

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 8112S

Date of Senate Approval 03/15/12

-----  
Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 96: Minimum hours in residence required for a degree**

**Effective Date: Fall 2012**

**1. Delete:** On page 46, under University Graduation Requirements, item 3:

3. Complete a minimum of 30 hours in residence at UNC Asheville if transferring from a four-year school. (The final 30 hours must be completed in residence at UNC Asheville.) If seeking a second degree, UNC Asheville graduates must complete 30 additional hours after the initial degree was awarded.

**Add:** On page 46, in place of deleted entry, the following. This will necessitate renumbering the entries following this one.

3. Complete the final 30 hours in residence at UNC Asheville. If seeking a second degree, UNC Asheville graduates must complete an additional 30 hours after the initial degree was awarded.
4. Complete a minimum of 25% of the required semester hours in residence if transferring from a four-year school. A typical 120-hour degree program requires 30 semester hours in residence. Degree programs greater than 120 hours will require more than 30 hours in residence to reach the 25% minimum requirement.

**Impact Statement:**

The proposed change is an editorial change which will affect only transfer students completing a UNC Asheville degree program that totals more than 120 hours. At present the only degree program above 120 hours is the B.S. in Mechatronics (132 hours) which already requires 50% of the hours to be completed in residence. There are several additional programs in which students complete more than 120 hours because they are seeking teacher licensure, but because the licensure courses are not required for a degree, those programs fall outside this policy. Nevertheless, to be in compliance with SACS-COC requirements, our Catalog must use this new wording.

**Rationale:**

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires a minimum of 25% of hours toward the degree to be completed in residence. Our University policy of 30 hours in residence is in alignment with this requirement so long as the degree program in question is not more than 120 hours. Because we do have an occasional program requiring more than 120 hours, the proposed rewording ensures that all degree programs will be in compliance with the SACS standard.