



TO: Council on Graduate Studies

FROM: Ryan C. Hendrickson, Dean  
Melissa Jones-Bromenshenkel, CGS Chair  
Angela Jacobs, CGS Vice Chair

RE: Revision of policies related to undergraduate enrollment in graduate courses

DATE: April 29, 2019

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**Rationale for Graduate Catalog policy revisions:** A number of graduate coordinators have brought forward concerns regarding the restriction on undergraduate enrollment in courses numbered 5500 and above due to the creation of Accelerated Graduate programs as well as a desire to permit undergraduate Honor student enrollment in courses numbered above 5500. Our existing policy places strict limitations and barriers for such students and limits program flexibility. We have also learned that graduate course numbering for many graduate programs often does not correlate with distinct program standards.

We would like to advance the following policy revision at our forthcoming CGS meeting with [newly proposed language in blue](#):

**Proposal 1:**

From the "Policies That May Not Be Waived or Appealed," eliminate the following:

"The restriction on undergraduate access to courses numbered 5500 or higher."

**Proposal 2**

From the Graduate Catalog language on policies related to "Graduate Study Options for Seniors at EIU-- Reserve Graduate Credit," and the "Graduate Study Options for Seniors at EIU-- Graduate Courses for Undergraduate Credit"

"Undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate courses numbered ~~5500 or above~~ [5990 \(independent study\), 5980 \(internship\), 5950 \(thesis\), any capstone graduate experience or 6000 and above.](#)"

**Proposal 3:**

From the Graduate Catalog language on Course Definitions, Course Information and all other areas related to course numbering, add in the following language and delete the following language:

"Courses Numbered 5000 to ~~5499~~ [5999](#) for Undergraduate Students"  
Courses numbered 5000 to ~~5499~~ [5999](#) may be taken by EIU seniors [and by students as specified in accelerated graduate programs](#) only with the approvals required to exercise this study option as

described in the section of the Graduate Catalog titled “Graduate Study Options for Seniors at EIU.” Undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate courses numbered 5990 (independent study), 5980 (internship), 5950 (thesis), or any capstone graduate experience.

Delete the following:

~~Courses Numbered 5500 or Higher~~

~~Courses numbered 5500 or higher are available only to graduate students and undergraduate students and undergraduate students admitted to accelerated graduate programs according to program guidelines. All other undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate programs, numbered 5500 or above. The above requirement may not be waived or appealed.~~

#### **Proposal 4**

From the “Course Enrollment” section of the Undergraduate Catalog and all other areas related to course numbering, revise the following

b. Courses numbered 5000-5499 **5999** may be taken by students who have a 2.75 GPA and permission of the instructor and Dean of the Graduate School. Undergraduates, regardless of classification or GPA, may not enroll in any graduate courses numbered 5990 (independent study), 5980 (Internship, 5950 (thesis) or any capstone graduate experience.