

To: Faculty Senate, PA Senate, Union, Student Government  
From: FDU's Governance Steering Council  
Date: February 5, 2025  
Re: Proposed Policy on Changes to Prerequisites

The Governance Steering Council reviewed a proposal from a student regarding the possibility of limiting changes to prerequisites in order to prevent the creation of unexpected obstacles to student progress toward degree.

We have reviewed the proposal and have concluded that is appropriate for our University to have such a policy.

We charge the University Academic Planning and Policy Council (UAPPC, which consists of the members of the Faculty Senate APRC with additional representation from the PAS, Union, and Student Government, and is led by the chair and deputy chair of the APRC), to review the following question and propose an answer:

At what points in the year may a department, school, or college change the prerequisites for a course it teaches, and with what notice to students of said change? Should there be any limits to the freedom of a department, school, or college to change prerequisites?

We ask for the UAPPC to address this question with a level 2 analysis (see <https://www.fdu.edu/sharedgovernance/structure/> for more information), although the members of the UAPPC are of course free to investigate relevant practices and policies at other institutions if they wish to do so, and submit their proposal to the GSC by May 1, 2025.

Sincerely,

Matthieu Boyd, Co-Chair of the Governance Steering Council and  
Benjamin Rifkin, Co-Chair of the Governance Steering Council