

## **Academic Probation and Suspension (Policy will go into effect Fall 2007)**

Valdosta State University seeks to provide an environment suitable for promoting the systematic pursuit of learning. To ensure this primary goal, the University requires of its students reasonable academic progress. The retention of those students who repeatedly demonstrate a lack of ability, industry, maturity, and preparation would be inconsistent with this requirement.

Academic probation serves as the initial notice that the student's performance is not currently meeting the minimum grade point average required for graduation. Continued performance at this level will result in the student's being placed on academic suspension.

Academic probation is designed to serve three purposes: (1) to make clear to all concerned the inadequacy of a student's performance; (2) to provide occasion for necessary counseling; and (3) to give students whose success is in doubt additional opportunity to demonstrate performance.

Academic suspension is imposed as a strong indication that the student incurring such suspension should withdraw from the University, at least for a time, to reconsider the appropriateness of a college career or to make necessary fundamental adjustments in attitudes toward the academic demands of college.

### **I. Stages of Progress with Minimum Grade Point Averages Required**

An individual's stage of progress is determined on the basis of the number of academic semester hours attempted, including those transferred from other institutions. Transfer credits are not included in computing grade-point averages.

Semester Hours attempted at VSU and hours transferred to VSU	Cumulative grade-point average required on VSU courses
1 - 29	1.60
30 -59	1.75
60 - 89	1.90
90 - graduation	2.00

### **II. Academic Probation**

A student will be placed on academic probation if, at the end of any semester while the student is in good standing, the cumulative GPA falls below the minimum specified in the table above or the semester GPA falls below 2.00. Even though a student on probation is making some progress toward graduation, it should be clearly understood that without immediate academic improvement, suspension may result.

### **III. Academic Suspension and Academic Dismissal**

- a. A student will be suspended if at the end of any term, while on academic probation, the cumulative GPA falls below the minimum specified in the table above, and the term GPA falls below 2.00.
- b. A first suspension will be for one semester. (See readmission procedures below.)
- c. A second suspension shall be for two academic semesters.
- d. A third or subsequent suspension shall result in the student being academically dismissed from the institution for a minimum period of five years.
- e. Should another institution permit a student on suspension from Valdosta State University to enroll, work taken at that institution during any period of suspension shall not be counted as degree credit at Valdosta State University unless prior approval was obtained from the student's Dean at Valdosta State University.
- f. Only fall and/or spring semesters count as "sit out" semesters.

#### IV. Right of Appeal

Upon appeal by the student, the dean or director of the respective academic unit in which the student is enrolled has the authority to waive the first or second suspension if unusual circumstances warrant. The third suspension can be appealed only by petition to the Admissions Advisory Committee.

#### V. Readmission Procedures

Students must make application for readmission in writing to the Director of Admissions prior to registration for the semester in which they plan to return. Following the first or second suspension, readmission on probation may be granted for unusual and compelling reasons by the dean or director of the college or division in which the student was enrolled at the time of suspension. A suspended student readmitted on probation may have specific academic requirements imposed by the Admissions Advisory Committee or by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. A petition to the Committee and personal appearance before the Committee are required. Any further appeals must be made by petition directly to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. A student accepted for readmission, suspended at the end of the last term of attendance, who does not reenroll will remain on academic suspension.