Motion on Transient Credit

Motion:

Section 1320.20 of the Catalog is modified as follows: Additions Deletions

1320.20 Credit Transfer for Transient Students

The following regulations pertain to academic credit earned by a Georgia State University degree-seeking undergraduate as a transient student at another accredited institution that the student wishes to receive transfer credit toward a degree at Georgia State. Terms other than transient (such as visiting student, unclassified student, or special student) may be used at other institutions to describe this status. Whatever the term used to describe the student's status, these regulations are applicable to Georgia State students who enroll temporarily at the other institution, with the intention of returning to Georgia State, rather than to students who officially transfer to another institution. These regulations are in addition to those described in this chapter regarding correspondence and extension work.

These regulations do not apply to credit earned through cross registration, which is considered resident credit.

In general, the philosophy that underlies these regulations is the desire to allow students the opportunity to take courses not available at Georgia State that would enhance their degree programs. In addition, for students who have moved from the metropolitan Atlanta area, these provisions allow for possible progress toward the degree during the time away from Atlanta if the move is temporary or for possible completion of the degree if the move is permanent. These regulations are not primarily for the short-term convenience of the students. The following procedures apply:

A degree-seeking undergraduate student who wishes to take academic courses elsewhere as a transient student and apply those credits toward the Georgia State degree must obtain written approval in advance from the Student Advisement Center or the Office of Academic Assistance of his or her college. Failure to obtain written approval in advance may will preclude acceptance of the transfer credit and/or will result in the student being required to meet the degree requirements of the catalog in effect at the time he or she reenrolls at Georgia State. The student's advisement office should be consulted to determine the proper procedure for requesting to take courses as a transient student and to learn of any additional regulations applicable to the individual college.

A. GPA enrollment requirements for a transient student:
1. A student must have a minimum Georgia State cumulative GPA of 2.00 and the GPA required to enroll in the Georgia State course which is most similar to the course the student wishes to take as a transient.
2. A currently enrolled student who does not have the required Georgia State cumulative GPA cannot be approved until the current semester's grades are available and the current academic standing can be determined.

B. Approval will not be granted more than three months in advance of the semester the student wishes to enroll elsewhere.

C. The content of each course to be taken elsewhere must correspond to that of a course allowed or a Georgia State course required in the student's degree program. Course outlines (syllabi) and catalog information may be required so content can be evaluated before approval is granted.

C. A course cannot be taken at an institution in the metropolitan Atlanta area as a transient student if either of the following conditions apply:
   1. The course has previously been attempted at Georgia State (including attempts which resulted in a withdrawal);
   2. The course or an appropriate substitute is routinely available at Georgia State (that is, offered each semester or on a specified regular basis, such as every fall); determination of whether the course is routinely available is made by the advisement office in consultation with the chair or director of the academic unit that offers the course.

C. If a course has been attempted at Georgia State, that course may not be taken as a transient. A grade of W counts as an attempt.

D. A student may be authorized to take no more than four courses as a transient. An authorization counts toward the limit of four even if the student fails to take the course or withdraws from the course.

E. A student may not take courses for degree credit at another institution during the semester he or she expects to graduate from Georgia State.

F. In general, a minimum grade of C is required in any course taken elsewhere. A grade lower than C can be accepted only if both of these conditions exist: the student has not yet earned the maximum number of grades of D permitted in his or her program AND the student's degree program allows a grade of D in the particular course taken elsewhere.

G. Approval Authorization to take courses as a transient cannot be given if such approval will cause the student to violate any aspect of the university's residence requirements. (See Section 1440.)

H. It is the student's responsibility to comply with application procedures and any other requirements that the other institution may have regarding establishing status as a transient student there.
J. After completing the course, it is the student's responsibility to promptly request that an official transcript be sent from the other institution to: Georgia State University, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, P.O. Box 4009, Atlanta, GA 30302-4009.

Questions about transient credit and requests for waivers of the above rules should be addressed to the student’s Office of Academic Assistance or, if the student has earned less than 42 credit hours, to the Student Advisement Center.

The following part of the policy need not appear in the Catalog:

Each OAA office and the SAC will keep records of the number of waivers granted and the particular rule that is waived. They will send an annual written report of these waivers to the Associate Provost for Academic Programs and the Chair of the Senate Committee on Admissions and Standards.

Rationale:

The current rules regarding transient credit are complex and costly to implement. In this time of budget difficulties, we should reduce the time OAA offices are spending implementing complex transient credit rules to allow these offices to spend more time on advisement. This motion simplifies the rules, but, to prevent abuse, caps the number of transient courses at four. In addition, the recently passed strengthening of the academic residence requirement also permits a simpler set of transient credit rules.