

# University Regulations

## Academic Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures

### 1. Preamble

Bishop's University is committed to excellence in scholarship. All members of the University community have a responsibility to ensure that the highest standards of integrity in scholarly research are understood and practiced.

The Academic Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures outlines the process and expectations for students, instructors, and administrators when allegations of academic misconduct occur. This Code is presented within the context of an inclusive academic community that seeks to support the learning and development of its students.

With regard to an act(s) of academic misconduct, the burden of proof rests with the University representative(s) to demonstrate by "clear and convincing evidence" that the alleged act(s) occurred, and the University is bound by the rules of equity and procedural fairness.

### Definitions

In this Academic Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures:

**Academic Dean** represents the head of a faculty or school offering an area(s) of study in which a student is registered.

- If the student is not registered in a program (e.g., visiting student, general interest, etc.), the Dean of the faculty or school in which the academic activity is taught will be their Academic Dean.
- If the academic activity in question is taught by the Dean, the Vice-Principal Academic and Research shall assume their responsibilities.

**Academic integrity** is the moral code or ethical policy of academia. It encompasses the demonstration of honesty, responsibility, transparency, respect, and trust; the avoidance of cheating or plagiarism; the maintenance of academic standards; and honesty and rigour in research and academic publishing.

Academic integrity forms a central part of students' intellectual and personal development. Students share responsibility with staff for learning, which includes understanding and meeting the requirements of courses and programs of study and upholding all expectations of academic integrity.

**Academic Review Committee (ARC)** is responsible for hearing complaints against academic decisions taken by the University by an instructor, a department/program chairperson, an Academic Dean, or by the Vice-Principal Academic and Research (or their designate) and for adjudicating all infractions of University academic policy referred to it by any member of the University community.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)** refers to the development of computer systems that can perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence. These tasks include learning, reasoning, problem-solving, perception, speech recognition, and language understanding. AI uses machine learning to generate new

content by analyzing and processing vast amounts of data from diverse sources.

**Bishop's community** means any current Bishop's student, graduate, staff member, member of Senate, Bishop's Board of Governors, contractor, volunteer, official visitor, holder of an honorary appointment, adjunct academic, or a representative group thereof.

**Cheating** means when a student acts before, during, or after an assessment or examination in such a way as to seek to gain an unfair advantage or assist another student to do so. This includes (without limitation):

- a. failing to comply with the requirements, conditions, and instructions specified by the University to gain an unfair advantage or assist another student to do so;
- b. plagiarizing the work of another person and presenting that work as if it is the student's own work, without appropriate acknowledgment;
- c. colluding with other students on individual assessment items;
- d. fabricating data or inventing references;
- e. bringing unauthorized material into an examination without the permission of the supervisor;
- f. submitting the same work or recycling work without the prior permission of the course;
- g. violating policies, procedures, and rules governing the administration of examinations;
- h. communicating, or attempting to communicate, with a fellow student or individual who is not a member of staff during an examination to gain an unfair advantage or assist another student to do so;
- i. copying the work product, ideas, or assessment items of a fellow student;
- j. introducing or consulting during an examination any unauthorized printed or written material, electronic-calculating or information-storage device, mobile phone, or other communication devices;
- k. recording, transmitting, or disseminating questions and/or answers to themselves or another person;
- l. impersonating another student or arranging for anyone to impersonate a student in an examination or other assessment task;
- m. using the internet, AI, or other electronic means to source answers to assessment items from crowdsourcing websites, search engines, social media platforms, online forums, or any other digital platform;
- n. employing AI tools or services to generate answers, essays, or any other submissions without explicit authorization or in violation of academic policies;
- o. utilizing unauthorized online databases, repositories, or services to obtain pre-written essays or reports;

- p. accessing unauthorized exam banks, question pools, or study materials that are not approved by the course instructor or the institution;
- q. failing to comply with an instruction by an invigilator.

**Contract cheating** is a form of solicitation and covers paid or unpaid arrangements made by a student with a third party to complete their assessment tasks for them.

**Electronic smart devices** refer to devices that incorporate advanced computing and connectivity capabilities to enhance their functionality. These devices are typically equipped with sensors, processors, and communication technologies, allowing them to interact with users, other devices, and the internet. Examples of electronic smart devices include smartphones, smartwatches, smart TVs, smart home devices (such as thermostats, lights, and security cameras), and various IoT (Internet of Things) devices.

**Expulsion** is the withdrawal by the University of all academic privileges for an indefinite period of time with, normally, no possibility of return.

**Falsification or fabrication** of results occurs when:

- a. a student claims to have carried out tests, experiments, or observations that have not taken place, makes up results, or presents results that are not supported by relevant evidence; or
- b. a student tampers with, or attempts to tamper with, evaluation, classwork, grades, or class records.

**Instructor** refers to an individual responsible for teaching students in a particular subject.

**Misrepresentation** includes (without limitation):

- a. Situations where a student presents an untrue statement about attendance or participation in practical, performance, or professional learning activities;
- b. The making of citations to non-existent or incorrect sources;
- c. The failure to disclose any information or matter where there is a duty to disclose such information or matter.

**Ombudsperson** refers to a person who assists with the fair and expeditious resolution of complaints in an impartial, confidential, and independent manner.

**Plagiarism** means the act of misrepresenting as one's own original work the ideas, interpretations, words, or creative works of another, either intentionally or unintentionally. These include published and unpublished documents, designs, music, sounds, images, photographs, computer codes, and ideas gained through working in a group. These ideas, interpretations, words, or works may be found in print and/or electronic media. Plagiarism includes (without limitation):

- a. Collusion, where a piece of work prepared by working closely with one or more individuals, or in a group, is represented as if it were the student's own work. This includes:
  - i. Producing the piece of work together;
  - ii. Determining the method or approach to a question or assessment task together; or

- iii. Sharing answers or giving access to questions and answers, completed assessment tasks, or partially completed assessment tasks;

- b. Acquiring or commissioning a piece of work that is not their own and representing it as if it were their own, by:
  - i. Purchasing the assessment task from a commercial service, including from internet sites, whether the work is pre-written or specially prepared for the student;
  - ii. Submitting an assessment task or part thereof produced by a third party, including a friend, family member, fellow student, or a staff member of the University; or
  - iii. Duplicating the same or almost identical work for more than one assessment item without permission.
- c. copying ideas, concepts, research data, images, sounds or text without appropriate acknowledgment, including piecing together work of others and representing them as original work;
- d. paraphrasing a paper from a source text, whether in manuscript, printed or electronic form (e.g., article spinning, text rewriting and content creation tools), without appropriate acknowledgement;
- e. submitting as one's own work all or part of another student's work, even with the student's knowledge or consent.

**Solicitation** occurs when a student requests, offers, encourages, induces, or advertises for another individual/student to contract, commission, pay for, procure, or complete on their behalf an assessment task or part thereof. This includes items (e.g., examination papers, model examination answers, examination questions, examination scripts, online quizzes, or any other types of assessment) that are likely to result in, or are used for the purpose of, cheating, misrepresentation, and/or plagiarism.

**Student** is defined as any person who has been admitted to study at the University.

**Student transcript** is a complete academic record and includes all courses, academic scholarships, and academic standing notations.

**Suspension** is the withdrawal by the University of all academic privileges for a specific period of time (normally, no more than two (2) semesters), after which the student must request in writing to return to the University.

**University Representative** is defined as the person who brought forward the incident of academic misconduct.

### Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct occurs when a student engages in, or attempts to engage in, behaviours, acts, or omissions involving:

- a. The misrepresentation of academic work;
- b. Gaining an unfair academic advantage for the student or any other person;
- c. Undermining or breaching the principles of academic integrity; or

- d. A failure to meet the principles and responsibilities outlined in the student responsibilities in the Academic Calendar, and includes:
- Cheating;
  - The falsification or fabrication of results;
  - Misrepresentations;
  - Plagiarism;
  - Solicitation (including contract cheating);
  - Aiding or abetting, including by providing materials to, a person who provides a contract cheating service;
  - Failing to abide by reasonable directions given by a staff member in relation to academic matters, including directions regarding individual responsibility for the submission of assessable work, directions by staff relating to the undertaking of courses or assessment at the University, and directions to cease engaging in specific academic misconduct;
  - Acquiring, possessing, or distributing assessment materials or information without approval;
  - Altering group assessment work of participating students without the collaborating students' consent;
  - Utilizing AI, machine learning tools, or any other digital instruments to complete assignments, generate content, or conduct research without explicit authorization or in violation of University guidelines;
  - Failing to comply with any direction, instruction, decision, order, or penalty imposed under the regulations outlined in the Academic Calendar in respect to academic misconduct;
  - Giving to the University a document that the University requires of the student (e.g., medical certificate or other supporting documentation) that is false.
- In the case of a final exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office, the invigilator must bring the suspicion of academic misconduct to the attention of the instructor and submit a report of the incident to the Registrar. The Registrar shall then provide the full report, along with any confiscated material, to the appropriate Academic Dean.
  - b. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of academic misconduct suspected in a Master's project, thesis work, or a thesis lies with the student's supervisor.
  - c. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of academic misconduct suspected in a comprehensive examination, Master's project, or a thesis defense lies with the member(s) of the review committee who detect(s) it.
  - d. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of suspected research misconduct (as defined in the Policy on Responsible Conduct of Research) lies with the student's supervisor.
  - e. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of suspected falsification and/or use of falsified documents (e.g., transcripts, letters of reference, medical documentation, etc.) lies with the appropriate University administrator (e.g., Registrar, Associate Registrar, Academic Dean, etc.).
  - f. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of academic misconduct that does not clearly fall within the preceding clauses rests with the appropriate instructor or University administrator (e.g., Registrar, Academic Dean, etc.). For example, if a student is caught stealing or in possession of a stolen final examination, the responsibility lies with the instructor responsible for the course.
  - g. When the person with the primary responsibility fails to report suspected academic misconduct within a reasonable time, the department/program chairperson or Academic Dean may do so in their stead.
  - h. Any person who suspects academic misconduct by a student has occurred may submit a signed statement, including all relevant information, to the Registrar. The Registrar will investigate and, if necessary, bring forward an incident report to the appropriate Academic Dean.

### Consequences for Engaging in Academic Misconduct

Bishop's University acknowledges that the majority of its students will not engage in academic misconduct. However, if an allegation is made that a student has engaged in misconduct, the University may take action under the Academic Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

#### Procedures in Cases of Academic Misconduct

- a. The primary responsibility for bringing forward an incident of academic misconduct involving academic work lies with the instructor of the course. A course instructor may delegate this responsibility.

##### *Examples:*

- In the case of a marker grading academic work, the marker must bring the suspicion of academic misconduct to the attention of the instructor.
- In the case of an in-class setting, the invigilator must bring the suspicion of academic misconduct to the attention of the instructor.

#### Contacting the Student

The University Representative (the person who brought forward the incident of academic misconduct) shall:

- i. Notify the student of the nature of the incident, the evidence against them, and the procedures to be followed.
- ii. Provide the student a fair opportunity to respond to the allegations of academic misconduct within two (2) weeks after contacting the student.
- iii. If the incident relates to a course in which the student is registered, inform the student and the Registrar that, while under investigation, the student shall not be permitted to withdraw from the concerned course. Should the student be found not guilty of academic misconduct, they will be permitted to withdraw from the course late.

**Determining that an Offence of Academic Misconduct Has Occurred**

The University Representative shall determine, based on their discussions with the student and a review of all relevant evidence, whether an offence has occurred.

When the University Representative determines that there are no grounds for a charge or there is insufficient evidence to proceed, they shall inform the student in writing (with a copy to the Registrar). This does not preclude a University Representative from bringing an incident forward at a later date, should new evidence become available.

**Checking for Previous Academic Misconduct Offences**

When the University Representative determines that an offence has occurred, and before deciding on a penalty, they shall check with the Registrar to determine if it is a first offence.

**Instructor-imposed Penalties for First Offences**

If there is no previous offence on record, and none of the conditions under “**Referral of First Offences**” apply, an instructor can:

- i. direct that the work be resubmitted, or the evaluation be retaken;
- ii. impose a grade of zero for the work.

The instructor shall notify the student (with a copy to the Registrar), in writing, of the penalty and of the student's right to appeal within 30 days after the instructor first contacts the student with a suspicion of academic misconduct.

**Referral of First Offences**

The University Representative shall refer an incident of academic misconduct to the Registrar if:

- i. they believe a penalty greater than zero for the work in question is warranted;
- ii. there are multiple charges against the student;
- iii. the student is a graduate student;
- iv. the alleged offence does not relate to work in a course (e.g., presentation of falsified information, impersonation, etc.).

When the University Representative refers an incident of academic misconduct to the Registrar, they shall also inform the student.

The Registrar will inform the appropriate Academic Dean(s) and start the process of the Academic Misconduct Investigation (AMI).

**Referral of Second or Subsequent Offences**

If there is a previous offence of academic misconduct on record, the University Representative shall refer the case to the Registrar and inform the student. The Registrar will then initiate the Academic Misconduct Investigation (AMI).

**Without a Hearing**

If the student charged with academic misconduct admits guilt, the University Representative may make a recommendation regarding the penalty based on the written submissions.

**With a Hearing**

In cases that are referred to the Registrar, a hearing will occur in accordance with the procedures set out in Appendix 1 (see myBU/Registrar's Office). The hearing will normally take place no later than one (1) month after the Registrar receives the report of the offence. At the hearing, it shall be the responsibility of the University Representative to provide evidence to the Registrar and Academic Dean that the student has committed academic misconduct. Decisions with respect to the student's guilt or innocence shall be based on the preponderance of evidence, meaning the evidence shows it is more likely than not that the student committed academic misconduct.

If the hearing is for an appeal by a student against the decision of an instructor that the student committed academic misconduct and/or of the penalty imposed, it shall be the responsibility of the instructor to provide evidence of the student's guilt and of the appropriateness of the penalty.

The Registrar and Academic Dean may take the following actions:

- i. Dismiss the case, or
- ii. Make a finding of academic misconduct and impose one or more sanctions as described below.

**Sanctions**

The following sanctions may be imposed upon a student found to have committed academic misconduct. Repeated and/or multiple offences will increase the severity of the penalty. Academic misconduct committed by graduate students will incur more serious consequences than those committed by undergraduate students. Students found guilty of academic misconduct within a course will not be permitted to drop or withdraw from the course(s) in question. Sanctions may be used independently or in combination for any single offence.

*Sanctions include:*

- i. A letter reporting the academic misconduct offence(s), sent to the student and the Academic Dean, with a copy placed in the student's file;
  - ii. A grade of “0” for the academic work;
  - iii. A grade of “0” for the course;
  - iv. A grade of “0” for the course with a notation on the transcript;
  - v. A ban from using the facilities of the University, including computer labs, for a specified period of time;
  - vi. A recommendation to the Registrar and Academic Dean to rescind admission to the University;
  - vii. Suspension;
  - viii. Expulsion;
  - ix. A recommendation to the Senate to rescind a student's degree;
  - x. Other penalties as may be appropriate under the circumstances.
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### Notification of the Decision

The Registrar shall, within 10 working days of the hearing, inform the student, the instructor, and the student's Dean(s) in writing of the decision/recommendation in each case.

When the AMI recommends the rescinding of a degree, the Registrar will forward the recommendation to the Senate for approval and inform the student of the Senate's decision.

### Student's Status: Transcripts and Registration

While under investigation and until the case is resolved, the student will not be issued official transcripts directly. However, upon their request, transcripts will be sent to institutions or potential employers. If the student is found guilty and the sanctions include a notation on the transcript, the recipients will be informed by the Registrar.

While under investigation for, or if found guilty of, academic misconduct in a course(s), a student will not be permitted to drop or withdraw from that course(s).

### Student's Right to an Appeal

A decision and/or sanction imposed under this process may be appealed within 21 calendar days after the student has been advised of the decision/sanction, as follows:

- i. Decisions of the instructor may be appealed by submitting a request in writing to the Registrar.
- ii. Decisions after a hearing may be appealed by the student to the Academic Review Committee (ARC).

### Records of the Offence

The Registrar shall maintain a record of each offence of academic misconduct against a student. It will be kept separate from the student's other records, and its purpose is to determine whether there has been a previous offence before a sanction is imposed. This record of offences will not be used for any other purpose.

When the sanction involves a transcript notation, the student may petition the Academic Standing Admissions Policy (ASAP) Committee to have the notation removed. Such a petition may be filed in the last year before the student's graduation. The decision to remove the notation will be based primarily on evidence of exemplary academic conduct by the student since the offence was committed, or since their return to the University; it will not be granted automatically.

If a case is dismissed, all records of it will be removed from the student's file.

### Transcript Notations

General notations printed on the student's transcript will appear under the year/term in which the offence occurred, following the courses. The notations include:

- Sanctioned for Academic Misconduct
- Suspended for Academic Misconduct
- Expelled for Academic Misconduct

## Academic Reviews and Appeals

### Academic Review

A student's academic progress or standing is evaluated in conformity with Departmental, Faculty, School or Senate regulations governing courses, programs, examinations and degrees.

If a student has an issue which pertains to a specific course, the student shall first discuss the issue with the course instructor. This must be done as soon as possible, and no later than one month after the beginning of the next regular semester following the academic decision.

*(NB: Students may seek the advice of the University Ombudsperson, at this stage or any later stage, in the review process. The ombudsperson works as a trusted intermediary to review complaints of all members of the university who believe they have suffered an injustice.)*

Unless prohibited by a specific committee policy, students may request a review of any academic decision or a re-evaluation of any course component(s) which calls into question their academic integrity and/or is worth at least 25% of the final grade of a course subject to the Academic Review guidelines.

If the issue cannot be directly resolved between the faculty member and the student, the student may take the matter to the Dean of the Faculty in which the course was offered within 30 days of the initial meeting with the faculty member. If the matter does not concern a specific course, the student must appeal directly to the Dean in charge of the Faculty or School in which he or she is enrolled.

If the Dean decides that the issue has no merit the student may either accept that decision or appeal to the Academic Review Committee.

If the Dean determines that the issue has merit, he or she will proceed, within two weeks, to seek a resolution informally through discussion with the student, the faculty member and/or the Chair of the department in question. If the student so chooses, the ombudsperson may be present for any or all discussions. If the issue cannot be thus resolved by the Dean, he or she may impose a solution. In the case of a dispute over a grade, the Dean may authorize the re-evaluation of any course component(s) by an impartial examiner, subject to the *Re-reading of an examination by external evaluators* fee outlined in the School Fees section. The fee is reimbursed if the re-evaluation results in a higher mark. In certain situations, the Dean may recommend that the student appeal to the Academic Review Committee. In the case of a re-evaluation of a course component, the grade assigned by the reviewing examiner shall become the official grade for that component and the final course grade adjusted accordingly.

In this context, any decision of a Dean may be appealed to the ARC by the student, given clear grounds for such an appeal.

For cases in which the informal resolution process and the intervention of the Dean is inconclusive or there exists a need for a more formal review of an academic matter, Senate has established two committees, the Academic Review Committee (ARC) and the Academic Appeals Committee (AAC) to deal with the formal review of all academic matters. The University Senate delegates to these Committees the authority to render decisions on all academic matters as well as the authority to implement additional procedures consistent with those set out below.

The function of the Academic Review Committee is to hear complaints against any academic decision taken in the University by a faculty member, a Departmental Chairperson, a Dean or the Vice-Principal, and to adjudicate all infractions of University academic policy referred to it by any member of the University community. The function of the Academic Appeals Committee is to hear appeals against decisions made by the ARC (see below for the specific grounds for appeal). The decision of the AAC is final and binding on all parties.

### **The Academic Review Committee**

The Academic Review Committee (ARC) shall consist of five voting members: two faculty members, who shall be members of Senate and chosen by the Senate Nominating Committee, two students who shall be members of Senate and chosen by the Senate Nominating Committee, and one academic officer of the University, (Dean or Vice-Principal) who shall be named by the Chair of Senate (the Principal). Three alternate members shall also be selected by the Senate Nominating Committee; two students and one faculty member. The ARC shall elect annually a Chairperson whose name will be communicated to the Secretary of Senate.

*Note: For eligibility rules concerning members who may sit on the ARC as well as further procedures regarding the Committee quorum, procedures in committee, documents, onus and standard of proof, please refer to Appendix I, below.*

- (i) The Committee year extends from May 1 through April 30 of the following calendar year. The Committee shall remain constituted for the entire year.
- (ii) Faculty members shall serve a term of two years, renewable once, after which they must step down for at least one full year. Student members shall serve a term of one year, renewable once. Senate shall make provisions (through its Nominating Committee) for timely replacement of members whose terms are expiring.
- (iii) The Committee is authorized by Senate to select which alternate members will replace regular members who must leave the Committee before the end of their term or who are unavailable during the summer months.

### **Powers**

The Academic Review Committee shall have the following powers:

- (i) review any academic decision taken by a faculty member, a Departmental Chairperson, a Dean or the Vice-Principal.
- (ii) review any infraction of University academic policy, including all matters governed by Department, Faculty, School and Senate regulations.
- (iii) review any complaint regarding interference with the University's academic operation.

Note 1: The ARC does not have jurisdiction over the following areas: admission to the University, re-admission, probation and academic standing issues (including "must withdraw" decisions) and scholarship decisions. These areas are the purview of the Academic Standing/Admissions Policy (ASAP) Committee.

Note 2: Before the ARC will accept jurisdiction for decisions concerning grades, there is a separate procedure for the review of marks obtained in final exams and in other components of a course. This procedure must be followed first.

### **Making a Request to the Committee**

The Academic Review Committee will consider a request for review only after:

- (i) The receipt by the Committee Chairperson of a written and signed notice of request filed within 30 days of the time that the most recent academic decision concerning the matter in dispute has been communicated in writing to the student. Requests for review must include: a complete specification of the wrong to be corrected, the specific grounds for the request for review and the remedy sought. In the case of a request to review a general policy or regulation, the written, signed notice may be made at any time. In all cases, requests for review of any academic decision must be initiated before the marks deadline of the semester following the completion of the course in question.
- (ii) Before proceeding with a request for review of any matter, the ARC Chairperson will request a written assurance from the Dean and Ombudsperson that all reasonable efforts have been made to solve the dispute at an earlier level.
- (iii) Within seven working days of receipt of the notice of request for review, the Chairperson will acknowledge the same in writing to the complainant(s).
- (iv) Within ten working days, the Chairperson shall convene an initial meeting of the ARC and give a five-day notice to all parties of the date of the initial meeting.

### **Disposition of the Committee Decision**

- (i) Decisions shall be made by simple vote of the Committee; three positive votes are necessary to carry any decision. The tally of all votes shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (ii) During the course of a review, no changes shall be made to any mark or grade in question, nor to any student's current status, nor to his/her eligibility for a given program.
- (iii) The Academic Review Committee shall render a decision on a review within 60 calendar days of receipt of the request for review.
- (iv) The Chairperson of the Committee will report its decision to the complainant, the defendant, the Chair of Senate (the Principal) and the appropriate Dean within five days of the rendering of the decision.
- (v) If the decision is not taken to appeal (see below), the appropriate Dean will be responsible for the implementation of the final decision. At least 30 days will be allowed for the implementation of the decision by the individual University office involved.

## Academic Appeals

The Academic Appeals Committee (AAC) shall consist of three members: one faculty member who is not a member of Senate named by Faculty Council, one student who is not a member of Senate named by the SRC, and one Academic Officer of the Senate (Dean or Vice-Principal) named by the Principal. Two alternate members shall also be named, one faculty member and one student. The regulations for the term of office, length of the Committee year, election of the Chairperson, eligibility, extension of term, and replacement of members, shall be the same as those for the ARC (see above).

Where an appeal of the decision of the ARC has been submitted, the Senate shall either:

- (i) Receive and accept the report of the ARC.
- (ii) Receive the report of the ARC and refer the case to the AAC.

In both cases debate on Senate's decision must be held in camera and any member of Senate who is a party to the case must excuse him- or herself from the discussion. The content of the debate shall be confidential and Senate shall limit itself to discussion of material contained in the report of the ARC and the request for appeal. Members of Senate who are also members of the ARC shall abstain from voting.

## Filing an Appeal

- (i) An appeal against a decision of the ARC must be filed with the Chairperson of the AAC within 30 days of the decision rendered by the ARC.
- (ii) The appeal may be from either complainant or defendant but in either case shall be written and signed and state specifically the grounds for appeal, the remedy sought and include all of the documents (written and oral) used by the ARC to achieve its decision.
- (iii) Unless there is compelling need for further clarity, no new documents will be considered by the ACC that were not before the ARC.
- (iv) Before proceeding to hear an appeal, the Chairperson of the AAC will, within seven working days of the request for an appeal, acknowledge the request for appeal, notify both parties and within ten working days convene a meeting of the AAC. Five days notice will be given to both parties of the date of the first meeting of the AAC.

## Grounds for Appeal

The Academic Appeals Committee has the power to hear an appeal from a decision of the ARC for the following reasons:

- (i) Errors of fact in information used by the ARC which could affect the decision rendered,
- (ii) New evidence not available to a party at the time the decision of the ARC was made,
- (iii) Errors of interpretation of any University academic policy or regulation,
- (iv) Serious procedural error,
- (v) Action by the ARC beyond its jurisdiction.

## Procedures

- (i) The regulations with respect to: procedures in Committee, documents, onus and standard of proof set out in Appendix I for the ARC, will apply mutatis mutandis for the Academic Appeals Committee.
- (ii) The AAC will hear testimony from the Chairperson of the ARC where significant procedural error is alleged as the grounds for appeal.
- (iii) The AAC will have access to all recorded testimony, documents and minutes of the ARC.

## Decisions

- (i) Decisions shall be by simple vote of the Committee; at least two positive votes are necessary to carry any decision. The tally of all votes shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (ii) The AAC may decide to return the case to the ARC for further review. Alternatively, it may uphold the decision of the ARC or fashion any other remedy as it sees fit.
- (iii) The AAC shall render a decision on the request for appeal within three months of the request for appeal.
- (iv) The Chair of the AAC will report its decision to the complainant, the defendant, to the Chair of Senate (the Principal) and to the appropriate Dean(s) within five working days of the rendering of the decision.
- (v) The decision of the AAC will be final and binding on all parties.

## Appendix I: Rules and Procedures

### 1. Eligibility

The eligibility of students, faculty members, Deans and the Vice-Principal who sit on either the ARC or on the AAC is restricted as follows:

- (i) Individual members cannot sit on both Committees,
- (ii) No individual member of either committee can serve if they are involved in the case as plaintiff, defendant or witness,
- (iii) No individual member can serve on either committee who has been found guilty of an academic offence,
- (iv) No individual member can serve on either Committee who is in a position of bias or conflict of interest (financial gain, kinship relation, close personal relationship),
- (v) All student members who serve on either Committee must be in good academic standing in their program at the time they are elected to the Committee concerned.

### 2. Quorum

A quorum shall consist of two student members and two faculty members and one academic officer of the University (or the alternate). Every effort shall be made to assume that a consistent quorum of members follows each case to its conclusion. The Committee is authorized to extend the terms of members for this purpose. The Committee shall elect annually a Chairperson whose name will be communicated to the Secretary of Senate. Senate shall make provision for a Committee secretary who will record the minutes of all meetings. The Secretary shall not participate in the discussions and shall not have a vote.

**3. Examples of matters that can be reviewed by the ARC:**

- (i) All matters of academic integrity after a decision by the appropriate Dean has been rendered,
- (ii) Program eligibility, program transfer, program requirements,
- (iii) Requirements for the degree,
- (iv) Credit for studies elsewhere,
- (v) Deferred status for exams or course components,
- (vi) Requests for supplemental exams,
- (vii) A mark or a grade in a course, final standing in a course after the procedures for external re-reading of exams or course components have been completed,
- (viii) Grading practices after a decision by the appropriate Dean has been rendered,
- (ix) Any infraction of Department, Faculty or Senate regulations,
- (x) Any complaint regarding interference with the academic operation of the University.

**4. Procedures in Committee**

- (i) The Committee shall conduct its meetings in camera.
- (ii) Both complainant and defendant(s) have the right to be accompanied by a representative of their choice; this representative shall be any full-time member of the University community.
- (iii) The University, if it so decides, may appoint a legal advisor to assist the Committee. Such an advisor shall be considered a neutral observer in the proceedings of the Committee and shall not vote.
- (iv) Both complainant and defendant have the right to make representation in the manner decided by the Committee.
- (v) The parties to the dispute shall be interviewed separately by the Committee in the first instance at which time they may make oral representations and refer to the relevant evidence (see documents below). This procedure does not preclude a face-to-face meeting if all parties agree.
- (vi) General minutes shall be taken of the meeting and the testimony of witnesses and of all motions of the Committee. Copies of the minutes will be provided to all parties.
- (vii) All oral testimony given by witnesses will be recorded on audio tapes which will be made available to the complainant and the defendant and to which they may respond in writing within five days of receiving a copy of the tape.
- (viii) All written and oral testimony, evidence and minutes of the Committee are confidential to the Committee and to the parties involved in the dispute. Deliberations of the Committee are confidential to the Committee.

Each Committee shall establish its own *modus operandi*, however, the following sequence is a general guideline:

- (i) Introduction of the complainant, defendant, members of the Committee,
- (ii) Review of documentation,
- (iii) Rulings on documentation or further evidence necessary,
- (iv) Statement by the complainant, questions from members of the Committee,

- (v) Statement by the defendant, questions from members of the Committee,
- (vi) Re-calling of the complainant and defendant for clarification of information only by members of the Committee.

**5. Documents**

- (i) Copies of all documents submitted by each party will be made available to members of the Committee, to the complainant and to the defendant one week before the hearing date.
- (ii) University records such as transcripts, student files, office correspondence as well as all Departmental, Faculty and Senate regulations are automatically evidence before the Committee.
- (iii) All documents provided by either party will become evidence for the Committee unless one party objects on the grounds that such documents are forged or false or made with malicious intent. Such documents may become evidence before the Committee only after the Committee receives written confirmation of their authenticity by the original author. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject all documents.
- (iv) The Committee will request written evidence and testimony from all parties to the dispute as well as from the appropriate Dean and from the Ombudsperson.
- (v) The Committee shall reserve the right to invite and receive written and/or oral evidence from any other party, to request and receive any other document it deems may assist in its deliberations and all such evidence shall be made available to the parties in the dispute.
- (vi) In the case of new documents brought to the Committee during the hearing, both parties and all members of the Committee will have the right to review such documents before proceeding with the case.
- (vii) Following the Committee's final decision in the case, all documents, including the written evidence submitted by the parties to the dispute and the taped oral testimony, will be retrieved by the Chair and, together with the minutes, shall be deposited with the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic and Research and shall be made available to the parties in the dispute.
- (viii) The assistant to the Vice-Principal Academic and Research will number all documents, arrange them in chronological order and provide for their safe keeping until such time as a further appeal is sought (see AAC below) or for a period of one year, whichever is applicable.

**6. Onus**

- (i) The onus is on the complainant to demonstrate that the ruling or decision in question is inappropriate or unreasonable. The exception shall be in cases of academic dishonesty where the onus is on the faculty member (or the University) to demonstrate that an academic offence has been committed.

- ii) In cases regarding the waiving of Departmental, Faculty or Senate regulations, where the grounds for such a request are either medical, compassionate or other extenuating circumstances as decided by the Dean of the Faculty concerned, the onus is on the complainant to demonstrate that following the particular regulation in question was impossible. In such cases, documents attesting to the status of the student must be provided in a timely manner, must be specific and must demonstrate that such grounds do in fact exist.

#### 7. Standard of Proof

Unlike the standard of proof commonly used in criminal cases and usually known as “proof beyond a reasonable doubt”, the standard of proof to be used by the Committee will be the “balance of probabilities” or “preponderance of evidence”. By this is meant “more likely than not” in the sense that an unbiased observer, having reviewed all the evidence and having heard all sides of the story, should be able to say: “the fair decision in this case is ‘X’ more likely than not”.

In alleged cases of academic dishonesty or in other cases which call into question the very nature and operation of the University, the balance of probabilities, when used as the standard of proof, needs to be at the higher end of the scale and must be based on clear and compelling evidence.

#### Ombudsperson

The major role of the Ombudsperson is to receive complaints from members of the University community who believe that they have suffered some form of injustice, particularly of an academic nature. After examining the factual basis of these complaints and determining that all normal avenues of recourse and appeal have been exhausted, the Ombudsperson investigates these complaints and facilitates their solution either using existing procedures, both informal and formal, or by recommending changes to the existing procedures. The Ombuds Office operates independently of all other offices in the University and may make recommendations in specific cases or recommendations pertaining to the changing of any rule, policy, regulation or procedure which he/she deems appropriate. The objectives of these recommendations will be either to solve an individual problem or to improve the overall operation of the University. The Ombudsperson must investigate all sides of a particular problem, must maintain a neutral stance throughout the investigation and must strive to achieve solutions which are as fair and just as possible given the circumstances involved. At the end of an inquiry, the Ombudsperson will explain the nature of the chosen solution to those who initiated the complaint or, where the complaint has been found to be not justified, explain to the individual or groups involved the reasons for not continuing the investigation. From time to time, the Ombudsperson may also act as a mediator between individuals or groups of individuals in the University community who have been unable to resolve a conflict, particularly where no procedure exists for the resolution of such matters.

Please see the University Website for further information and the complete text of the terms of reference for the Ombudsperson.

#### Selection of Courses

Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses conforms with the general requirements of university programs, the general and academic regulations of the University, and the specific requirements of the specialization of their choice. In planning their annual course choices, students are urged to consult with the appropriate Departmental Chair and Dean.

The programs have been designed to permit the most effective study in a discipline or subject by the majority of students. Nevertheless, changes may be appropriate for particular students because of specific objectives, background, etc. Students who wish to alter their program must consult the Chairperson of the department and the Dean concerned, preferably before registration. It should be noted that constraints are imposed on possible changes in programs by the timetable of courses.

A normal course load is 15 credits per semester. Thus, a 120-credit program can normally be completed in four years of fulltime study. Students admitted on the basis of the CEGEP Diplôme d’études collégiales (D.E.C.) are normally granted 30 credits of advanced credits, reducing a 120 credit requirement to 90 credits or three years of fulltime study.

#### Confidentiality of Student Information

In conformity with Article 65 of the Quebec legislation concerning access to public documents and confidentiality of personal information, Bishop’s University informs its students that all personal information collected in the course of admission and registration of a student will be kept confidential, except where specific permission is given to release it.

Students are obliged to provide information which is requested by the administrative offices of the University. The University may only request information which is essential to its operation; refusal to provide this information may lead to denial by the University of services to the student.

In signing the application form, all students agree that the information contained in it, and in their student file, may be made available to those administrators charged with management of their academic and financial affairs while they are at Bishop’s University. No information will be released to other persons without express permission of the individual concerned, except in circumstances involving the safety and security of the individual or a breach of the law.

Any student may consult his or her file during regular office hours and may request that any errors found in the file be corrected. If necessary, a formal request for correction may be made in writing to the Registrar.

## Discipline

Students are expected to conduct themselves in all places and at all times in a manner appropriate to members of a university. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action. In accepting admission to the University, a student is agreeing to abide by, and be subject to, its regulations. The Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities provides a framework for such a commitment. The University reserves the right to suspend or dismiss any student for misconduct or for serious infractions of university regulations. Such action will result in the loss of course work for the semester in which the suspension or dismissal is imposed.

Matters of discipline are adjudicated by the Committee on Student Conduct which is chaired alternately by the Vice-Principal of Student Affairs and the Residence Life Advisor depending on whether the issue is judged to be primarily residential in nature or of a broader import. The committee comprises, in addition, six students representing both on and off campus constituencies. The Committee on Student Conduct is empowered to take note of and to judge matters of student conduct, excluding academic issues, referred to it by any member of the University. All recommendations are forwarded to the presiding Chairperson for consideration and final decision. Exceptions to this are limited to recommendations for suspension or expulsion from the University which are forwarded directly to the Principal. In addition, a Joint Disciplinary Council composed of a balanced set of delegates from each of the Bishop's and Champlain College communities is mandated to deal with situations which involve students of both institutions.

## Policy on Harassment

Living in a university environment entails respect for the welfare and dignity of others. Harassment of any kind is intolerable, and we share the responsibility of promoting a climate of education, support and understanding. The University has developed policies and procedures for dealing with sexual and other forms of harassment. The Committee administering this policy includes representatives of all constituents of the University; the policy document is posted on the Bishop's Website and can also be obtained from the Principal's Office.

## Students' Responsibilities

Students are required to abide by reasonable instructions given orally or in writing by any official of the University authorized to secure compliance with regulations, rules, practices and procedures. They should carry proper University identification (student card) at all times and be prepared to show it at the request of any individual acting in an official capacity (such as University security officers, police officers or student residence staff).

Students have a responsibility to attend lectures and laboratories and to perform punctually all academic assignments in accordance with the standards prescribed by the departments concerned and announced by the instructors at the beginning of the year. Failure to fulfil these requirements may lead to debarment from examinations. Protracted absence from the University may involve debarment from courses.

Students are required to return promptly after holidays and are requested not to make travel plans which will interfere with registration or examination schedules.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ACADEMIC STAFF TO STUDENTS

### 1. Definitions

#### Academic Staff

Academic Staff shall include all individuals holding full or part-time appointments at the rank of Instructor I, Instructor II, senior instructor, lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor. This term shall also include academic administrators, academic librarians, counsellors, adjunct professors, professional associates, research associates, research assistants, student research assistants, and student teaching assistants, insofar as such persons perform duties within the ambit of the policy.

#### Academic Unit

Academic Unit is the generic term used to refer to division, school, department, or program administrators (depending on the subject area).

#### Student

Student shall mean any person who is registered in the University.

### 2. The Policies

#### 2.1 The Objective:

These policies define the responsibility of academic staff towards students, with the objective of (a) ensuring fair and equitable treatment of students, and (b) promoting harmonious relations between academic staff and students. It also provides general guidelines and specific criteria to the administration of courses.

#### 2.2 Policies Regarding Individual Responsibilities:

In general terms, the responsibilities of the individual academic staff member fall under two headings: (a) general course management, and (b) the interaction of students and staff.

##### 2.2.1 General Course Management

"The first responsibility of academic staff as teachers is the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge and understanding through teaching, research, scholarly activity and creative artistic activity. They should endeavor conscientiously to remain current in their field, to develop their scholarly competence, and to maintain and enhance their effectiveness as teachers.

#### A. Course Syllabi

Before the Add-Drop deadline of each semester, teaching staff will provide in writing to students, and their respective Academic Dean (and also post to Moodle, if applicable) in each of their courses a course syllabi containing:

1. a list of the required textbooks, readings (or material) to be covered in the course;
2. a general outline of the topics to be covered;
3. a schedule of term assignments and tests;
4. a description of the evaluation procedures to be used.

*Where appropriate, this should include:*

- a. the instructor's policy regarding late submission of assignments;
- b. the instructor's policy regarding supplemental examinations;

- c. the instructor's policy regarding classroom attendance;
- d. reference to the University's policies on academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, and personation.
- e. information regarding accommodations and accessibility services as well as other student services on campus (e.g. help centers, tutoring, counselling etc.)

See *Course Syllabi Guidelines for additional suggestions*

### **B. Textbook Ordering**

Academic staff responsible for a given section shall specify textbooks and materials in accordance with announced purchasing deadlines of the University Bookstore.

### **C. Mid-term and Final Examinations**

Academic staff members shall be familiar with and adhere to the policies concerning scheduling and grading of examinations, re-reading of examinations and papers, supplemental examinations, deferred marks, aegrotat standing, and submission of grades, as described in the Academic Calendar. Particular attention is drawn to the scheduling of "mid-term" or final examinations, which may not be held during the last two weeks of classes (subject to D. below), nor during the period between the end of classes and the beginning of the examination period.

The final exam may not count for more than 60 percent of the course grade without consent of both the professor and the student.

### **D. Workload During the Last Two Weeks of Classes**

In-class quizzes and exams carried out during the last 14 calendar days of classes (as defined in the Academic Schedule) may not total more than 10% of the final grade, except in the case of laboratory or oral testing, presentations or summative / capstone projects.

### **E. Cancellation of Classes**

Academic staff shall not cancel, miss, terminate or shorten scheduled instruction except for good reason. Whenever a scheduled period of instruction is cancelled, the academic staff member shall:

1. inform the class at the earliest possible time;
2. ensure that a cancellation notice is posted via MyBU
3. consistent with Senate policy regarding course contact hours, make every effort to ensure that appropriate substitution or make-up instruction is provided.

### **F. Storage of Final Exams**

Arrangements must be made for the storage of all final examination papers for a minimum period of one complete semester following the semester in which the course was given.

### **G. The Reporting of Grades**

Academic staff members who provide instruction shall comply with the schedules and formats for reporting student grades, as established by Divisions and the Registrar's Office. They shall also remain accessible until after Faculty grades meetings have been held, in the event that consultation is required. An instructor who learns of an error, which if corrected would change an assigned grade, shall correct it without requiring the student affected to appeal their grade.

### **H. Posting of Grades**

In keeping with the provisions of Bill 65 (Loi sur l'accès aux documents des organismes publiques et sur la protection des renseignements personnels), no grades shall be posted unless all students concerned have indicated their approval for posting.

**I.** Nothing requiring mandatory student participation (e.g., class, midterms, fieldtrips etc.) with the exception of final evaluations (e.g., exams, performances) shall be scheduled outside of class hours, without the consent of the entire class. (Exception: Where out-of-regular hours participation is outlined in the course syllabus; reasonable alternatives shall be made if the out-of-regular participation involves grading).

**J.** Consistent with the Collective Agreement, Academic Staff shall comply with the regulations set out by Senate to ensure the administration of course evaluations.

## **2.2.2 The Interaction of Students and Staff**

### **A. Course Admissions**

Academic staff shall not unreasonably deny registration for instruction in those courses for which the permission of the instructor is required. Acceptable grounds for refusal would include cases where the student lacks appropriate qualifications, where an approved policy on limited enrollment is in effect, or where classroom size places a constraint on enrollment.

### **B. Non-Discrimination**

Academic staff shall comply with existing human rights legislation, and refrain from differential treatment of individual students on the basis of their actual or presumed membership in, or association with, any class or group of persons.

### **C. Remuneration**

Academic staff shall not accept money or other goods or services from students for assistance with any course offered by the University. This clause, however, shall not prevent part-time instructors from accepting payment for tutoring in courses/sections which do not fall within the present scope of their University employment.

### **D. Office Hours**

Academic staff are required to establish and post office hours during which they are available for individual consultation with students.

### **E. Student Evaluation**

Academic staff shall:

1. evaluate student academic performance by means of academic criteria only and are encouraged to evaluate with particular reference to both the presentation of substance (content) and an acceptable standard of process (style and structure).
2. provide feedback in a timely manner.
3. provide (when appropriate) accommodations to students registered with the SAAS Office

**F. Academic Freedom**

Academic staff shall encourage a free exchange of ideas between themselves and their students in the classroom, and shall not inhibit free discussion; students shall be allowed to take informed exception to the data, views, and/or methods presented.

**G. The Confidentiality of Information**

Academic staff should keep confidential all information gained in confidence about students, whether concerning their academic progress, personal lives, or political and/or religious views. This does not affect the normal use within the institution of information concerning academic progress for the purpose of making academic decisions in accordance with University and government policies on the release of such information.

**H. Academic Indebtedness**

Academic staff shall explicitly acknowledge in written or oral presentations any indebtedness to student research or assistance, and therefore not obtain any improper advantage from a student's work.

**I. Non-Retaliation**

Academic staff shall not retaliate against a student who has filed a complaint, whether or not the complaint was substantiated.

**J. Conflict of Interest in****Academic Supervision and Evaluation**

Academic staff shall decline to participate in an evaluative role with an individual student if the staff member and the student are in a close personal relationship in which there is, or there may be perceived to be, a conflict of interest. Such relationships include (but are not limited to) spousal, parent-child, sibling, and consensual amorous relationships. In the event that a staff member terminates a supervisory or evaluative role with an individual student because of such a relationship, alternative supervisory or evaluative arrangements (a) shall be made, (b) shall be made in confidence, and (c) shall be made without prejudicing the status of the person(s) in question.

**K. Appropriate Language and Behaviour**

Academic staff shall respect every student's right to dignified treatment. Therefore, academic staff shall at all times use language, and exhibit behaviour consistent with this right. Oppressive and/or violent language will not be tolerated.

**L. Who to contact**

Academic Staff and students can avail themselves of the Ombudsperson Office's impartial and confidential services. For more information, visit <http://www.ubishops.ca/future-current-students/student-campus-life/student-services/university-ombuds-office/>

**2.3. Policies Regarding Collective Responsibilities****A. Periodic Review of Courses**

The academic unit shall periodically review and update all courses to ensure that the material to be presented (a) is current and appropriate, and (b) "conforms to national and international norms." (Report of the Long Range Planning Committee, November 1992)

**B. Review of Course Descriptions**

Members of the academic unit shall review course descriptions periodically to ensure that the current content of each course is clearly and accurately described.

*[www.caut.ca/about-us/caut-policy/lists/caut-policy-statements/policy-statement-on-professional-rights-and-responsibilities-](http://www.caut.ca/about-us/caut-policy/lists/caut-policy-statements/policy-statement-on-professional-rights-and-responsibilities-)*

**Students' Official Address**

In order to ensure timely and efficient communication with students, e-mail is one of the official means of communication between the University and its students.

- Every student is assigned a "ubishops.ca" email upon application to the University
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure that time-critical e-mail is accessed, read, and acted upon in a timely fashion.
- If a student chooses to forward University e-mail to another e-mail mailbox, it is that student's responsibility to ensure that the alternate account is viable.
- It is the student's responsibility to update their home address on file with the Registrar's Office. Instructions on myBU to update mailing address maybe found in the Registrar's Office section.

## REGULATIONS FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES

**General Academic Requirements****Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Sciences,****Bachelor of Business Administration:**

A degree may be earned by means of one of the following kinds of programs selected from among those offered in this Calendar:

- Honours in an academic discipline. Honours programs entail a very high degree of concentration in a subject and require a high standard of academic performance. These programs are especially suitable for those who plan to proceed to graduate study. A Major or Minor in a second discipline may be combined with an Honours.
  - A Major in an academic discipline or interdisciplinary subject. Major programs require less concentration in a subject than Honours programs and provide greater scope in the selection of optional subjects. A Major in one discipline may be combined with a Minor in a second discipline or with a second Major where the requirements of both can be satisfied.
  - Major in a group of disciplines encompassed by a Faculty of the University (e.g. Natural Sciences). This type of program is designed to permit maximum flexibility of study within a Faculty while ensuring, at the same time, a useful level of concentration in one or two disciplines. A Divisional Major may be combined with a Minor, or in some cases a Major, in a discipline outside of that Faculty.
-

4. Minors in two academic disciplines. This type of program involves less in any one subject than the Major or Honours. Degrees consisting of double or triple Minors may be granted as Bachelor of Arts degrees. To graduate with a double or triple Minor, students must normally complete all the requirements for each Minor program as stipulated in the Academic Calendar. However, in cases where there are common course requirements, for a double Minor, a maximum of 6 credits may be double-counted (i.e. applied to both Minors); for a triple Minor a maximum of 9 credits may be double-counted (i.e. applied jointly to the three Minors).

In each case, courses must be completed in addition to those required by the selected Honours, Major or Minor combination in order to fill the minimum credit requirement indicated in a letter of admission or in a letter indicating a credit requirement change necessitated by a program change.

Successful completion of a program is determined by the department/program and the Dean, in accordance with the Academic Calendar regulations in effect either when the student entered a program or in the student's graduating year.

Students with a failing cumulative average (i.e. below 50%) will not be eligible to graduate from the University.

### Additional Requirements

1. All undergraduate students who began their studies before Fall 2019 must successfully complete the English Writing Proficiency requirement in order to be eligible to graduate.
2. The credit requirement indicated in a letter of admission, or in a letter indicating a credit requirement change necessitated by a program change, is the minimum requirement. A completed program must include all required courses/labs of the selected Honours/Major/Minor program(s) as described in the relevant Academic Calendar, which may exceed the minimum.
3. A student may not be required to follow more than 12 course credits, excluding lab credits, in any one discipline during the first 30-credit program year. This will permit the choice of a Major or Honours program from at least two fields of study.
4. 50% of degree credits (i.e. a minimum of 60 credits) must be obtained from Bishop's University. A recognized student exchange, completed at an approved university, counts as credits completed at Bishop's University.
5. Following admission to Bishop's University, a student may normally complete no more than two semesters or attempt more than 30 credits, not including laboratory credits, at other universities during the completion of a Bishop's degree. These courses will be recorded as pass or fail on a student's transcript.

## General Academic Requirements

### Bachelor of Education

1. A B.Ed. degree may be earned by the successful completion of the approved courses and the practica required by the degree program.
2. Following admission to the B.Ed. program, all course requirements for the program must normally be completed at Bishop's.

3. Upon successful completion of the B.Ed., graduates are recommended to the Ministère de l'Éducation et Enseignement supérieur of the province of Quebec for the appropriate "brevet d'enseignement".

### Second Bachelor Degrees

Students who hold a degree may apply to Bishop's University to obtain a second undergraduate degree in a different discipline or to convert a degree in a discipline to an Honours degree in the same discipline. In all cases second degree candidates are required to:

- Complete a minimum of 30 additional credits at Bishop's University (courses taken as part of the first degree cannot be used to satisfy this requirement). Completion of courses elsewhere on a letter of permission is normally not permitted.
- Fulfill the requirements of the new Honours/Major/Minor concentration programs; divisional and elective requirements are waived.
- Complete at least one half of the chosen Honours/Major/Minor concentration course requirements at Bishop's University within the second degree.

Students seeking a second bachelor's degree are not eligible for scholarship consideration in the Bishop's University Scholarship program.

### Selection of Courses

1. Students should plan their programs each semester so as to include courses which are prerequisites for courses to be taken in subsequent semesters/years. Some courses are given only in alternate years. Certain combinations of courses may be rendered impossible by the arrangement of the timetable.
2. A course for which credit is earned in any semester may be repeated once to improve the grade. No additional credit will be awarded. The initial course registration and grade will remain on the student's academic transcript, with the notation "RNC — repeat no credit" appearing beside it. The grade received in the second registration for the course will be used in the calculation of the student's average (including cumulative average) and credits awarded, regardless of whether it is the higher or lower grade. Repeated courses will not retroactively affect academic standing.
3. A student who has failed a course twice will be allowed to re-register for that course only with the instructor's permission, after a review of the student's program by the department concerned. Appeals to the decision will be processed through the regular appeals procedure. The present double failure rule as it applies to courses offered by the Williams School of Business and the Economics Department remains in force.
4. Students who contemplate entering graduate school upon graduation should consult with the graduate school in order to ensure that they are meeting the prerequisites of the graduate program they propose to enter.

## Credit for Studies Completed Elsewhere

### Transfer Students:

#### Bachelor of Arts, Education, Science, Business Administration

1. Students admitted to Bishop's following completion of a minimum of one semester at another university or college may be eligible for advanced credit granted at the discretion of the appropriate Academic Dean. The student must present complete official transcripts and course descriptions for evaluation. Transfer credit is awarded subject to the regulations governing credit for studies completed elsewhere and subject to further review should the student change programs.
2. Articulation agreements exist such that students having completed specific programs may be eligible for advance credit against a four-year Bishop's program, granted at the discretion of the appropriate Academic Dean and in accordance with signed agreements. Please consult the Admissions Office for detailed information. Although exemption may be possible, no credit will be awarded for incomplete programs.
3. College or University transfer students who have completed studies outside North America must obtain an "Attestation des équivalences" for those studies from the Quebec Ministry of Immigration. No evaluation will be made without the Attestation.
4. At least one half of the courses required to satisfy the requirements of the chosen Honours/Major/Minor program(s) must be completed at Bishop's University.
5. Credits completed at Bishop's University. Moreover, approved credits attempted through the Maple League of Universities will be recognized as credits attempted at Bishop's University.
6. Credits earned as part of a Certificate completed at Bishop's University or another university may not be used to satisfy the requirements of a Minor in the same discipline at Bishop's University.
7. Each university retains the right to accept or to refuse freely the registration of a student from another university.

#### Certificate Programs

A maximum of 9 university credits may be transferred to a Certificate program at Bishop's University.

### Bishop's Students:

1. Following admission to Bishop's University, a student may normally complete no more than two semesters or attempt (pass or fail) more than 30 credits, not including laboratory credits, at other universities during the completion of a Bishop's degree. Exception: Students in the Graduate Studies programs may only complete a maximum of 9 credits at another recognized institution.

- a) Students wishing to follow studies in another institution for credit at Bishop's must be enrolled as degree candidates at Bishop's.
  - b) Advance permission and advance approval of all aspects of the study must be secured on the appropriate form from the Chairperson of the department in which they are concentrating their studies. The credit transfer request form is available from the Registrar's Office and, once completed, is placed in the student's file.
  - c) It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that an official copy of the transcript for the course(s) completed at another university is forwarded directly to the Registrar's Office at Bishop's upon completion of the course(s). Transcripts will automatically be sent for students studying at other Quebec universities who registered through the BCI Website for Quebec inter-university credit transfer.
  - d) Courses successfully completed elsewhere may only be applied as credit towards a Bishop's University degree. The grades obtained in such course(s) are not included in the calculation of a student's cumulative average and cannot affect a student's academic standing. (Exception: courses attempted via the Maple League of Universities in a Fall or Winter semester)
  - e) Any student who has been required to withdraw from the University may not normally complete courses elsewhere on a letter of permission.
  - f) Courses completed elsewhere without prior permission being obtained through the appropriate procedures outlined in this Calendar normally will not be accepted for credit towards a degree at Bishop's University.
  - g) Students returning to Bishop's following the completion of studies at another institution on a letter of permission must provide the Admissions Office with:
    - i) A written statement of their intention to return to the University prior to the beginning of the semester in which they intend to return.
    - ii) An official transcript of the results of these studies.
  - h) The academic regulations of the University, including those concerning probation and must withdraw status, apply to all Bishop's students. This includes those studying elsewhere as well as those studying on the Bishop's campus.
2. Under special reciprocal agreements concluded between Bishop's University and all other Quebec universities, students in a degree program at Bishop's wishing to enroll in courses at another Quebec institution (to a maximum of 30 credits), must initiate their request through BCI's website for Quebec inter-university credit transfer. Credits so earned will be recognized towards a degree at Bishop's if the courses/credits are approved by the academic department or Faculty concerned.

Students wishing to profit from this reciprocal agreement must:

- a) Ensure that the Bishop's timetable permits the desired external courses to be taken;
  - b) Before a student's request for credit transfer is submitted, it is necessary that any outstanding balances be paid.
  - c) Enter the request via the BCI website (<https://www.bci-qc.ca/en/>) by selecting Autorisation d'études hors établissement. All required information must be entered. The system will process the request automatically, through the designated department advisors and Registrar's Offices at both institutions.
3. Each university retains the right to accept or to refuse freely the registration of a student from another university.

### Interrupted Studies

Candidates for an undergraduate degree who have formally withdrawn from the University or who have for any reason allowed twelve months or more to elapse without earning any credits at Bishop's University must apply for readmission to the University by the appropriate deadlines. See the Admission Policies section of this calendar for details.

If readmitted after studies have been interrupted for ten years or more, the assessment of credits to be applied to the student's current program will be assessed by the Admissions Office and approved by the Dean in consultation with the department. The Dean's decision may be appealed to the Academic Standing Committee. While program-specific courses may be deemed to have decayed after a period of ten years, general elective courses will not normally be considered subject to decay of credits.

### Applying to Graduate

1. Candidates for degrees and certificates who expect to complete the requirements for a degree in a particular semester (Fall, Winter or Spring) must submit an Application to Graduate which will appear on their MyBU Portal. Normally, there will only be one Convocation ceremony per year in June.
2. Students completing their first undergraduate degree may be awarded the designation With Distinction or With High Distinction. These designations are assigned following Convocation and are recorded on the student's official transcript.

To be eligible for these designations, students must meet the following criteria:

- be in the top 20% of their graduating cohort and have a minimum cumulative average of 80% to receive the designation With Distinction;
- or**
- be in the top 5% of their graduating cohort and have a minimum cumulative average of 80% to receive the designation With High Distinction.

For the purpose of these designations, the eligible graduating cohort consists of all students whose degrees are conferred at Convocation, by degree and by Division. This includes students who graduated in the Spring, Fall, and Winter semesters of the same academic year.

3. Students with a failing cumulative average (i.e., below 50%) will not be eligible to graduate from the University. (See Additional Graduation Requirement in Business Administration)

### Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree of the Thomas More Institute

Students of the Thomas More Institute who have a Quebec collegial diploma (D.E.C.), are required to complete successfully 15 university-level courses (90 credits), as specified in the information booklet of the institute. Students 23 years of age or over who do not have a collegial diploma must complete three university threshold courses, in addition to the above requirement, for a total of 18 university-level courses (108 credits).

Details of the program and courses may be obtained from:

Thomas More Institute  
3405 Atwater Avenue  
Montreal, Quebec, H3H 1Y2  
Tel.: 514-935-9585

## REGULATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE AND MICRO-CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Certificates and Micro-Certificates may be completed on a full-time or a part-time basis.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants to Certificate and Micro-Certificate programs must fulfill the same admission requirements and follow the same application procedure as applicants to a Bachelor's degree in the same discipline (See Applying to Bishop's University and Admissions Policies.)

### Academic Standing —

#### Probation and Must Withdraw

Students in the Certificate and Micro-Certificate programs must meet the Academic Standing criteria as outlined in the Academic Calendar. Students in the Certificate in Business Administration must also fulfill the requirements for maintaining good standing in Business.

### Transfer Between Micro-Certificate, Certificate and Degree Programs

Bishop's University students may make application for transfer from a Certificate to a Degree OR from a Degree to a Certificate program in the same or another discipline. The regulations governing Academic Program Changes will apply.

### Transfer of Credit to Certificate Programs

A maximum of 9 university credits may be transferred to a Certificate program at Bishop's University, subject to the regulations governing transfer of credit from other Institutions. (See Credit for Studies Completed Elsewhere.)

## Completion of a Certificate Program Following Completion of a Bachelor's Degree

Students who have completed a Bachelor's degree at Bishop's University may be admitted to a Bishop's Micro-Certificate of Certificate program in a different area of study. All credits required for the Micro-Certificate or Certificate must be completed at Bishop's.

## GENERAL ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

1. Full-time or part-time status for each student in each semester will be determined by the student's course registration following the processing of all added and/or dropped courses. Withdrawing (W) or Withdrawing with Permission (WP) from course(s) does not alter this status.

2. The normal registration for a full-time student in any semester is 15 course credits; the minimum number is 12 credits, including lab credits. Students following fewer than 12 credits, including lab credits, per semester normally are considered part-time students.

Exception: A student requiring fewer than 12 credits to graduate in his or her final semester may petition the Registrar in writing to retain full-time status with fewer than 12 credits.

3. The maximum course load for a full-time student is normally 18 credits per semester, not including lab credits. (ESL courses are included in the credit counts.) Subject to the general regulations set forth in the Calendar, students may be permitted to take an additional course (or courses) in excess of the requirements for a given semester with the written permission of the appropriate Dean. Students shall then have two choices:

- a) They may take the additional course as a regular subject for credit; or
- b) They may "audit" the additional course with the permission of the instructor and participate in class discussions and activities, but may not write the examinations or receive credit for the course. Audit courses are subject to the normal fee structure of the University and are charged in the same manner as credit courses.

Note: In both cases (a) and (b), the student must register for the course in the usual manner and adhere to the applicable deadline dates for adding and dropping courses. The course entry will appear on the student's record if the course is not dropped by the deadline date.

4. A student may not be required to follow more than 12 course credits, excluding lab credits, in any one discipline during their first 30-credit program year. This will enable them to choose a Major or Honours program from at least two fields of study.

5. Students who receive permission to register as special full-time undergraduate or graduate (SFU, SPG or SPT students) may make such a registration for a maximum of two consecutive semesters (see Academic Program Changes). Such students must make a choice of, and be formally admitted to, an alternate degree program by the deadline for registration (normally the Add/Drop deadline) of the third semester. Students who fail to do so will not be permitted to register on a full-time basis in that semester.

6. Full-time students who do not register at the University for one semester or more for any reason (including those students studying elsewhere on a letter of permission) must make a written statement of their intention to return to the University to the Admissions Office prior to the beginning of the semester in which they intend to return.

7. Students in an undergraduate degree program who do not register at the University for 12 months or more must reapply for admission to the University. (See Interrupted Studies or Academic Standing.)

8. A university course taken by a student in order to fulfil the minimum requirements of a collegial program may reduce the specific requirements in a university program by that number of credits. It will not reduce the total number of credits required at the university level for a degree.

### Language of Instruction

The language of instruction of the institution is English. Nonetheless, students have the option to submit individual written work in either English or French, except where a knowledge or competency in a language is an object of the course. Students who wish to submit work in French must notify their instructor by the Add/Drop deadline so that, if necessary, special arrangements can be made for the evaluation of their work.

### Application of the Extra Degree Credit Courses to a Student's Program:

1. ESL courses or MAT 190 may be recorded on the academic transcript either as "EXT" (extra degree credit) or as credit courses.
2. Extra degree credit for ESL 070 is not included in the calculation of a student's academic or cumulative average.
3. ESL and MAT 190 are included in the credit count to determine a student's full-time or part-time status. They are also included in the maximum 15-credit count for students on academic probation.

## COURSE CHANGES/ COURSE WITHDRAWALS

### Adding or Dropping Courses

1. The deadline date for dropping and adding one-semester courses, including course section changes (and changes from credit to audit status or vice versa) is normally eight days from the first day of class (see Sessional Dates).
2. Course Adds and Drops are accepted provisionally until it can be verified that the change(s) comply with any restrictions required by the student's academic or financial situation. Students will be informed as quickly as possible if a problem exists.
3. Students will be billed or refunded appropriately following the Add/Drop deadline should fees need to be adjusted.
4. Full-time or part-time status for each student in each semester will be determined by the student's course registration following the processing of all added and/or dropped courses.

### Withdrawing from Courses

1. Each semester's deadline to Withdraw from courses can be found in the Sessional Dates section of the Academic Calendar.
2. Fees will not be refunded for "W" or for "WP" courses.
3. A student's full-time or part-time status in a semester will not be altered by "W" or by "WP" courses.

### General Information

1. The onus for notifying the Registrar's Office of withdrawal from the University ("WU") and for completing the necessary forms rests solely with the student. Simply ceasing to attend classes or labs, even when the instructor is informed, does not constitute withdrawal and will result in a failing grade in the course as well as possible financial penalties. Students who leave the University without completing a withdrawal form will have each of the applicable courses recorded as a zero and will not be eligible for any refund of fees. Those students holding scholarships must be responsible for meeting their obligation in returning or repaying all funds received for that semester or that year.
2. Registration for courses will take place on-line for both new and returning students during the registration periods listed at [ubishops.ca/future-students/registration-and-student-records/registration-instructions/](http://ubishops.ca/future-students/registration-and-student-records/registration-instructions/).
3. Students will not normally be permitted to add, drop or withdraw from courses after the stated deadlines unless permission to do so is obtained from the appropriate Dean.
4. Students will not be permitted to withdraw from the University (WU) after the Course Withdrawal deadline without permission from the appropriate Dean. The student may petition the Dean for this permission in exceptional cases only.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM CHANGES

### Williams School of Business

To be eligible for transfer into a B.B.A. or B.A. Business Major, students must have successfully completed at least 24 credits at Bishop's and have achieved a minimum average of 75% based on all courses attempted. Students may also be required to meet with the Dean of Business for an interview. The number of student transfers is determined according to final enrolment figures and the quota for the School's maximum enrolment.

Any student who twice receives a failing grade in a course offered by the Business Department or in ECO 102, ECO 103, MAT 196 or MAT 197 will not be permitted to repeat the course again nor be eligible to transfer to other Business programs or add a Business minor, where such course is required. (See Double failure Regulations - Business programs). Please note that no credits will be awarded for MAT 190.

### Faculties of Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Students may normally transfer into a program in the Faculties of Humanities or Natural Sciences and Mathematics, or their departments, with a minimum cumulative average of at least 60% on all courses attempted at Bishop's.

Students with an average below 60% may be considered for registration in some courses in the proposed Faculty (Department) in order to allow them to show their potential for studies in that Faculty (Department). Such students will be classified as special full-time undergraduate (SFU) students.

### Faculty of Social Sciences

Students may normally transfer into a program in the Faculty of Social Sciences or between programs within the Faculty provided they have a minimum cumulative average of 65% on at least 24 course credits completed at Bishop's or provided they have demonstrated an aptitude for the program by achieving an average of 65% in all program courses attempted (minimum of 12 credits). For the purpose of this regulation, the cumulative average and course averages used will be those existing at the time the program change request is made.

### School of Education

A student must obtain the formal permission of the School of Education to transfer into any of the four B.Ed. programs (B.Ed. in Teaching and Learning at the Elementary Level; B.Ed. in Teaching and Learning at the Secondary Level (English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences profiles); B.Ed. in Teaching and Learning of the Creative Arts (Drama, Fine Arts and Music concentrations); B.Ed. in Teaching English as a Second Language). Students will be admitted to these programs at the discretion of the School of Education. A 70% cumulative average is required for transfer into programs in Education.

## General Information

1. Students must normally have completed a minimum of one semester at the University before requesting a transfer.
2. In the event of an academic program change, the student must notify the Registrar's Office by completing and returning the correct form with the appropriate signatures. The Academic Calendar in effect at the time of the program change will determine the program requirements. Application for program change must be made on the appropriate form available at the Registrar's Office and be approved by the appropriate Dean and Departmental Chair.
3. Program changes may necessitate re-evaluation of minimums and total credit requirements. A completed program must include all required courses/labs of the selected Honours/Major/Minor program(s) as described in the appropriate Academic Calendar and in the letter indicating credit requirement changes.
4. Students who are permitted to register as special full-time undergraduate (SFU, SPG or SPT) students may make such a registration for a maximum of two consecutive semesters.  
Such students must make a choice of, and be admitted to, an alternate degree program. See admissions section for details and deadlines. Students who fail to do so will not be permitted to register on a full-time basis in that semester.
5. The University realizes that there will be students who cannot continue their studies at Bishop's University as a result of their dismissal from one program and/or their ineligibility for transfer into any other program in the University.

## EXAMINATIONS

### Regular Examinations

1. Final examinations are held in December (for one-semester courses only) and in April. Other examinations may be held as required.
2. Every instructor shall, in consultation with the students concerned, determine the procedures by which the final course grade will be arrived at for each course in his or her charge. These procedures shall be filed in their respective Academic Dean within the first two weeks of the course. The appropriate documents are open for examination by any registered student after being filed in the Dean's Office.
3. Departmental Chairpersons, in consultation with other members of the department and the students involved, may be permitted to reschedule examinations in the courses offered by the department without having to obtain the written consent of all students registered in the courses, providing that 2/3 of the students agree and that the rescheduling would not introduce any further conflicts in the examination schedule.
4. Examinations (other than final examinations) and tests can only be set during the formal working hours of the University, namely Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Evening classes, however, will be allowed to set examinations during their regular class time. Students shall not be required to miss classes in order to write a test, nor shall students be scheduled to write two tests at once. Should either of these two situations arise, the professors and students in-

involved will take immediate steps to remedy the situation to the satisfaction of the students' Academic Dean. Tests outside of normal working hours, or in the case of evening classes outside of regular class time, will require signatures of all students registered in the course.

5. In-class quizzes and exams carried out during the last 14 calendar days of classes (as defined in the Academic Schedule) may not total more than 10% of the final grade, except in the case of laboratory or oral testing, presentations or summative / capstone projects.
6. Examinations in laboratory courses of 1 credit must take place on or before the last laboratory of the regular semester and will not be scheduled in the final examination period.
7. Students writing final examinations in the examination hall must present their Bishop's ID card to prove identity; otherwise the student may be barred from the examination hall.

### Guidelines for Examination Invigilators

*Identification:* Students are required to identify themselves by displaying their Bishop's student card on their desk throughout the exam and by initialing their name on the class list.

Students may not enter the examination room after the first half-hour of the examination period. Students may not leave the examination room before one-half-hour has passed.

*Authority:* The invigilator has the authority to dismiss from the examination room any student without proper identification. The invigilator may ask a student to leave an examination if they have reasonable grounds to believe that a student is breaking or has broken or is attempting to break a University examination regulation, e.g. cheating, impersonation, improper use of examination materials or attempting to communicate with or convey information to other students in any way. The invigilator also has the authority to dismiss from the examination any student whose behaviour could cause a disturbance or could constitute a threat to the safety or security of others.

All such instances must be reported to the instructor of the course (if this is not the invigilator) and to the Dean of the Faculty to which the student belongs, using a form designed for this purpose and available from the Registrar's Office.

*Instructions:* At the start of the exam, the invigilator will refer to the Examination Regulations for Students (printed on the front of the examination books) and require the students to sign that they have understood them.

*Presence:* The invigilator must ensure that the examination room is not left unattended at any time during the examination. If possible, more than one invigilator should be present. If this is not possible, arrangements should be made for a regular check by a person able to conduct students to the washroom, convey messages, etc.

*Illness or Emergency:* If a student is unable to continue writing an examination due to severe stress or illness, the invigilator may allow the student to leave the examination room. The invigilator should make a note of the student's name and number and the circumstances and report these to the Dean of the Faculty to which the student belongs.

*Disruption:* In the event of an emergency evacuation during an examination, the invigilator will instruct students to close their examination books and leave all materials on the desk before leaving the building. If the alarm is of short duration, the examination can be continued; otherwise, students should be advised that the examination will be rescheduled. In the event of a power failure, students will close all materials but remain in the room until it is determined whether or not the examination can be continued. If the examination resumes, the examination period should be extended to compensate for the lost time.

In the event of a major disruption (for example fire, flood or a bomb threat), the examination would be terminated and rescheduled.

Invigilators may wish to carry a cell phone in case of emergency during the examination period.

### **Rereading of Submitted Work or Examinations**

In cases where the rereading of sessional examinations, supplemental examinations or papers is requested, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Only individual course components constituting at least 25% of a final grade in a course can be reread.
2. Written application for the rereading of examinations shall be made to the Dean no later than one month after the beginning of the next regular semester of the University. Before an examination paper is reread by an external examiner, it must have been reread by the course instructor. Refer to the miscellaneous fees section for cost.
3. The appointment of the external examiner shall be approved by the Departmental Chairperson and the Dean. In the case where the Departmental Chairperson is the original examiner, then another departmental member shall be recruited for the appointment of the external examiner. Where the Dean is the original examiner, then the appointment of the external examiner shall be made by the Departmental Chairperson and one other member of the department.
4. The external examiner shall be provided with:
  - a) all pertinent course materials, including objectives of the course, outline of topics, distribution of marks, texts, case materials, reading lists, etc.
  - b) a copy of the examination paper or essay, without the grade assigned to individual questions, or to the paper as a whole, by the original marker.
5. The grade assigned by the external examiner, whether lower or higher than the original examiner's grade, shall be the grade recorded for that component of the course.

If, as a result of the rereading of an examination, the student's grade is raised to at least a pass, the fees will be refunded by the University.

### **Supplemental Examinations**

1. The right to sit for a supplemental examination will be granted only at the discretion of the instructor.
2. A course passed after a supplemental examination shall be recorded as 50% and a failing grade will be recorded as F.

3. In order to qualify to write a supplemental examination in any course, a student must obtain a final grade of at least 45% in that course, with the exception of science courses which require a final grade of at least 35%.
4. The supplemental examination shall be given not later than the last day of the semester immediately following the original examination.
5. The supplemental examination shall be arranged through the Registrar's Office, using the appropriate form, in consultation with the instructor.
6. Refer to the miscellaneous fees sections for cost.
7. The weight carried by a supplemental examination shall be that assigned to the final examination in that course as indicated in the course syllabus.
8. In all cases, application forms to attempt supplemental examinations must be completed and returned to the Registrar's Office, accompanied by the appropriate fee (see Fees, Miscellaneous) prior to the supplemental examination being written.
9. Supplemental examinations which would change the student's academic status (that is, from "must withdraw" to "on academic probation", or to remove "on academic probation" from the student's record) must be written by the Add/Drop deadline in order to change the status for that semester. Supplemental examinations written following that date will change the status for the following semester.

### **Deferred Grades/Deferred Examinations**

1. A student may be granted the privilege of a deferred final grade for a course, either by writing a deferred examination or by satisfying other written or oral requirements for the determination of the course grade on a deferred basis. The onus is on the student to petition the appropriate Dean for granting of deferred status in any course.
2. Normally, deferred status shall be requested in advance of the scheduled examination or deadline for other course requirements. However, should this not be possible, there will be a ten-day time limit after the date of the scheduled examination or after the due date for the course requirement for notification in writing to the Dean by the student of a request for deferred status.

Note: Faculty members do not have the responsibility of requesting deferred exams or deadlines on behalf of students, nor do they have the authority to grant such status.

3. With respect to the documents which are to form the grounds for the request for deferred status, there will be a time limit of 30 days after the date of the scheduled examination or the deadline for the course requirement for receipt by the Dean of the official documents. Grounds for deferral may include medical, compassionate or such other grounds as may be approved by the appropriate Dean. Where the request is based on medical grounds, the documentation submitted from a physician or a hospital must include specific reasons to account for the absence of the student and indicate that the student was incapable of attempting the examination or other

work on the date(s) in question. The onus is on the student to supply all of the necessary documentation to the Dean.

- Deferred final grades shall normally be submitted within 30 days of the original deadline for the submission of grades for the course in question. The onus is on the student to contact the faculty member(s) to arrange for the completing of deferred exams or other course requirements. If no grade is received, a grade of "0" will be assigned to the course or course component in question. Final authority for the granting of deferred status, and any changes to this status, rests with the Dean.

### General Regulations

- Final responsibility for grades assigned to any course work or examination rests with the professor or instructor teaching the course.
- Application for aegrotat standing: A student unable to attempt a final examination or some other requirement for a course, for a valid medical reason, may petition for credit in that course on the basis of satisfactory completion of the remaining course requirements. Such a petition must be accompanied by a statement from a physician and shall be ruled upon by the appropriate Dean.
- Late submission of grades will not be accepted unless deferment has been granted on medical or compassionate grounds. Deferment or the correction of errors will be the only reason for change of grades.
- A grade on a transcript shall not be changed after the last day of the semester immediately following the semester in which the grade was achieved.
- A department may set a comprehensive examination in its Honours program at the end of the final semester.
- Cases not covered by the above regulations may be referred by the student to the appropriate Dean.
- Honours theses are to be evaluated according to a collegial principle. Specifically, a minimum of three members of a department, or two if the department has only two members, shall evaluate the thesis, their evaluations having equal weight.

### Grading System for Undergraduate Studies

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Education, Special Nondegree Status

Passing grade.....	50%–100%; P (pass)
Failing grade.....	0%–49%; F (failure)
80%–100% .....	(equivalent to A)
70%–79% .....	(equivalent to B)
60%–69% .....	(equivalent to C)
50%–59% .....	(equivalent to D)

The notation "Academic Honour Roll" appears on the transcript of a full-time student who maintains an average of 80–100% for the complete academic year (Fall, Winter Semesters). Exception: B.Ed. students are not awarded this designation.

### Independent Study Courses

In addition to conventional lecture and seminar courses in which study is directed mainly on a group basis, some departments offer Independent Study courses which employ individual tutorials as a format. These courses provide opportunities for responsible students of proven overall academic ability to pursue topics in which they have a special interest, in an area for which they have demonstrated aptitude, through independent reading or research. Independent Study courses are listed by subject, in numerical order with other courses. Admission is at the discretion of the instructors, Departmental Chairpersons and Deans. The usual course registration form or Add/Drop form is used to register for Independent Study courses and must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the appropriate deadline dates.

#### Guidelines on Independent Study Courses

- Independent Study courses may normally be taken only by Majors and Honours students in the area of their program. Minors students may be permitted to follow such a course only if it is required to complete the Minor program. Exceptions may be made with the permission of the Dean concerned.
- Independent study implies adequate direct supervision by a faculty member during one of the regular sessions, i.e. Fall, Winter or Summer session. The faculty member should not be on leave of any kind.
- Independent Study courses will be under the general supervision of departments rather than individual professors, and the departments must agree to proposed programs of study, marking schemes and grades awarded.

## ACADEMIC STANDING

### Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Business Administration, Bachelor of Education, Special Students

Formal written notification from the Academic Standing Committee or the Registrar is the only valid statement of a student's academic standing. Opinions expressed by or information provided by individuals are not binding unless confirmed in writing by the Committee or the Registrar.

Inquiries related to matters concerning academic standing should be directed to the Registrar.

### Maintenance of Good Academic Standing, Probation, and Must Withdraw Status

- Full-time students who have attempted at least 24 credits must maintain a minimum cumulative average of 55% calculated at the end of each Fall and Winter semester in order to remain in good academic standing.

(See sections on Williams School of Business and School of Education for additional requirements of these programs.)

Students who do not achieve this standard are subject to the following regulations.

1. Full-time, part-time and SPU students failing to achieve a 50% average will be required to withdraw from the University for 12 months

Note: A student may be required to withdraw without first being placed on probation if their academic performance requires it.

2. Students with averages between 50% and 54.9% will be placed on academic probation.

a. Full-time students:

- i. Will be required to raise their cumulative average to 55% by the end of the next two regular semesters in which they are registered. (Spring semesters are not counted.)
- ii. May not be registered in more than 15 credits, not including lab credits, per semester. Both ESL courses and EWP 099 are included in the credit count.

b. Part-time degree and SPU students:

- i. Will be required to raise their cumulative average to 55% over the next 9 credits attempted.
- ii. May not register in more than 9 credits, not including lab credits, until probation has been removed. Both ESL courses and EWP 099 are included in the credit count.

3. Students on probation who fail to achieve the 55% in the specified time period will be required to withdraw from the University for 12 months.
4. “Academic probation” and/or “must withdraw for academic reasons” will be recorded on the transcript of the students concerned.

Students who have been required to withdraw from the University for academic standing reasons are subject to the following regulations:

1. Students who have been required to withdraw from the University may not register for any course(s) at the University or complete courses elsewhere on a letter of permission for a minimum period of 12 months.
2. Students who have been required to withdraw may apply for re-admission to the University.
  - a. Re-admission requests must be submitted according to the published application deadlines (see Applying to Bishop’s University)
  - b. Students should contact the Admissions Office for information on the re-admission application process.
  - c. Students who are accepted back into the University will be re-admitted on academic probation.

## Academic Standing Appeals

1. The above regulations are implemented by the Academic Deans and the Academic Standing Committee and administered by the Registrar and Director of Admissions..
2. Decisions of the Academic Deans on academic probation, withdrawal from the University and subsequent readmission are binding.
3. A student may request the Academic Standing Committee to reconsider an unfavourable decision, but such a request does not necessarily constitute a basis for provisional readmission. Only one request for reconsideration of a Dean’s decision will be heard by the Committee in each case.
4. Students wishing to request reconsideration should contact the Admissions Office for additional information on the process.
5. Appeal documentation must be submitted to the Committee by the date indicated on their written notice of academic standing.

## General Information

1. The specific regulations regarding maintenance of good standing in the programs of the Williams School of Business and the School of Education are in effect in addition to the regulations above and following, where applicable (see Business or Education).
2. The cumulative average is calculated using all courses attempted at Bishop’s, including those in which a grade of “0” is received, with the exception of extra degree credit, and extra degree credit ESL courses and courses from which students have withdrawn with permission. The courses are weighted according to their credit value.
3. Courses completed elsewhere are not included in the calculation of Bishop’s University’s cumulative average (see Credit for Studies Completed Elsewhere).
4. Should a student repeat a course at Bishop’s in which a grade has already been received, the grade awarded in the second registration will be used in the calculation of the cumulative average and credits awarded, regardless of whether it is the higher or lower grade. Repeated courses will not affect academic standing, which is based on academic performance in a particular academic year.
5. Students with a failing cumulative average (i.e. below 50%) will not be eligible to graduate from the University (see Additional Graduation Requirement in Business Administration).
6. Students who have been asked to withdraw may not normally register for any course(s) at the University or complete courses elsewhere on a letter of permission.
7. Applications for readmission must be submitted in writing to the Admissions Office. Students who are readmitted will be admitted on probation.

8. A full-time student on academic probation may not be registered in more than 15 credits, not including lab credits, per semester. A part-time student on academic probation may not register in more than 9 credits, not including lab credits, until probation has been removed. ESL courses are included in the credit count.
9. "Academic probation" and "must withdraw for academic reasons" will be recorded on the transcript of the students concerned.
10. Formal written notification from the Academic Standing Committee or the Registrar and Director of Admissions the only valid statement of a student's academic standing. Opinions expressed by or information provided by individuals are not binding unless confirmed in writing by the Committee or the Registrar.
11. In cases of alleged procedural errors, incorrect information or discrimination, an appeal may be made to the Student Appeals Committee.
12. Inquiries regarding any of the above should be addressed to the Registrar's Office.

## Regulations for Graduate Studies in Education

### The Degree of Master of Education or Master of Arts

To qualify for the degree of Master of Education or Master of Arts in Education, a candidate must be a graduate of this or another approved university and must complete 45 credits of graduate-level work in Education.

Courses leading to these programs are offered year round, on the Bishop's campus, possibly at off campus locations, via technology, or online.

### General Academic Regulations

1. Applicants may be admitted to one of the following: the Master of Arts in Education or the Master of Education program.
2. M.Ed./M.A. students who receive a grade lower than 70% have failed the course and are not permitted to continue in the program without formal permission of the School of Education's Admissions Committee.
3. Students enrolled in either the M.Ed. or the M.A. who have not registered for any course during a period of more than 24 months are deemed to have withdrawn. They may reapply for admission to the program, subject to the same procedures and conditions as new applicants.
4. Full-time status for graduate level studies is defined to be 9 credits or more.

### Transfer Credit

A candidate for the Master of Arts in Education or the Master of Education degree may, with the permission of the Dean of the School of Education, complete up to three appropriate courses (9 graduate-level credits) at another recognized institution. Candidates should obtain prior approval for such courses. Such courses may not be used to meet the requirements of core courses or projects, monographs, or theses.

## Regulations for Graduate Studies in Science

The Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics of Bishop's University offers a Master of Science degree (M.Sc.) program in the Departments of Computer Science and Physics. See Graduate Programs on pages 225 to 240 for more information.

### Admission

1. Completed applications will be forwarded to the appropriate department for evaluation. Recommendations for admission to a degree program are made by the department to the Dean. Final approval for admission is made by the Dean.
2. Advanced courses of instruction leading to the Master of Science degree are open to graduates of any university of recognized standing who have obtained at least a Bachelor's degree with Honours with a "B" grade or its equivalent. An applicant who has followed a combined program must have obtained at least a "B" average or equivalent in the subject of the Masters degree.
3. Applicants who do not satisfy these requirements may, with the permission of the department concerned and the Dean, be admitted to a qualifying semester(s) or year to bring their standing up to that of an Honours B.Sc. degree.
4. Admission to graduate courses does not in itself imply candidacy for a graduate degree.
5. All information is processed through the Admissions Office.
6. These regulations for admission are minimum requirements. Additional requirements may be specified by departments, with the approval of the Faculty.

### General Regulations

1. Apart from any qualifying semesters, the minimum period of registration for the M.Sc. shall be one academic year of full-time study, including research, or its equivalent in part-time study. This requirement must be met regardless of the amount of graduate work previously completed in any other program or at any other university.
2. The maximum time allowed for the fulfillment of the requirements for graduation shall normally be four years in the case of full-time students, excluding any qualifying or inactive semesters. For part-time students the course-work required for qualifying semesters (if any) and the regular credit requirements of the program must be completed at the rate of no fewer than 6 credits per year.
3. Students may choose to leave the program temporarily for one semester, but only with permission of their supervisor; these students shall be considered inactive for that semester. Such a one-semester leave of absence from the program will not normally be allowed more than twice.
4. Students must obtain a minimum of 65% in each required course. Courses may not be repeated more than once.
5. Each degree candidate will be assigned, by the department in which the thesis is to be submitted, to a supervisor who shall be a faculty member of the department and who will be responsible for advising the candidate and directing his/

her research. Co-supervisors may also be assigned with the department's approval.

6. The course of study will be arranged by the supervisor. The subject of the thesis also requires approval by the supervisor.
7. The responsibilities of the students include: informing themselves of program requirements and deadlines, working within these deadlines, communicating regularly with their supervisors; and submitting annual progress reports to their supervisors and the Faculty.
8. Students may receive financial support from the University in the form of research assistantships, undergraduate marking, tutoring and/or laboratory demonstrating duties. Such support requires approval in writing from both the department and the Dean. Duties and remuneration will be clearly stated and in no case shall duties exceed ten hours per week on average.
9. All students in graduate courses or degree programs enjoy the protection of the University's policy and procedures on academic review and appeal (see pp. 21–24 of the University Calendar) and on research ethics (see the Vice-Principal Academic and Research Office for documentation).
10. A passing grade is 65% or better or "P" for pass. A grade less than 65% or "F" is a failure.
11. Full-time status for graduate level studies is defined to be 9 credits or more.

### Supervision

1. It is the responsibility of the supervisor to monitor the progress of students throughout the graduate program, to ensure that all conditions of admission and requirements are fulfilled, to provide students with information on their program, and to advise them how to resolve problems which may arise during their program.
2. Thesis supervisors must be tenured or tenure-stream faculty or adjunct faculty. Sessional and contract faculty may co-supervise students with the department's approval. Emeritus Professors may co-supervise. In all cases, the department must ensure continuity of appropriate supervision of their graduate students.
3. Problems that cannot be resolved by discussion between the student and the supervisor shall be referred to the Dean.
4. Information concerning sources of financial support and policies on obtaining same should be sought from the Dean.
5. Students must receive guidance and constructive criticism concerning their progress on a regular basis through the program, including regular meetings and/or e-mail communication with supervisors, attendance at research seminars, and appropriate responses to the student's annual progress report.
6. By April 15 of each year, M.Sc. candidates must submit to their supervisors a progress report covering both courses and research programs. This report must include the candidate's name, program and semester, a list of courses completed and their grades, a list of courses in which the candidate is registered, and a list of courses yet to be taken. A statement concerning the research work must include the title of the thesis (or if this has not yet been decided, a general title of the proj-

ect), a short outline of the work to its present state, including the amount of work done and the significant findings of the research, plus a statement of the work proposed for the future and a realistic estimate of the time required for its completion.

7. The supervisor will evaluate the annual progress report and grant a grade of "satisfactory" or "unsatisfactory". Copies of this graded report will go to the department concerned and to the Faculty. The department may compel a student to withdraw from the M.Sc. degree program in the event of an "unsatisfactory" grade on an annual progress report. Students have the right to have this decision reviewed, first by the Dean and then by the Academic Review Committee.

### Thesis Regulations

1. All M.Sc. students must make a satisfactory oral presentation and defense of their thesis before graduating. Three copies of the thesis of a degree candidate must be submitted, with the approval of the supervisor, to the Faculty at least two months in advance of the marks deadline of the semester in which it is to be defended.
2. The three copies of the thesis delivered to the Faculty must be accompanied by a letter from the supervisor informing the Faculty of the names of the two persons who have consented to act as examiners of the thesis (see Regulation 3). The secretary of the Faculty shall forward one copy of the candidate's thesis to each examiner with an appropriate covering letter.
3. The thesis shall be orally presented and defended before two examiners other than the supervisor, one of whom shall be an external examiner who is a specialist in the candidate's field of interest. The examiners shall be selected by the supervisor and department concerned, subject to the approval of the Dean. A thesis will be accepted only following approval of its defense by both examiners. A thesis may be returned to the candidate for revision on the advice of one or both examiners and subsequently re-defended (once only).
4. After the thesis has been defended and accepted, at least three copies shall be properly bound by the University at the candidate's expense, one for deposit in the Library, one for the retention of the department concerned and one for the supervisor. At the request of the candidate, a fourth copy maybe bound for his/her personal use.
5. Advice concerning the preparation and presentation of theses is to be provided by the supervisor and department concerned.
6. It is the responsibility of a supervisor to uphold and to transmit to students the highest professional standards of research and scholarship in the preparation of theses; to provide guidance in all phases of the student's research; to meet with their students regularly; to provide prompt feedback on submitted work, including drafts of the thesis; and to clarify expectations regarding collaborative work, authorship, publication and conference presentations which may result from the student's research.