



PRESIDENT'S POLICY MEMORANDUM NO. 254

TO: All Faculty and Students
FROM: Charles W. Steger 
DATE: July 31, 2009
SUBJECT: Revision on Policy on Graduate Credit for 4000 Level Course

Approved by CGSP:	March 19, 2008
Approved by University Council:	April 21, 2008
Approved by the President:	April 21, 2008
Effective Date:	Fall 2009

The University Council approved a resolution to implement a policy adopted by the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies regarding 4000 level courses offered for graduate credit.

Following is the text of that resolution.

Whereas, to be in compliance with SACS accreditation guidelines Virginia Tech must show that its post-baccalaureate degree programs are, "progressively more advanced in academic content than undergraduate programs."

Whereas, there has been a proliferation, over time, of 4000-level courses "approved for graduate credit" (approximately 700 courses), making it difficult to monitor and assess whether graduate-level content is present,

Whereas, the difference between 4000-level courses and 4000 level courses "approved for graduate credit" can not easily be demonstrated at the present time, and

Whereas, no new 4000 levels courses will be approved for graduate credit effective Fall '08, and implementation will occur in 2008-2009,

Whereas, the current policy, as stated in the GRADUATE CATALOG, is that only 4000 level courses "approved for graduate credit" are allowed to satisfy graduate program requirements, therefore be it

Invent the Future

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Resolved, that the "approved for graduate level" status on all 4000-level courses be eliminated, but to assure that an adequate number of course offerings are available for graduate students let it further be

Resolved, that 4000-level courses "approved for graduate credit" important to an academic unit's graduate offerings will be converted to 4000/5000 level conjoint courses and that the new 5000-level course would have additional identifiable graduate level learning outcomes different from its 4000-level conjoint course offering; and that it further be

Resolved, that up to 6 credits of upper division (4000) undergraduate credit will be allowed to count toward meeting graduate program requirements.

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