



Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 196
(Revision 1)

TO: All Virginia Tech Faculty, Staff, and Students
FROM: Charles Steger *CS*
DATE: May 5, 2014
SUBJECT: Revision to Course Withdrawal Policy ("W" Grade Policy)

Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies & Policies: February 24, 2014
Approved by the University Council: April 21, 2014
Approved by the President: April 21, 2014
Effective Date: Fall 2014

University Council approved a resolution regarding a revision to the Course Withdrawal Policy ("W" Grade Policy).

Following is the text of the resolution.

Whereas, Presidential Policy Memorandum 196, Course Withdrawal Policy, was established to replace the Freshman Rule with the intent "to not penalize students for making unwise choices on course selection based on differing factors," and

Whereas, Presidential Policy Memorandum 196 restricts students to designating no more than six (6) credit hours for withdrawal during their academic career, and

Whereas, the course withdrawal term may be confused with the course drop policy, and

Whereas, courses may be offered for one (1), two (2), three (3), four (4), five(5) credits or more, and

Whereas, students withdrawing from a class of four (4) or more credits effectively restricts them from withdrawing from further courses, and

Whereas, because Presidential Policy Memorandum 196 may apply unequally to students who withdraw from courses with differing credits,

Invent the Future

Therefore, Be It Resolved that:

- Students be allowed to apply a W grade to no more than three (3) courses during their academic career.
- Courses processed as a W grade will remain on the student's transcript with a grade of W.
- A W grade may not be applied after the last scheduled regular class in the term.
- This policy cannot be applied to courses with penalties applied by the University Honor System.
- Application of this policy is irrevocable and cannot be appealed.
- Hours marked as W grade will continue to count toward hours enrolled for purposes of financial aid and tuition assessment.
- This policy shall be renamed "W" Grade Policy to avoid confusion with registration actions.

Be it further resolved that this "W" Grade Policy supersedes Presidential Policy Memorandum 196 and is effective for all students enrolled Fall 2014 and after.

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