


MEMORANDUM

TO: Kenneth Struckmeyer, Executive Secretary, Faculty Senate

FROM: Howard D. Grimes, Ph.D. 
Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School

DATE: February 27, 2012

SUBJECT: Proposal to revise Rule 116 and Rule 117; Requirements for Graduate Degrees

The Graduate School has revised its Graduate School Policies and Procedures Manual but did not request the corresponding changes to the Academic Regulations. One aspect of this revision affects Rules 116 and 117, regarding requirements for a master's degree and a doctor's degree. The proposed change accurately reflects current requirements, as well as the requirement regarding outstanding incomplete work. The following shows the revision to the rule, and is in accordance with the change to the policy. The Graduate Studies Committee reviewed and approved this change on February 14, 2012.

Attachment: Change to Graduate Degree Requirements

cc: Julia Pomerenk, Registrar
Becky Bitter, Sr. Assistant Registrar

116.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

- a. ~~Spend not less than the equivalent of two semesters in residence (except for external programs approved by the Graduate Studies Committee)~~The Graduate School has no residency requirement.
- b. Earn not less than 30 semester hours of credit with a minimum of 21 semester hours of course work for a thesis degree program or 26 semester hours of course work for a nonthesis degree program.
- c. Earn a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a graduate program in all upper-division and graduate course work completed for the master's degree.
- d. Earn a minimum grade point average of 3.00 for all course work taken as a graduate student.
- e. Successfully complete graduate examinations.
- e-f. All outstanding incomplete work (including grades of I, X, and no/blank grade) must be completed and posted to the official transcript prior to the conferral of the degree. Once a degree is conferred and posted to the official transcript, no changes will be allowed on the academic record that predates the degree.

117.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DOCTOR'S DEGREES

- a. ~~Spend not less than six semesters beyond the baccalaureate degree at least four of which must be at Washington State University~~The Graduate School has no residency requirement.
~~Spend not less than a minimum of two consecutive semesters in residence at Washington State University.~~
- b. Earn not less than 72 semester credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree to include the minimum requirements as listed in the Graduate School's Policies and Procedures and as established by the academic program.Earn not less than 72 semester credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree to include a minimum of 34 semester hours (45 semester hours for the Doctor of Arts degree and 42 semester hours for the Doctor of Education degree) of 400- and 500-level course work listed in the Graduate Study Bulletin.
- c. Earn a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a graduate program and in all

300-400-level and graduate course work completed for the doctor's degree.

d. Earn a minimum grade point average of 3.00 for all course work taken as a graduate student.

e. Successfully complete graduate examinations.

e.f. All outstanding incomplete work (including grades of I, X, and no/blank grade) must be completed and posted to the official transcript prior to the conferral of the degree. Once a degree is conferred and posted to the official transcript, no changes will be allowed on the academic record that predates the degree.