



Faculty Senate
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

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To: Provost and Vice Chancellor Elisha Baker,
University of Alaska Anchorage

Fr: Kimberly Swiantek,
UAA Governance Office

Re: Catalog Copy for Repeatable, Variable-Credit Courses

On October 3, 2014 the Faculty Senate approved the memo, brought forward by the Undergraduate Academic Board (UAB), to revise the catalog copy of courses that list both variable credit options and a maximum number of credits. Existing constraints do not allow variable credit courses to indicate both a repeat and a maximum credit limit.

Please see the attached memo for more information.

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Provost

☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved

Comments:

DocuSigned by:

Elisha "Bear" Baker

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October 14, 2014

Elisha Baker, Provost and Vice Chancellor

Date

Chancellor

☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved

Comments:

DocuSigned by:

Tom Case

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October 14, 2014

Tom Case, Chancellor



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Date: September 10, 2014

To: Susan M. Kalina, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs
Lora Volden, Registrar

From: Patricia Linton, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences *Patricia Linton*
Karl Pfeiffer, Chair, CAS Course and Curriculum Committee *Karl Pfeiffer*

Subject: Catalog Copy for Repeatable, Variable-Credit Courses

CAS has become aware of a set of repeatable, variable-credit courses for which a maximum number of credits has been established, but not communicated to students in the catalog copy. These courses all have both variable credit options and a maximum number of credits stated in CARs and CCGs that were approved through the full curriculum review process. However, because existing constraints do not allow variable credit courses to indicate both a repeat and maximum credit limit, the catalog copy for these courses indicates the number of repeats, but not the maximum number of credits.

Where multiple contingencies exist, the most important information for students is the maximum number of credits of a particular course that can be counted toward a degree. The number of times a student registers for a variable credit course is less important than the maximum number of credits applicable to program or university requirements.

We request that changes in catalog copy be made so that this critical information is visible to students. We ask that this be treated as a minor catalog change, since no modification of the approved CARs and CCGs is involved. The intention of the faculty is already established in the curricular documents. The problem we need to address is the fact that the maximum number of credits is not published for students. As a result, some students have registered for a given course beyond the maximum number of credits that can actually be applied to their academic programs; it is unreasonable to enforce curricular constraints about which students have not been informed.

The courses affected are the following:

ANTH A690: 1-3 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
ANTH A698: 1-9 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 18 credits
ANTH A699: 1-6 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits
BIOL A490: 1-3 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits
BIOL A490L: 1-3 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits
BIOL A690: 1-3 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits
BIOL A690L: 1-3 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits
MUS A163: 1-2 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits
MUS A164: 1-2 credits, may be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits