University Policy

Policy Name: University Undergraduate Graduation Requirements
Date of Adoption: August 2005

Custodian of Policy: Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
Effective Date of Last Revision: June 15, 2012
Date of Next Review: September 2018

Policy:

Baccalaureate Degree
To be eligible for graduation with a baccalaureate degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato, a student:
1. Must have earned a minimum of 120 semester credit hours; some programs may be in excess of 120 credits.
2. Must have a cumulative (including transfer credits) and a local Minnesota State Mankato grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0.
3. Must have all grades finalized (all grades of I, IP, or Z may not be on the permanent record).
4. Must have completed at least 40 semester credits of upper-division (300-400) courses.
5. Must have completed the Minnesota State Mankato general education requirements or the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum.
6. Must meet the Minnesota State Mankato Cultural Diversity or Diverse Cultures requirement, whichever is applicable.
7. Must meet the Minnesota State Mankato writing-intensive requirement.
8. Must not complete more than one quarter of total degree credits with a pass/no credit grade.
9. Must meet the requirements for an academic major:
   a. Standard Majors are 32-47 credits. Standard majors require completion of a minor. Departments may recommend waiver of a minor for students completing a double major.
   b. Broad majors exceed 47 credits and do not require a minor.
   c. Academic requirements for majors and minors may be more stringent than university minimum requirements.
10. Must graduate under requirements identified in a bulletin of no more than seven years preceding the date of graduation. Students also must complete all of the requirements under a single bulletin.
11. Must have earned at least 30 semester undergraduate credit hours from Minnesota State Mankato. Departments and Colleges may have more stringent residency requirements.

Associate of Arts Degree
To be eligible for graduation with an Associate of Arts (AA) degree from Minnesota State University, Mankato, a student:
1. Must have earned at least 60 semester credit hours.
2. Must have completed the Minnesota State Mankato general education program. Completion of the Minnesota State Mankato general education program is required as part of the AA degree program and completion of general education meets the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements.
3. Must have a cumulative (including transfer credits) and a local Minnesota State Mankato grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0.
4. Must have all grades finalized (all grades of I, IP, or Z may not be on the permanent record).
5. Must not exceed 15 credits of P/NC grading.
6. Must have earned at least 20 credits from Minnesota State Mankato.
Graduation with Honors
To qualify for graduation with honors (Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude or Summa Cum Laude), a student:
1. Must meet all requirements for a bachelor's degree.
2. Must earn a minimum of 40 semester undergraduate credit hours from Minnesota State Mankato.
3. Must have the appropriate minimum cumulative (including transfer credits) grade point average (GPA) to satisfy honor requirements.
   a. Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3
   b. Magna Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5
   c. Summa Cum Laude: minimum cumulative GPA of 3.8

For a student's name to be listed in the Commencement Program as graduation with honors, the GPA requirements must be met the semester BEFORE graduation. While the number of credit hours earned during the graduation term does not affect the determination of graduation honors for recognition at Commencement, quality points earned during the graduation term are considered in calculating the final GPA which determines the graduation honors for the transcript and diploma. To be recognized in the Commencement Program as achieving graduation honors, students must be graduating the term in which commencement is held.

Transition Policy from the Cultural Diversity to Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement
Students must satisfy the Diversity requirement as defined by the bulletin under which they are graduating. However, for a transitional period from the 2009-2013 academic years, a course taken under the pre-2009 diversity requirement definition ("core or related") shall be considered equivalent to a Purple course. This means:
1. Students graduating under a pre-2009 bulletin can meet the old or the new requirement.
2. Students moving from a pre-2009 bulletin to a newer bulletin can use a course that satisfied previous requirements at the time when they took it ("diversity – core and related") to satisfy the Purple course requirements under the newer bulletin.
3. Students taking any of the following courses in academic year 2009-2010 shall be granted a minimum of 3 credits towards the Diverse Cultures graduation requirement:
   a. ANTH230
   b. ANTH240
   c. ANTH250
   d. ANTH421
   e. ART160
   f. EEC222
   g. ENG448
   h. FCS120
   i. HIST160
   j. REHB110

The transitional policy shall be effective August, 2009.