

**GRADUATE ACADEMIC POLICY  
PROPOSED CHANGE  
Approved by Graduate Affairs team 2/8/2012**

**A proposed change to the Graduate Academic Policy explicitly recognizing that credits earned in fulfillment of a graduate certificate may, in certain cases, be applied toward the subsequent completion of a graduate degree. Previously, the number of credits taken as a post-baccalaureate non-degree student that could be applied toward a graduate degree program was limited to nine (9) credit hours (12 for the College of Education). Eligibility for use of certificate credits toward the completion of a graduate degree program is determined by the degree conferring college, with approval from the Office of Graduate Studies.**

## General Graduate Academic Policies

### II. General Academic Policies

#### B. General Degree Requirements

##### 1. Master's Degree

The following minimum degree requirements must be met for successful completion of a Master's degree in an approved program of study. Individual colleges, departments, and programs may have their own requirements that exceed the minimum requirements presented here. Students should therefore refer to the specific degree requirements of the individual graduate program for additional information.

##### a. Enrollment and Course Requirements

- Students enrolled in a Master's degree program must complete a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours in the approved graduate program.
- More than 50% of the credit hours toward the degree must be earned through FGCU.
- Students may transfer a maximum of twelve (12) credit hours from graduate level courses completed at a regionally accredited college or university into the graduate college program at FGCU. Transfer courses must be applicable toward the graduate degree being sought at FGCU and approved by the college dean (or designee).
- Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 for all graduate work attempted.
- Students may apply a maximum of nine (9) credit hours completed as a non-degree seeking student toward the completion of a graduate degree as approved by program. Students in the College of Education may apply a maximum of twelve (12) credit hours.
- The number of credits that can be applied from an academic certificate earned at FGCU to a graduate degree program are set by the college, with approval from the Office of Graduate Studies.