

Report of the Committee on Degrees  
Academic Year 2005-2006

For academic year 2005-2006, the following faculty served on the Committee on Degrees: Christy Burns (English), Larry Evans (Government), Elizabeth Wiley (Theatre, Speech & Dance), and Patty Zwollo (Biology). The Dean of Undergraduate Studies serves as chair of the committee.

Petitions fall into two categories: 1) those that the COD considers and 2) those that the Dean of Undergraduate Studies approves on behalf of the COD.

For category 1, the COD considered 71 petitions and approved 56 in AY 2005-2006. The most common requests were to:

- Waive ten-semester rule
- Waive senior residency requirement (for full academic year)
- Waive minimum 2.0 GPA requirement in major or overall
- Waive 48-hour rule in major
- Dual enrollment at W&M and other institutions
- Count non-approved courses toward GER requirements
- Count pass/fail courses toward major, minor, or GER requirements
- Allow the transfer of on-line courses
- Allow final elective credits to be taken elsewhere

For category 2, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies considered 35 formal petitions in Fall 2005 and 42 in Spring 2006. The Dean handles via email many more requests, especially those requesting course substitutions for major and minor requirements. Most were approved. The most frequent requests were to:

- Waive senior residency requirement (one semester or less)
- Retroactively transfer credit from other universities
- Change major or minor requirements
- Allow overlapping courses for major and minor
- Allow courses taken abroad to fulfill GER 4 and 5 requirements

Respectfully submitted,

Edward E. Pratt  
Dean of Undergraduate Studies  
& Chair of the Committee on Degrees (2005-2006)