

# Revision of Policy Concerning Graduate Course Work on Pass/Fail Basis

## Policy Memorandum No. 9b

Recommended by Commission on Graduate Studies and Research, December 12, 1978

Approved by University Council: January 15, 1979

Approved by President: January 15, 1979

Effective: Immediately

Last year, the Commission on Graduate Studies and Research made a recommendation to the University Council to allow graduate students to pursue a limited number of hours on a pass/fail basis, if those hours were outside the department and not on the program of study. Earlier policy provided that no graduate courses could be taken on a pass/fail basis. The purpose of this change is to permit graduate students to take graduate courses outside their fields purely for purposes of intellectual curiosity or stimulation. Following discussions, the Commission approved a recommendation that graduate students be permitted to take an unlimited number of hours of graduate work (5000 and 6000 level) on a pass/fail basis, if outside the department and not on the program of study, with the approval of the appropriate major professor. These courses may not be used to satisfy minimum degree requirements. All courses on the program of study, including supporting courses, must be taken on a letter grade (A-F) basis except for those courses approved to be graded on a pass/fail basis only.

WEL:gf

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President's Policy Memorandum

**URL: <http://purl.vt.edu/vtdocs/policies/ppm09b>**