

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

Effective Term: 2097 (Fall 2009)

Description of Action: GPA acceptance

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 GPA for acceptance into the MS in Communication Graduate Program. Our policy is as follows:

- A. Applicants with a completed baccalaureate degree whose undergraduate GPA (or equivalent) is at 3.0 or higher will be accepted into the Communication graduate program in "good standing."
- B. Applicants with a completed baccalaureate degree whose cumulative undergraduate GPA (or equivalent) is between a 2.75 and a 2.99 will be accepted into the Communication Graduate Program "on probation."
- C. Applicants who do not meet the above requirements for admission to the program [i.e. applicants with a completed baccalaureate degree whose cumulative undergraduate GPA (or equivalent) is under a 2.75] will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Such applicants MAY BE admitted into the program on probationary status based on credible evidence of ability to do satisfactory graduate work. Such evidence will be determined by the Communication graduate program coordinator in consultation with the department graduate faculty, and may include but is not limited to an exemplary postgraduate employment record; a satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination, GMAT or Miller Analogies Test; and/or the successful completion of 9 or more credits of graduate work with a cumulative 3.0 GPA level or higher at a regionally accredited institution.

Students admitted on probation must achieve a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0 within the first 12 units of graduate credits attempted, including repeated courses. Those failing to do so will be ineligible to take further graduate work in the program.

D. Students who are not accepted to the program may enroll as a Noncandidate for Degree (NCFD). This category allows the student to enroll in graduate level courses and to receive graduate credit for this work.

No more than 12 graduate units taken as a NCFD can be applied toward the completion of a graduate degree program at UW-Whitewater. Thus, before completing more than 12 units as a NCFD, a student is encouraged to reapply for the Communication degree program. Students who achieve a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher in 9-12 credits of graduate level communication coursework (including repeated courses) taken as a NCFD may be accepted into the program on probation.

Justification:

The department is seeking to clarify its admission process and to clearly publish and publicize the process to current students and interested applicants.