

Portland State University Faculty Senate Motion

## Revision to BA-BS Requirements – Section C: Revise the Residence Credit Requirement

### Background, rationale, and preliminary discussions

In response to the report prepared by the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Summer Research on Academic Program Examination / Reorganization, in October 2020, Faculty Senate charged a joint task force of the Academic Requirements Committee (ARC) and University Curriculum Committee (UCC) with evaluating the BA/BS requirements for curricular inefficiencies and recommend ways to streamline them. The task force submitted its report to Faculty Senate in early February, 2021. Material for this motion is drawn from the results of the task force's inquiries.

The task force recommends the reconsideration of the residence credit requirement for a BA or BS degree.

Students sometimes take courses at other institutions as they approach the completion of their degree. Currently, we require that 45 of the last 60 credits (or 165 credits total) be taken at PSU, meaning students may transfer in up to 15 credits at the end of their degree. This limit causes problems for students who complete their BA language at another institution. Additionally, some students take courses elsewhere that are not needed for the PSU degree (e.g., professional school prerequisites). Approximately 8% of all petitions that ARC reviews come from students in this situation.

Looking around the state, the task force found that Oregon State University requires that students take 45 of the last 75 credits from OSU. The University of Oregon requires that students take 45 of the last 120 credits at UO, which allows students with more than 180 credits more flexibility. Changing the PSU requirement to have students take 45 of the last 75 credits from PSU puts us in line with the other Oregon Public Universities.

We suggest the following motion related to the BA and BS requirements:

### Motion presented by the Academic Requirements Committee

The Faculty Senate will revise the BA and BS degree requirements to require that 45 of the last 75 credits (or 150 total credits) must be completed at PSU.