

## 1. LANGUAGE BY-PASS

The Committee endorses the enclosed proposal submitted by the departments of German and Russian and Romance Languages.

## 2. Transfer Credit

Concerning transfer credit the East Carolina University Undergraduate Catalog (1971-72), page 56, states: "In this evaluation (of transcript), no credit will be given for courses on which the lowest passing grade was received."

Earlier in the year the Credits Committee discussed a request that transfer credit be given for all passing grades. The Committee voted against the request because it was felt that a dilution of standards would result. Recently, the committee reconsidered the question at the request of the Admissions Office and the Admissions Committee. It was pointed out that many institutions are abandoning the traditional grading system and replacing it with a system with grades such as:

- (1) A, B, C, I
- (2) P, F
- (3) P
- (4) A, B, C

According to the catalog statement transfer credit could not be awarded for a grade of "C" in some cases or a grade of "P" in others. On the other hand, if the requirements were changed so as to allow credit for such grades, the result would be unjustifiable discrimination against students transferring from institutions using a grading system similar to the traditional letter grades.

The Credits Committee sees no reasonable alternative to the following recommendation.

The Credits Committee recommends that, if a transfer student meets all admission requirements, full credit be awarded for all transfer courses for which a passing grade was received and for which East Carolina University has equivalent courses. It is further recommended that this policy become effective for all students entering East Carolina University during the summer of 1972 and thereafter.



TO: Credits Committee

FROM: Department of German and Russian  
Department of Romance Languages

SUBJECT: Credit without grade for by-passed language courses.

Since the summer of 1969, placement examinations have been given at East Carolina University to all entering freshman and to all transfer students who transferred no college-level credit foreign language but who had a language in high school (see Undergraduate Catalogue, 1971-72, page 53). The main objective of the placement examination is to place the student at a level which is more or less consonant with his language ability. Credit is given for all work done here. It might be mentioned in passing that results in general have been very satisfactory.

At the present time the student who achieves advanced placement in our placement examination is exempted from taking any courses by-passed, but is given no credit for them. This proposal is to request that credit without grade be given for any language courses by-passed by advanced placement on our placement examination as follows:

A student who places in level 4 will receive the appropriate hours' credit towards graduation, but no grade, for level 3; if he places in Language 21, he will receive the appropriate hours' credit towards graduation, but no grade, for 3 and 4 and will be deemed to have fulfilled his language requirement.

We believe that this action is justified and will entail no lowering of standards, since our placement examination is a standard test, the cut-off points for which have been set up following national norms. It should be noted, furthermore, that had these students presented evidence of acceptable grades on the Advanced Placement Examination of the College Entrance Examination Board, they would have been given credit.

The assignment of credit without grade for by-passed courses is in no sense an innovation, but is done at other universities. The Undergraduate Bulletin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (June 1, 1971, page 30), for example, states:

- "2. If the student is placed in Language 4 or higher, he will receive placement credit without grade for 3, or 3 or 4, but no more.
- "3. Students lacking two or more units of high school credit in a language may take the placement examination in that language if they have acquired proficiency through other



means. If thus placed in Language 3, the high school deficiency will be deemed removed. If placed higher than Language 3, then in addition to deficiency-removal, credit will be awarded for 3, or 3 and 4, but not more."

We are of the opinion, therefore, that the granting of credit without grade is a fair policy and gives a student credit for having achieved a certain level of language proficiency. For this reason we respectfully request the approval of this proposal.

Approved by: Dean Capwell, February 9, 1972

Approved by: Department of German and Russian, February 22, 1972

Approved by: Department of Romance Languages, February 22, 1972