Program Regulations

6.0 Program Regulations

6.1 The Cumulative Grade Point Average

The Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the key assessment tool for graduation and performance evaluation. The CGPA is the ratio of the grade points earned on a set of courses to the total credit value of these courses. In calculating the CGPA, the grade points contributed by each course are multiplied by the credit value of the course. For example, A+ is equal to 12.00 grade points. For a 0.5 credit course, it is equal to 6.00 grade points (12/2). The CGPA is truncated to two decimal places (with no rounding).

The overall CGPA includes all courses that satisfy requirements of the student's program or would have satisfied such requirements if a passing grade had been obtained. In particular, an F grade is included in the calculation until it is removed through course repetition or replacement. When a course is repeated, the most recent grade is used. All Carleton credits counting toward advanced standing in the degree program are included in the CGPA calculation. All credits obtained through the University of Ottawa Exchange agreement are included in the CGPA calculation.

Courses Extra to the Degree (ETD), No Credit for the Degree (NCD) or Forfeit are not included in the calculation of the CGPA.

A CGPA calculated for a program component, such as Major or Core, is calculated in the same way using only the courses in the program element.

6.2 Maximum Number of Credits Below the 2000-level

A student may count a maximum of 7.0 credits below the 2000-level toward fulfilment of graduation requirements.

Credits in excess of this limit will be set aside as Extra to the Degree (ETD), No Credit for the Degree (NCD) or Forfeit. This allows students to increase their CGPA by pushing out low grades below the 2000-level through replacement by higher grades at the same level.

6.3 Discredits

A discredit is a course registration that results in a grade of F, FND, ABS, UNS.

The discredit has the same credit weight as the course. This definition includes courses taken on a Letter of Permission or on exchange.

A degree student is allowed a maximum of 5.0 credits of discredits after admission to the degree. Students admitted with advanced standing will have the maximum number of discredits adjusted on a pro-rata basis. Students in 5.0- or 6.0-credit certificate or diploma programs are allowed 2.0 credits of discredits. If a student exceeds the maximum number of discredits before graduation they are suspended or debarred from the degree. The student receives a decision of Continue in Alternate or Dismissed from Program if the degree uses this decision in place of Suspension. See also Section 7: Academic Performance Evaluation.

6.4 Course Load

In most undergraduate programs, the normal course load is the equivalent of 2.5 credits in each of the fall and winter terms and the equivalent of 1.0 credit in each of the early and late periods of the summer term. In some programs, higher course loads may apply. Full-session courses are considered to have their credit weight evenly distributed over the terms. For example, a two-term 1.0 credit course is considered to contribute 0.5 credit to course load in each term.

A student is registered in a course overload if the student is registered in more credit equivalents per term than the normal load for his or her program. Students with an Overall CGPA of 7.00 who have completed a minimum of 4.0 credits at Carleton may choose to register in a course overload, to a maximum of 0.5 credit above the normal course load for their program in each of the fall and winter terms and in either the early or late period of the summer term. Students requiring permission for course overloads should contact the Registrar's Office.

6.5 Restrictions on Program Elements

A course is considered to be double-counted if it is used to satisfy both the requirements for:

a. the Major (or Majors) and a Minor (See Note 1, below), or
b. a Minor, Concentration, or Specialization and any other Minor, Concentration or Specialization (See Note 2, below)

A maximum of 2.0 credits in double-counted courses may be included in the credits used to fulfill requirements at graduation.

Notes:

1. In this regulation, the Major consists of the credits counting toward the Major CGPA. If the program uses only the Overall CGPA for assessment, then all credits are considered to be in the Major.
2. Item b) refers to specializations and concentrations that constitute optional choices. In these cases the Major(s) can be completed with or without a concentration or specialization.

In other cases, a Concentration or Specialization is contained within the Major and constitutes a required choice for that Major. These Concentrations and Specializations are not included in b) above.

6.6 Maximum Number of Program Elements

In addition to the student’s Major(s), the maximum allowed combined number of Minors, Concentrations and Specializations for any student is two. Note that this restriction does not apply to the Co-op Option, Mention : Français or Streams.
6.7 Combined Honours Programs
In some cases, combined honours programs are defined with a single unified major which incorporates the credits from both disciplines. In other cases, requirements are established separately by each discipline and combined according to the registration of the student in a particular combined honours pattern (for example, B.A. Honours). In the latter case, when a particular course satisfies the requirements for both majors, the course will be used to fulfill the requirements for one major and a different course at the same level will be required to satisfy the other major.

6.8 Simultaneous and Subsequent Degrees
1. A student who has graduated with a Carleton University degree in a particular program will not be subsequently admitted to the same degree and program. Specifically, students who have graduated with a:
   a. B.A., B.A.S., B.Co.M.S., B.Sc. or B.Math. degree may apply subsequently for admission to the same degree if they apply for a different major or, if they graduated with a General or Major degree, they apply for an Honours degree with the same major.
   b. B.Eng. or B.I.T. degree may apply subsequently for admission to the same degree only if they apply for a significantly different program. A program with distinct streams constitutes a single program for this rule.
   c. B.I.D., B.Com., B.I.B., B.C.S., B.Mus., B.Hum., B.S.W., B.G.In.S., B.J., B.J.Hum. or B.P.A.P.M. may not apply subsequently for admission to the same degree.
   d. B.J., B.Hum. may not apply to the B.J.Hum., and B.J.Hum. may not apply to B.J. or B.Hum.
2. A student who has graduated with a Carleton University degree that includes a minor will not be subsequently admitted to the same minor.
3. A student who has successfully completed a university degree in a given discipline will not be admitted to a minor in the same discipline in conjunction with subsequent degree studies.
4. A student will only be admitted to one degree and program at a time. The student’s record will show only one active degree and program in any given term. Note that certain Certificates and Diplomas do allow concurrent degree studies.
5. A Carleton University degree student is not allowed simultaneously to be registered in degree studies at another post-secondary institution without the permission of Carleton University.

6.9 Credit for ESL courses
A student in a degree program may receive credit for previously completed English as a Second Language courses from the sequence ESLA 1300, ESLA 1500, ESLA 1900, ESLA 1905, with the following restrictions:
1. for students in degrees offered by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences or the Faculty of Public Affairs, up to 2.0 credits will be counted toward the degree;