

# GRADUATE COUNCIL

## REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION

May 21, 2019

To be adopted:

Proposed changes to the Standards of Scholarship and Disqualification bylaws.  
Update bylaw GR 1.2 in the GENERAL PROVISIONS section.

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	<b><u>PROPOSED:</u></b>
<p><del>GR 1.2 <i>Standards of Scholarship and Disqualification.</i> Every graduate student is expected to prove himself/herself worthy of the privilege of advanced study. He/she is required to maintain the standard of scholarship established by the Graduate Council in his program of study and is subject to dismissal (1) if his/her overall grade point average falls below the required level at any time or (2) if his/her work in two consecutive terms falls below that level. After consultation with the appropriate department or graduate group, the Dean of the Graduate Division will notify students who become subject to dismissal of action taken.</del></p>	<p>GR 1.2 <i>Standards of Scholarship and Disqualification</i></p> <p><u>Graduate students are expected to prove themselves worthy of the privilege of advanced study and research offered at the university by making acceptable progress towards degree objectives and maintaining the standards of scholarship established by the Graduate Council.</u></p> <p><u>Acceptable Progress includes, but is not limited to:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>1. Completing courses with letter grades of "C-" or better or "S". Only these grades and higher may count toward satisfying graduate degree requirements</u></li><li><u>2. Completing course work and other degree requirements in a timely manner. In order to support timely progress, students may take courses outside of their required course work only with approval of the Graduate Advisor</u></li><li><u>3. Applying to graduate and completing the academic program once all degree requirements are met</u></li></ol> <p><u>Students are considered to be making unacceptable progress and become subject to dismissal when:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>1. Cumulative grade point average falls below the required level of 3.0 at any time or</u></li></ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <u>Quarterly GPA in two consecutive terms falls below 3.0, even if the cumulative GPA remains above 3.0 or</u></li> <li>3. <u>Fail to make progress in research for two consecutive quarters resulting in NC grades in research units or</u></li> <li>4. <u>Program requirements such as exams or research are not fulfilled in a timely or satisfactory manner or</u></li> <li>5. <u>Fail to pass critical exams (including comprehensive or qualifying exams) in two attempts or</u></li> <li>6. <u>Does not have a faculty advisor to supervise research in accordance with the standard of practice in the student's program or</u></li> <li>7. <u>PhD students not advanced to candidacy by their 15th quarter or any student not having completed all degree requirements within one year beyond normative time</u></li> </ol> <p>After consultation with the appropriate department or graduate group, the Dean of the Graduate Division will notify students who become subject to dismissal of action taken.</p>
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Justification:

*“Completing courses with letter grades of “C-“ or better or “S”. Only these grades and higher may count toward satisfying graduate degree requirements”*

- This a similarly worded requirement is currently only listed under master’s requirements (GR2). By adding it to this section, it will apply to all graduate students.
- It was unclear if a C or C- was the lowest grade that would be accepted. We do accepted C- and make that clear here.

*“Completing course work and other degree requirements in a timely manner. In order to support timely progress, students may take courses outside of their required course work only with approval of the Graduate Advisor”*

- This is something that is generally “understood.” But programs have asked this requirement be formalized. For example, if a CS student begins taking Statistics classes, the program would like a policy to back them while advising the student to take only the courses required for a CS degree.
- This is not meant to limit the example CS student to only CS courses or the advisor’s ability to recommend students take courses from outside the degree requirements.

It's meant to assist advisors manage students who may not be focused on completing their official degree requirements in a timely manner.

*“Does not have a faculty advisor to supervise research in accordance with the standard of practice in the student’s program”*

- This has been a standard of practice that students without an advisor cannot make progress in a PhD program or thesis master’s program. The Graduate Division has based dismissals on the past and would like to formalize the requirement.
- Some programs may not require the student have an advisor upon entering the program, that’s why the program requirements are referenced.

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**Approvals:**

Approved by the Graduate Dean: February 19, 2019

Approved by the Graduate Council: February 20, 2019

Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction finds the wording to be consistent with the code of the Academic Senate: February 21, 2019

Received by Executive Council: March 11, 2019