

Report of the Committee on Degrees  
Academic Year 2011-12

For the academic year 2011-2012, the following faculty served on the Committee on Degrees: Carey Bagdassarian (Chemistry), Andrew Fisher (History), Georgia Irby-Massie (Classical Studies), and Monica Potkay (English). The Dean of Undergraduate Studies served 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 86 petitions and approved 77 in AY 2011-2012. The most common requests were to:

- Waive the ten-semester rule
- Waive the 48-hour rule in major
- Dual enrollment at W&M and other institutions
- Count non-approved courses toward GER requirements
- Take courses for GER requirements or proficiencies elsewhere

For category 2, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies considered 86 formal petitions in Fall 2011 and 106 in Spring 2012. 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 the senior residency requirement (one semester or less)
- Retroactively transfer credit from other universities
- Change/exception in major or minor requirements
- Change grading status-pass/fail and standard grade
- Allow overlapping courses for major and minor
- Allow transfer credit to satisfy major and minor requirements
- Allow courses taken abroad to fulfill GER 4 and 5 requirements
- Allow final elective credits to be taken elsewhere

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Griffin  
Dean of Undergraduate Studies