How to Run a Degree Evaluation – Graduate Committee Chairs

Graduate committee chairs and co-chairs are encouraged to run regular degree evaluations on their student advisees in order to 1) verify student eligibility for funding (tuition waivers, assistantships, fellowships, etc.); 2) evaluate student progress to degree; 3) review the courses a student takes each semester and individual course grades; 4) verify completion of non-course degree requirements; and/or, 4) determine degree plan and cumulative GPA.

In order to be able to generate a degree evaluation, the faculty must first be listed as the chair or co-chair on the student’s Office of Graduate and Professional Studies approved degree plan, and second, they must complete a one-time FERPA training via TrainTraq (if not previously completed).

This tool cannot be used for students who have not yet filed a degree plan; however, advisors and students have similar degree evaluation tools available in Howdy that are available for students who have not filed a degree plan. Information for students without a degree plan would be limited to courses taken and cumulative GPA.

For questions regarding the Graduate Committee Degree Evaluation tool contact ogaps@tamu.edu.

To run a degree evaluation, follow these steps:

1. Log onto your Howdy account at howdy.tamu.edu
2. Click on the “Faculty/Teaching” tab.
3. Under the Teaching Graduate Students section, select “Graduate Committee Degree Evaluation”.

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4. You will need to select the current term and then hit the submit button. Note: If you are directed to a screen which indicated you need to complete FERPA training, please refer to the FERPA Training Steps (in a separate guide).

5. Select a student from your list of active students/advisees. Note: Only students for whom the faculty member is a committee chair or co-chair (on an OGAPS approved degree plan) will be displayed.

6. Click the button to go to the “Degree Evaluation for Selected Student”.
7. The Degree Evaluation Record will appear and you will need to select the “Generate New Evaluation” link at the bottom of the page.

8. The Generate New Evaluation section will appear, and you will need to select the student’s program. Make sure the correct term is selected and then select the generate request button. The evaluation may take a few seconds to generate.
9. Once you generate the request, the three Degree Evaluation Options will appear: General Requirements, Detail Requirements, and Additional Information.

10. Select “Detail Requirements” to view the student’s required courses and GPA information. Note: This screen will display the courses listed on the student’s degree plan, completed courses not applied to the student’s current degree plan, the cumulative graduate GPA (listed as Program GPA), and the degree plan GPA (listed under “Total Credits and GPA” in the “Courses for Degree Plan GPR” area). Both the cumulative and degree plan GPAs must be 3.0 or higher for a student to be in good academic standing.
11. Select “Additional Information” to view the student’s examinations and non-course degree requirements. Note: This screen will display non-course requirements such as the graduate degree plan, preliminary exam, proposal, residency, admission to candidacy, final exam/defense, and thesis/dissertation/record of study, etc. Other information such as course and exam time extensions may also be displayed on this screen.

12. If a degree evaluation needs to be generated for another student, select “Return to Graduate Committee Student Selection” in the top right-hand corner of the browser window, and repeat the previous steps.