

Stale dates and maximum time to count required graduate coursework

Background: The university sets a maximum tenure for graduate degree completion at 7 years for master's programs and 8 years for doctoral programs. There is a 10-year limit on combined master's and doctoral degree programs. Some flexibility is permitted: A student may petition for an extension "*for compelling reasons, on the written advice of the dissertation committee. If more than nine years are requested, the appropriate appeals body of the school (the Graduate Studies Committee) considers petitions for extensions and, where evidence of continuous progress, currency of knowledge, and other reasons are compelling, may grant further extensions.*" The currency of students' knowledge and skills at the time students require a program extension is of concern to the GSC and the Office of Graduate Studies and this is the basis for this new policy.

Courses completed at the University of Kansas, or transfer credits from another university, will not fulfill graduate degree requirements in the School of Education (SoE) if these courses were completed over ten (10) years prior to the scheduling of the final defense. With the approval of their graduate program committee, students may petition the SoE to accept out-of-date coursework to fulfill the requirements for their graduate degrees provided they are able to justify why this coursework meets the current standards of knowledge and scholarship in the discipline.

It may be necessary for a student to revalidate or retake the doctoral (PhD/EdD) comprehensive exam if it was taken more than five (5) years before an extension of time request. (effective date: August, 2011)