


Senate Recommendation February 16, 2023 meeting 2023\_01\_07.1

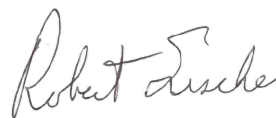
FACULTY SENATE RECOMMENDATION TO THE PROVOST

The Faculty Senate

Recommends approval of the Proposal to Amend Academic Policy Catalog listing

Substantive Change amending the policy for Graduation with Academic Honors as per the motion of the Faculty Senate

 Digitally signed  
by Antonia  
Szymanski  
Date: 2023.04.12  
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 4/28/2023

## Proposal to Revise an Academic Policy (Action Item)

Contact Person: Jennifer Hammonds [jennifer.hammonds@wku.edu](mailto:jennifer.hammonds@wku.edu)

Identification of proposed policy revision:

**1. Catalog statement of existing policy:**

### Recognition of Academic Achievement

Students who maintain superior cumulative grade point averages are recognized at graduation according to the following designations:

#### With Distinction

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their associate degree with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.4 - 3.69 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned through instruction at WKU.

#### With High Distinction

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their associate degree with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.7 - 4.0 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned through instruction at WKU.

#### Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40 - 3.59 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned through instruction at WKU.

#### Magna Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.60 - 3.79 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned through instruction at WKU.

#### Summa Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.80 - 4.00 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned through instruction at WKU.

**2. Catalog statement of proposed policy:**

# Recognition of Academic Achievement

Students who maintain superior cumulative grade point averages are recognized at graduation according to the following designations:

## With Distinction

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their associate degree with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.4 - 3.5.

## With High Distinction

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their associate degree with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.7 - 4.0.

## Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40 - 3.59.

## Magna Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.60 - 3.79.

## Summa Cum Laude

The graduation honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate study with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.80 - 4.0.

### 3. Rationale for proposed policy revision:

Currently, we allow students to complete a WKU degree if they have met the minimum residency hours of 25% of their degree, but we do not allow them to graduate with honors unless they have completed significantly more than this, even if they have performed at the highest levels here. This policy change would rectify this and allow us to acknowledge excellent academic performance once the minimum residency hours of 25% have been completed.

### 4. Impact of proposed policy revision on existing academic or non-academic policies:

4.1 Impact on policies: None, beyond the changes in this document.

4.2 Impact on populations that may be affected: We expect a small increase in the number of students able to graduate with honors.

### 5. Proposed term for implementation: Fall 2023

### 6. Dates of prior committee approvals:

Department/ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

College Curriculum Committee (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ N/A

UCC Academic Policy Subcommittee (if applicable)

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1/24/23

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Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

1/24/23

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University Senate

02/16/2023

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