, Mass Communication in Society, is required.

Foundation coursework may not be take for graduate credit.

Here is the new policy (Changes are highlighted in BOLD):

TO:

Students admitted to the degree program must demonstrate an appropriate background through undergraduate coursework or professional experience. Students found to lack preparation for advanced level course work will be required to complete undergraduate foundation coursework as follows:

A. For both emphases, undergraduate coursework in communication theory and communication research methods or their equivalents, is required.

B. For students in the Corporate Communication emphasis who wish to concentrate on Corporate Communication, course work equivalent to SPEECH 327, Introduction to Organizational Communication, is required.

C. For students in the Mass Communication emphasis, course work equivalent to either SPEECH 232, Foundations of Electronic Media, or SPEECH 431, Mass Communication in Society (as determined by the graduate coordinator), is required.

D. Students must achieve a grade of C or better in a deficiency course. If a student does not achieve this grade, they may retake the course following the University of Wisconsin Whitewater's undergraduate course retake policy. Students may not take the related graduate level courses (i.e. 785, 722, 629, 627, and 731) until a grade of C or better is achieved in the related undergraduate deficiency course.

E. Undergraduate deficiency courses must be completed before the student will be allowed to take more than 9 credits at the graduate level.

F. Foundation coursework may not be take for graduate credit.

JUSTIFICATION:

All of the above policies existed before, but we want to clarify them for students. Currently, the issue of the C grade as a passing grade and the fact that deficiencies must be completed before 700 level equivalents is not clearly explicated anywhere in our curriculum. This way, we have it down in print.