

Graduate Student Grievance Procedures

The following policy and procedures regarding non grade grievances by graduate students can be adopted or adapted in whole or in part by programs/schools/departments or they can develop their own set of policies and procedures. Graduate students should examine the policies and procedures that will be used in their particular program/department/school. Graduate students should also note that the focus of any review undertaken as a result of a grievance will be on the process undertaken to arrive at a decision; decisions themselves are not reviewed by external bodies. Questions about grievance policies and procedures should be directed to the student's advisor and/or program/department/school director or chair:

The graduate student grievance procedure is designed to give the student the opportunity to correct a perceived injustice. It should be utilized only when the student contends that the process followed in reaching an evaluation or decision has been arbitrary or capricious. This procedure is not to be used for grades because a separate policy exists for course grades. Situations that would be appropriate for the present set of procedures include but are not limited to concerns about the process associated with supervisory reviews that affect grades but are not grades in and of themselves. For the purposes of this set of procedures, "arbitrary or capricious" indicates that e.g.

- The student has been given a grade that is not based on the student's performance.

The student must begin the grievance process by contacting the university employee (for a concern about a particular person) or the student's

Committee must be present at the hearing in order to be eligible to vote. Minutes of the hearing must be kept. The hearing should proceed as follows:

