

Proposal: Undergraduate Enrollment in Graduate Courses Policy Update

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Current Illinois Tech Policy

An undergraduate student who wishes to enroll in a graduate course (500 level or above) must obtain the approval of both the course instructor and their advisor.*

*The above policy does not pertain to co-terminal students.

Non-degree-seeking undergraduate students may enroll in a graduate-level course with permission from [Undergraduate Academic Affairs](#).

Rationale for Revision

- Problem: Current policy requires multiple administrative touch points and serves as a barrier to student participation.
- Peer institutions often have fewer approvals required.
- Current system is inefficient and creates work that is not essential.
- Current policy does not focus on student learner and their own educational agency.

Policies at Peer Institutions: AITUs

- WPI Policy:
 - WPI students may enroll in graduate courses as part of their regular undergraduate studies without being admitted to the graduate program. An exception: In order to enroll in graduate courses offered by The Business School, the student must have been admitted to a dual BS/MS program, regardless of department. Kettering: 12 credits can double count; undergraduate may also take up to 9 additional graduate credits while still an undergrad
- Stevens:
 - **500-Level Courses**
Undergraduate students with at least junior standing can enroll for graduate courses at the 500-level, provided they satisfy the prerequisite requirements. Students are not allowed to enroll in more than two online classes in any semester. All these courses are counted as part of the student's regular credit load for computing charges for extra courses.
 - **600-Level Courses**
Undergraduate students with at least junior standing and a 3.0 or higher GPA can enroll for 600-level graduate courses if they satisfy the prerequisite requirements. Students must submit an Undergraduate Permission to Take Graduate Courses request on Workday Student. All of these courses are counted as part of the student's regular credit load for computing charges for extra courses.
- RIT Policy:
 - Degree-seeking undergraduate students are allowed to take graduate courses (600-900 level) provided these courses fit into the schedule for the baccalaureate degree and are approved by both the home department and the department offering the course.

Policies at Peer Institutions: Chicago Area

- UIC:
 - 500-level classes and higher are only open to graduate students.
- Purdue:
 - A 50000-level course is a graduate course for which undergraduate students (juniors and seniors only) may be eligible to register. Undergraduate students are not permitted to take 60000-level courses.
- Northwestern:
 - Some graduate courses are open to undergraduate students, and these courses are indicated in the catalog.

Policies at Peer Institutions: Leaders in Online Education

- Arizona State University:
 - Graduate-level courses, numbered from 500 to 799, are designed primarily for graduate students. However, an upper-division undergraduate student may enroll in courses numbered 500–599 with the approval of the student's advisor, course instructor, department chair and dean of the college in which a course is offered.
- Northeastern:
 - Undergraduate students who are juniors or seniors may enroll in graduate courses for credit toward their undergraduate degrees if they meet all prerequisites as determined by the graduate director and they receive permission from the instructor of the course and from the student's undergraduate academic advisor.

Proposed Illinois Tech Policy

Undergraduate students in good academic standing who have completed at least 60 credit hours may enroll in a graduate course (500 level or above) if they satisfy the prerequisite requirements. Any other undergraduate student who wishes to enroll in a graduate course (500 level or above) must obtain the approval of the course instructor.*

*The above policy does not pertain to co-terminal students.

Proposal

- 11/11/2025 Discussion of proposed policy
- When policy is brought to UGSC for voting, we will propose this vote:
 - Motion to adopt the revised policy on undergraduate enrollment in graduate coursework, effective 8/1/2026:
 - Undergraduate students in good academic standing who have completed at least 60 credit hours may enroll in a graduate course (500 level or above) if they satisfy the prerequisite requirements. Any other undergraduate student who wishes to enroll in a graduate course (500 level or above) must obtain the approval of the course instructor.*
 - *The above policy does not pertain to co-terminal students.