GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

Prior Coursework
Graduate Work from Other Institutions
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 15 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to an educational specialist degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University undergraduate student. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission to an educational specialist degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison University Special
With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 3 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to an educational specialist degree is not allowed.

Probation
This program follows the Graduate School’s Probation policy. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/)

Advisor / Committee
This program follows the Graduate School’s Advisor policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1232/) and Committees policy. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1201/)

Credits Per Term Allowed
15 credits

Time Limits
This program follows the Graduate School’s Time Limits policy. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/)

Grievances and Appeals
These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS
- TIME LIMITS
- ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
- CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
- SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION GRIEVANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The following School of Education Student Grievance Policy and associated procedures are designed for use in response to individual student grievances regarding faculty or staff in the School of Education.

Any individual student who feels they have been treated unfairly by a School of Education faculty or staff member has the right to file a grievance about the treatment and receive a timely response addressing their concerns. Any student, undergraduate or graduate, may use these grievance procedures, except employees whose complaints are covered under other campus policies. The grievance may concern classroom treatment, mentoring or advising, program admission or continuation, course grades (study abroad grade complaints are handled through International Academic Programs (https://studyabroad.wisc.edu/)), or issues not covered by other campus policies or grievance procedures.

For grievances regarding discrimination based on protected classes (i.e., race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age), as well as sexual misconduct, contact the Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/eo-complaint/).

For grievances that involve the behavior of a student, contact the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards in the Dean of Students Office at https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/.

For grievances about, or directed at, faculty or staff in a School of Education department, unit, or program, students should follow these steps:
1. Students are strongly encouraged to first talk with the person against whom the concern is directed. Many issues can be settled informally at this level. If students are unable to resolve concerns directly or without additional support, step 2 or 3 should be pursued.

2. If unresolved after taking or considering step 1:
   a. If the concern is directed against a teaching assistant (TA), and the student is not satisfied, the student should contact the TA’s supervisor, who is usually the course professor. The course professor will attempt to resolve the concern informally.
   b. If the concern involves a non-TA instructor, staff member, professor, academic department, or School of Education office or unit, the student should contact the chair of the department or the director of the office or unit, or their designee. The chair or director, or their designee, will attempt to resolve the concern informally. If the concern is about the department chair or office/unit director, the student should consult the School of Education Senior Associate Dean for guidance.

3. If the concern remains unresolved after step 2, the student may submit a formal written grievance to the chair or director within 30 business days of the alleged unfair treatment. To the fullest extent possible, a formal written grievance shall contain a clear and concise statement of the issue(s) involved and the relief sought.

4. On receipt of a formal written grievance, the chair or director will notify the person at whom the grievance is directed with a copy of the formal written grievance. The person at whom the complaint is directed may submit a written response, which would be shared with the student.

5. On receipt of a formal written grievance, the chair or director will refer the matter to a department, office, or unit committee comprised of at least two members. The committee may be an existing committee or one constituted for this purpose. The committee, or delegates from the committee, may meet with the parties involved and/or review any material either party shares with the committee.

6. The committee will provide a written description of the facts of the grievance and communicate recommendations to the department chair or office/unit head regarding how the grievance should be handled.

7. The chair or director will offer to meet with the student who made the grievance and also will provide a written decision to the student, including a description of any related action taken by the committee, within 30 business days of receiving the formal grievance.

For the purpose of this policy, business days refers to those days when the University Offices are open and shall not include weekends, university holidays, spring recess, or the period from the last day of exams of fall semester instruction to the first day of spring semester instruction. All time limits may be modified by mutual consent of the parties involved.

If the grievance concerns an undergraduate course grade, the decision of the department chair after reviewing the committee’s recommendations is final.

Other types of grievances may be appealed using the following procedures:

1. Both the student who filed the grievance or the person at whom the grievance was directed, if unsatisfied with the decision of the department, office or unit, has five (5) business days from receipt of the decision to contact the Senior Associate Dean, indicating the intention to appeal.

2. A written appeal must be filed with the Senior Associate Dean within 10 business days of the time the appealing party was notified of the initial resolution of the complaint.

3. On receipt of a written appeal, the Senior Associate Dean will convene a sub-committee of the School of Education’s Academic Planning Council. This subcommittee may ask for additional information from the parties involved and/or may hold a meeting at which both parties will be asked to speak separately (i.e., not in the room at the same time).

4. The subcommittee will then make a written recommendation to the Dean of the School of Education, or their designee, who will render a decision. The dean or designee’s written decision shall be made within 30 business days from the date when the written appeal was filed with the Senior Associate Dean. For undergraduate students, the dean or designee’s decision is final.

Further appealing a School of Education decision – graduate students only

Graduate students have the option to appeal decisions by the School of Education dean or designee by using the process detailed on the Graduate School’s website (https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/grievances-and-appeals/).

Questions about these procedures can be directed to the School of Education Dean’s Office, 377 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall, 608-262-1763.

RESOURCES

• Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for discrimination based on protected classes, including misconduct) 179A Bascom Hall, 608-262-2378
• Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts between students, or academic integrity violations) 70 Bascom Hall, 608-263-5700
• Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/) (for students who experience or observe bias or hate incidents) 70 Bascom Hall, 608-263-5700
• Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for graduate students who need informal advice at any level of review; for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions, see Graduate Assistant Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/)) 217 Bascom Hall, 608-262-2433
• Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for UW-Madison employees, including graduate students) 523-524 Lowell Center, 608-265-9992
• Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving graduate assistants and other employees) 256 Lowell Hall, 608-263-2987
• Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for any students needing advice or support) 70 Bascom Hall, 608-263-5700
• Office of Human Resources (https://kb.wisc.edu/ohr/policies/search.php?cat=4506) for policies and procedures to address workplace conflict) 21 N Park Street Suite 5101, 608-265-2257
• School of Education, Office of Student Services (https://education.wisc.edu/about/student-services/) (for students, particularly undergraduates, in the School of Education) 139 Education Building, 608-262-1651
• School of Education, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (https://education.wisc.edu/about/diversity-inclusion/) (OEDI) 145 Education Building, 608-262-8427
OTHER
n/a