Graduate Academic Regulations

State University since admission to the program. An academic unit responsible for a particular graduate program may impose a more restrictive transfer policy (fewer allowed transfer credits) for that program. In the case of a cooperative graduate program offered by Boise State University and the University of Idaho and/or Idaho State University, a more liberal transfer policy (more allowed transfer credits) is permissible, but only if the Graduate Council has approved a higher transfer credit limit for the program.

G-Courses and Dual-Listed Courses

A student enrolled in a G-course or a 500-level dual-listed course must complete all work required of students earning undergraduate credit (in the corresponding non-G-course or 400-level dual-listed course) plus substantial work at the graduate level. The Graduate College strictly limits the application of G-courses to no more than one third of the total credit requirement of a graduate certificate or degree. Furthermore, the Graduate College recommends that the applicable credit earned in G-courses and 500-level dual-listed courses together should not exceed one half of the total credit requirement of a graduate certificate or degree. The academic unit responsible for a graduate program may further restrict the application of G-courses and 500-level dual-listed courses.

Application of Credit Already Applied to a Graduate Certificate

A graduate certificate is viewed by some academic units as an intermediate accomplishment or stepping stone between a baccalaureate degree and a master’s degree (see Regulations for Graduate Certificate Programs). The Graduate College therefore allows graduate credit (but not undergraduate credit) earned at Boise State University and previously applied to meet the requirements of a Boise State graduate certificate to also be applied to meet the requirements of a Boise State master’s degree. This process is known as dual application and is subject to the following stipulations: 1) the dual application of credit must be consistent with those policies of the master’s program that may limit or preclude such application; 2) all time constraints imposed by the Graduate College that govern the applicability of the credit must be met (including the requirement that at least two thirds of the total credit requirement for the master’s degree must have been earned since admission to the master’s program); 3) the dual application of credit must be approved by the student’s advisor or by the chair of the supervisory committee. In no case may dual application of credit exceed one half of the total credit requirement for the master’s degree. The creation of analogous arrangements between graduate certificates and doctoral degrees is prohibited by the Graduate Council.

In-Service Teacher Education or Professional Education Workshop Courses

Credit earned for in-service teacher education or professional education workshop courses (for which a special low fee is charged by the university) cannot be applied to meet the credit requirements of a graduate certificate or degree program (see section V.R.3.a.x.(d) of the Governing Policies and Procedures of the Idaho State Board of Education).

Challenge Courses

If a graduate student requests the opportunity to challenge a course in a graduate program, the department offering the course will decide whether to grant that opportunity. Proctoring fees and/or per-credit fees may be charged by the department. For interdisciplinary courses, the decision will be made by the coordinator of the graduate program to which the course applies.

Graduate Credit Option for Undergraduate Students

An undergraduate student who is also a senior may request approval to enroll in a G-course or a 500-level course. The student must complete a Permit for Seniors to Take Graduate Courses. The student may request permission to earn graduate credit (option I) or upper-division undergraduate credit (option II) for a given course, but cannot request both options.

Graduate Credit [Option I] Graduate credit earned under a Permit for Seniors to Take Graduate Courses does not imply that the student will be admitted to a graduate program at Boise State University. If the student completes courses for graduate credit while a senior and is later admitted to a graduate program, the responsible academic unit has the authority to decide which courses (if any) completed as a senior can be applied to the credit requirements of the program. The academic unit also has the authority to define a maximum number of applicable credits of this type for the program, but the maximum cannot exceed one third of the total credit requirement.

Upper-Division Undergraduate Credit [Option II] The student may apply up to two successfully completed 500-level courses to his or her upper-division credit requirement for a baccalaureate degree.

Other Limitations Undergraduate students may not enroll in 600-level courses. Courses offered as part of the Master of Business Administration program are excluded from enrollment by all undergraduate students. Students admitted by the Graduate College to work on an accelerated master’s degree are not governed by a Permit for Seniors to Take Graduate Courses, but are subject to course limitations imposed by the Graduate College and by the participating academic unit or units.

Admission to Candidacy

Admission to candidacy is a critically important process required of all students enrolled in graduate degree programs. The candidacy process serves as the official review by the Graduate College of the detailed plan of study for a graduate student. This official review allows the Graduate College to identify degree requirements and graduate regulations that may have been overlooked or misinterpreted by the student or anyone providing advice to the student. If left undetected and uncorrected too long, these shortcomings can seriously delay progress toward a graduate degree. The candidacy process also helps the Graduate College update the student’s academic advising report and enables the university to fulfill its obligations to accrediting organizations. Because of the importance of the candidacy process, a student who has not been admitted to candidacy cannot participate in a final oral examination or apply for graduation.

Candidacy Requirements for a Master’s Student A master’s student may be admitted to candidacy if the student is in regular status and has completed a set of courses sufficient to satisfy at least half of the total credit requirement with individual course grades of C or better and a GPA of at least 3.0 (computed for the set of courses).

Candidacy Requirements for a Doctoral Student A doctoral student may be admitted to candidacy if the student is in regular status, has passed the comprehensive examination, has satisfied