

Undergraduate Degree and Graduation Information

Exceptions to Academic Program Requirements

NDSU's academic policies regarding degree requirements, graduation, transfer credit, and general education, along with official curriculum requirements, are in place to maintain consistently high program quality. Students are expected to fulfill all curriculum requirements for their degree, including overall University requirements (such as general education) and the specific curriculum for their officially declared program.

However, limited exceptions may be approved by the chairperson of the department offering the program. Students can request a course substitution or waiver for a curriculum requirement in consultation with their academic advisor. The advisor initiates this process by completing and submitting a Substitution/Waiver form, which is then sent to the relevant department chairperson or curriculum coordinator for formal approval.

Academic departments are responsible for planning to offer all courses within a major program, enabling students to graduate in a timely manner. If required major courses can no longer be taught, the academic unit has two options to ensure students can complete their degree:

1. The department chairperson or curriculum coordinator can file individual substitution/waiver forms for students needing a curricular adjustment.
2. The department can request to transition the student to a more recent, updated curriculum within the same major.

Students must be clearly informed about whichever option is chosen.