UW-Platteville Faculty Handbook: Teaching Policies

Title*:* Academic Clemency

Keywords: change majors policy, re-entry to university program, academic clemency

Policy Approval Date: September 22, 2015

Policy Source and Authority for Approval: Faculty Senate

Policy Statement:
Students who change majors from one department or school to another, or students who have stopped out for at least 6 consecutive regular semesters at UW-Platteville, may be granted the option to adjust their prior academic records.

Students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) higher than 2.30 are not eligible to request academic clemency. If a student has more than one major, the student must drop/change at least one of the majors in order to request academic clemency.

1. A) If a student has a GPA of 2.00 to 2.30 and has earned 30 credits or more, credits in courses in which a grade of "D" or higher were earned will be counted toward graduation, but not necessarily toward a major or minor.
   B) If a student has a cumulative GPA less than 2.00 and has earned 30 credits or more, that student may request academic clemency, but the credits in which a "D" was earned will not count toward graduation.

2. All previous work shall remain on the official record, but the grades will not be used to calculate the cumulative GPA. The GPA will be calculated on the basis of grades earned after declaration of academic clemency.

3. Academic clemency is not an option for students who have already earned an associate's or baccalaureate degree at UW-Platteville.

4. In order to graduate after electing this option, a student must complete at least 32 credits and earn a 2.00 GPA.

5. Students who are granted academic clemency are not eligible for academic honors at the time of commencement.

6. Students who are granted academic clemency must then follow the undergraduate catalog and educational requirements in place at the time of the declaration (i.e., the student must follow the most recent catalog).

7. If a student had been officially undecided on a major at the time of the academic clemency request, they must then declare a major and follow the educational requirements

of the major at the time of declaration. A student requesting clemency from one engineering major may NOT declare a different engineering major as the new major.

8. Academic clemency will be rescinded if the student earns less than a 2.30 GPA in the first semester (or first 12 credits if not full time) following the request for clemency.

9. Academic clemency is only allowed once in a student's academic career.

Note: Students who wish to file academic clemency must do so within one semester of the change of major or re-entry to UW-Platteville. Students who request academic clemency are not eligible to pursue their previous major without express permission from the dean of that college, and the student's cumulative GPA will be recalculated. Graduate programs and other universities may disregard a declaration of academic clemency in determining your eligibility for admission purposes.

If you are receiving GI Bill benefits, consult the university Veteran's Administration representative before electing the option of academic clemency. If you take this option, you may have to repay the VA for past benefits you have received.

If academic clemency is approved, the Registrar will mark the permanent academic record with an "Academic Clemency, new GPA calculated henceforth" notation and begin the computation of a new GPA for all subsequent course work.

Students should contact the Registrar's office for specific instructions regarding academic clemency.